

September 1st – The Lord’s Supper

“For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.” (1 Cor. 11:26)

Most evangelical Christians celebrate what they call two ordinances – baptism and the Lord’s Supper. While observances vary according to denomination, there are two main elements to any Lord’s Supper service – the bread and the cup. When Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper he was actually celebrating the Passover with His disciples at what is called the Last Supper. Jesus picked up the bread, “broke it and said, ‘Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me’” (1 Cor. 11:23-24). The bread of the Lord’s Supper represents the body of Jesus that was broken and battered as He suffered on the cross for our sins.

The cup of the Lord’s Supper represents the blood of Jesus. “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me” (1 Cor. 11:25). The Old Covenant included a system of sacrifices and ceremonial laws that had to be obeyed. The blood of those animal sacrifices was never able to remove anyone’s sins. That’s why God sent His Son Jesus to be “the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (John 1:29). Only through the blood of Jesus can anyone receive salvation and the forgiveness of sins (Heb. 9:22).

So what’s the importance of the Lord’s Supper? It is a time of memorial where we look back and reconsider the precious body and blood of Jesus Christ that was offered up as a payment for our sins. Clearly we thank God for the resurrection of our Saviour, but in celebrating the Lord’s Supper we proclaim “the Lord’s death til His comes” (1 Cor. 11:26). As the old song says, “I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it someday for a crown.”