

The Lord's Supper

Part 2

⁴²And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you." (Luke 22:19-20)

We do the Lord's Supper and we practice that because the Lord's commanded us and said, "**do this in remembrance of me.**" So we not only need to remember and do the Lord's Supper for the Lord who gave His body and shed His blood for our lives, but we need also to remember and do the whole commands of God and the instructions of the Lord.

Therefore it is not correct to observe the Lord's Supper but forgetting the rest of God's word and His commands. For this reason only the disciples who are following God wholeheartedly they are invited to the Lord's Supper. Therefore we need to practice the Lord's Supper with the disciples and not with the crowd. Jesus invited His disciples, His apostles and they are His workers to take the Lord Supper.

What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper? The bread represents the body of the Lord, "**This is my body given for you.**" And the cup represents the new covenant with the blood of Jesus, "**This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.**"

But what is really is the body of Jesus and His blood? Also Jesus said that unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood you have no eternal life as we can read in **John 6:53-55** ⁵³Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink." (John 6:53-55) Some people they misunderstand that when they think that when they are taking the Lord's Supper they are having eternal life. That is not correct. And we need to understand what the body of Jesus and His blood is.

⁴¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1) The Word of God was with God and The Word was God, and in **John 1:14** "**The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**" The word became flesh and that is Jesus Christ.

So when Jesus said, "**I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you,**" He means unless you take the Word of God and lives on it then you will have no life. And that is why Jesus said, "**Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him.**" (John 6:56) It means if we are living on His word by obeying them then we remain in Him and He in us. Therefore we feed and live on God's word, remaining in Him and He in us through His word, and we practice the Lord's Supper declaring this truth in our lives.

The Lord's Supper is parallel to the Passover lamb that God had asked Moses and the Israelites to observe. The Passover lamb is the shadow of what had had to come later on "**The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming--not the realities themselves.**" (Hebrews 10:1a)

Through Jesus Christ our Lord and His death on the cross and His blood that was shed to redeem us from our sins we have eternal life. And we are commanded to do the Lord's Supper as the Israelites were commanded to observe the Passover Lamb: ⁴⁷ **Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast--as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.**" (1Corinthians 5:7)

At the time of Moses God commanded that the Passover is to be observed by the Israelites and those who are circumcised: ⁴³ **The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "These are the regulations for the Passover: "No foreigner is to eat of it. ⁴⁴ Any slave you have bought may eat of it after you have circumcised him, ⁴⁵ but a temporary resident and a hired worker may not eat of it."** (Exodus 12:43-45) God had made regulation for the Passover that only those who are circumcised (clean and dedicated to Him) are to take part of it "**The same law applies to the native-born and to the alien living among you.**" (Exodus 12:49)

That we can also read in **Ezra 6:19-21** of how Ezra observed the Passover to the Israelites; only those who **had separated themselves from the unclean practices of their Gentile neighbors in order to seek the LORD, the God of Israel** they were included: ¹⁹ **On the fourteenth day of the first month, the exiles celebrated the Passover. ²⁰ The priests and Levites had purified themselves and were all ceremonially clean. The Levites slaughtered the Passover lamb for all the exiles, for their brothers the priests and for themselves. ²¹ So the Israelites who had returned from the exile ate it, together with all who had separated themselves from the unclean practices of their Gentile neighbors in order to seek the LORD, the God of Israel.**" (Ezra 6:19-21) Those who had taken part in the Passover, they

1- Had returned from the exile, it means they had been released from their bondages. People who are still smoking, drinking, still telling lies, cheating or doing immoral things they should not be invited to the Lord's Supper. They need to be set free first from sin then they can join us in taking the Lord's Supper.

2- Had separated themselves from the unclean practices of their Gentile neighbors, it means they are no more worldly and living in sin or following worldly practices as the non believers. Those who desire to take the Lord's Supper they should no more desire to watch TV, desire to go to parties, spending much, having wrong friends, making affairs, etc.

3- Had started to seek the Lord "**In order to seek the LORD,**" it means they move away from the old life of sin and darkness toward the light and start to draw near to God by seeking to do His will and doing His work and serve Him.

Therefore we as a church we need to practice the Lord's Supper only with the disciples whom we know well they are living on His word. The Lord's Supper should not be open to the crowd, the public and to everyone in our church meetings. Only those whom we know they are following and practicing God's Word then we needs to invite. The church should observe that the Lord's Supper should be done in a worthy manner, ²⁷ **Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.**" (1Corinthians 11:27) Those who are water Baptized and had committed their lives to serve the Lord and walk according to His word they are invited to the Lord's Table.

As we come to know what is the bread and the cup, the element of the Lord Supper and as we come to realize the importance of our willingness to live on His word and practice it before we take part in the Lord's table. Then we need to find out what was the food of Jesus and what he

was living on. In **John 4** while Jesus was sharing God's word to a sinful woman His disciples approached Him to eat with Him the food they brought from a nearby town, Jesus told them, ³² **"I have food to eat that you know nothing about."** (John 4:32) And then He told them, ³⁴ **"My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work."** (John 4:34) Therefore as we are taking the Lord's Supper we need to take part of Jesus' food in doing God's will and to finish the work of God, to go on forward in living holy life, preaching the gospel and making new disciples.

But even with the above measure to invite those whom we know they are committed to God, we may not be correct in our decision, because we are not God and we may not know well what in every person heart and what is the secret of their personal lives. So every person whom we invite for the Lord's Supper finally he is still accountable to repent and turn from sin if he/she has a hidden sin in his/her life, ²⁸ **"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup."** ²⁹ **"For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."** (1Corinthians 11:28-29)

Christ when He invited His Apostles, Judah was one of them. The disciples they did not know that he is a thief and he was planning to betray the Lord. The disciples were not aware of his spiritual condition. But the Lord who invited him possibly was giving him a chance to repent, but he was not willing. So in the same way when we invite the people whom we know they are disciples and they are serving the Lord with us, still we may not be able to discover their secret sins so they are accountable to God to allow the Holy Spirit to examine them, and to repent of their sins. Therefore, ²⁸ **"A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup."** ²⁹ **"For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."** (1Corinthians 11:28-29) That we need to make it very clear when we invite our disciples to the Lord's Supper; we need to explain to them everything and we need to make them understand that they are accountable to the Lord, to repent of whatever they are hiding. What we are telling here is this: *If we are invited to the Lord Supper that is all because God so love us and our response to God's love is to repent from our sins and to live our lives for Him.*

My Dear and Beloved: Holiness should be the standard for our lives and being then we can take part in the Lord Supper. Many they take the Lord Supper thinking the Lord Supper can save them. That is not correct. Christ blood can save us and is the atonement for our sins when we repent. Receiving Christ and living up to His word is our qualifications for the Lord Supper as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your clear word to me. Forgive me Lord that I did not honour your table, the Lord's Supper, Lord I renounce the following sins _____.* Help me and give me self-control, I am coming back to you, leaving behind the sinful life, the worldly and the traditional practices. Uphold me with your grace and lead me in the way everlasting, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

For more spiritual enrichment please visit our website at:
www.churchofgoduae.com

Jesus christ



The Bread Of Life

Vol. 14

Issue 1



⁷ **"Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast--as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸ Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth."**

(1 Corinthians 5:7-8)

Share the message to a friend