

## WORD FOR THE DAY: Communion

April 14

In Exodus 20 the Lord's command was "**Remember** the Sabbath Day and keep it holy."

A few chapters later the shoulder pieces of the ephod worn by Aaron and every priest to follow were named by the Lord as, "Stones of **remembrance**."

In the Book of Numbers, the Lord said to Moses, "...you shall **remember** and do all my commandments."

When Joshua led the people into the Promised Land they stacked stones at place called Gilgal, which were to be stones of **remembrance**.

And David wrote in a song of praise, "Sing to him, sing praises to him. Glory in his holy name... **Remember** the wondrous works that he has done."

Dozens of Old Testament passages and examples where the Lord is calling his people to remember could be cited. Yet when you turn to the prophets you see judgment being pronounced by the Lord, and the refrain of the prophets is you have forgotten. You did not **remember**.

Fast forward to the New Testament. The night before his death, Jesus has his disciples gathered in what's called the upper room, and he is leading them in the Passover meal. But this Passover celebration is a bit different. Jesus changes the format for his cross centered purposes, and in so doing he institutes a practice for the church, but the fundamental piece of instruction is basically the same: **remembrance**. So for 20 centuries when believers in Jesus come to the Lord's Table they proclaim the Lord's death by eating the bread and drinking the cup.

This command is given to the church because It has been long established that God's people are not good at remembering. We are good at forgetting. We frequently lose sight of the cross. We don't quickly recall the love and grace of God. We forget the gospel. Which is what makes the invitation to the table so very important.

"Do this in remembrance of me."

### REFLECTION

- How does regularly observing the Lord's Supper cause you to remember afresh the work of Christ on the cross? Why is this such a vital practice?

### PRAYER FOR THE DAY

*Father, thank you for building into the rhythm of my life the communion meal. Though it's just a pinch of bread and a small cup, it physically reminds me of something I need to be reminded of: the death of the Lord Jesus. Help me to never forget your faithfulness to me, and to know and believe that since you sent your son to die for me you will not leave me or forsake me. Amen.*