# The Lord’s Supper

I Cor 11: 17-34

# The Lord's Supper

- It is my opinion that the Lord's Supper is one of the least appreciated celebrations in all of Christendom
  - For many it has become a ritual and nothing more
  - Sometimes it is celebrated weekly, sometimes monthly and sometimes quarterly
  - In the church where I attended as a youth, the Lord's Supper was announced a week in advance to give everyone a chance of self-evaluation

# The Lord's Supper

- The Corinthian church was having a serious problem in their celebration of the Lord's Supper (I Cor 11: 17-22)
  - It is interesting that Paul praises this church in Vs 2 of this chapter….
  - Yet a few verses later he states, "I do not praise you"
  - This is because they have made a mockery of the Lord's Supper (Vs 17)
  - So Paul is going to go into detail of why this celebration should be revered in the Christian's life.

# The Lord's Supper

- To lay a foundation for our study today we must turn to Luke 22: 19-20 and hear what Jesus said to His disciples……
  - Again Jesus is speaking in John 6: 51"I am the living bread"…..
    - If you and I partake of this "living bread" we will…
    - Vs 51b…."live forever"
  - Jesus reiterates this promise with Vs 54
    - "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves."

# The Lord's Supper

- Question…..
  - What in the world does this mean?
  - John 6: 52….. Jews…is He talking about cannibalism?
- What Jesus is doing is using a physical illustration to give a spiritual message….
  - To eat His flesh….. Note "How can this ***man***"
    - Means to understand He is fully man…..
    - But also to gain strength for living…….through Him
  - To drink His blood……
    - To accept that His blood (life) is the only thing that can atone/pay for your sins and mine.

# The Lord's Supper

- Now in I Cor 11: 23, Paul lays out 5 things for us to understand about this celebration.
  - First….we must accept that Jesus Christ was God in the flesh…..the Incarnate One….. (Vs 24)
  - Secondly….we must accept that His death on the cross was a substitute for us. He sacrificed His life/blood for you and me. (Vs 25)
  - Thirdly…..whenever we have a meal together as believers we "commune" with one another. (Vs 26 and 33)

# The Lord's Supper

- Fourthly….The Lord's Supper is a proclamation
  - It is a declaration to the world, that we believe that Jesus Christ is who He said He is….. (vs 26)
- Fifthly…..it is a celebration of hope
  - I Peter 3: 15…But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:
  - You proclaim the Lord's death ***until He comes***. (Vs 26)

# The Lord's Supper

- Vs 23…."For I received from the Lord"…
  - I Cor was written before any of the 4 Gospels
  - Gal 1: 15-18…
    - a direct revelation from our Lord..
- "in the night in which He was betrayed"
  - Here is one the darkest moments in Jesus life..
    - Betrayal….John 13: 26-27…. Jesus therefore answered, "That is the one for whom I shall dip the morsel and give it to him." So when He had dipped the morsel, He took and gave it to Judas, *the son* of Simon Iscariot. And after the morsel, Satan then entered into him. Jesus therefore said to him, "What you do, do quickly."
    - This was on the night when He washed their feet…….

# The Lord's Supper

- 'this is My body"……In the Jewish mindset…
  - The body represents the entirety of the man……
    - The One who talked with the woman at the well
    - The One who raised Jarius' daughter, Lazarus, Nain
    - The One who fed the 5,000 and who walked on water
    - The One who set the adulteress free
    - The One who healed the leper, the blind, the lame
    - The One who willingly went to the cross….
      - No man takes My life from Me…I give it willingly
      - Jn 10: 17-18

# The Lord's Supper

- "Which is for you"……
  - God became a man for you, for me……
  - He died for you….for me……
  - Because He wanted to!!!!!
- But I don't deserve that kind of love????
  - No one does……but when you eat this bread and drink this cup…….
  - Do it in "remembrance" of Me…….
  - Remember everything I did was for you……
  - Remember how much I suffered for you….

# The Lord's Supper

- "This is the new covenant in My blood"
  - We sometimes have a problem understanding the word "covenant"?
  - A covenant is nothing more than an agreement
    - You write out a check and sign it….
    - It is a covenant between you and the other party
    - You buy a car and sign the paperwork….
    - It is a covenant of how much you will pay for it….
- But is must be signed with something that will not fade away…..

# The Lord's Supper

- Here is the context of the new covenant…
  - Jesus writes it out of His checkbook…..
  - I will forgive your sins forever……
  - I will never ever never ever bring them up again
  - I will give you eternal life……
- This cup that we will take today is symbol of the new covenant signed in blood on Calvary
  - Will you drink it in "remembrance" of Me?
  - Lord, what do you require of me when I take this cup?

# The Lord's Supper

- My requirement is that you believe……..
  - That you believe that Jesus Christ paid for your salvation in full on Calvary
  - Will you remember that?
  - How often should I remember???
    - As often as you eat the bread and drink the cup…
- Vs 26…..you proclaim……
  - When you and I take this bread and this cup
  - We are saying to the entire world….
  - My debt is paid in full and I am rejoicing in that fact

# The Lord's Supper

- Vs 27-34…..the warning……
  - What is the warning about for you and me?
- Warning…..
  - Do not take this supper lightly or nonchalantly….
  - Do not treat this supper as a ritual……
  - Do not come with anger and bitterness in your heart to fellow believers
  - Do not come if you have sin in your life that you know without a shadow of a doubt the Holy Spirit has told you to stop and you will not do it….

# The Lord's Supper

- Why am I to do this?
  - Vs 32……"We are disciplined"…those whom the Lord loves He disciplines……(Heb 12: 6)
  - Remember Ananias and Sapphira??
    - What was their sin?
    - They lied to the Holy Spirit……
- Let a man examine himself……..
  - Luke 22: 19-20…And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake *it*, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup *is* the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."