

## THE MEANING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

1 Cor. 11:17-34

**Introduction:** There is no other worship service like the Lord's Supper. It is the only service the Lord Jesus gave explicit instructions on how to carry out and also taught Paul its importance and the consequences of not participating correctly.

### I. THE REAL MEANING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### 1. The meaning of the bread:

a. *"Take, eat: this is my body."*

- Jesus is God in the flesh. To "eat" is to bring the presence of God within us.

b. *"which is broken for you."*

- As God in the flesh, Jesus died as our substitute, after being beaten, and bruised.

c. *"This do in remembrance of me."*

- We are to remember the entire life of Jesus as well as His death. We are to actively, constantly meditate upon Christ and His purpose for being human.

#### 2. The meaning of the cup:

a. *"This cup is the new testament in my blood."*

- It is God's way of bringing a new covenant, relationship to us, through His own blood instead of the blood of common animals.

b. *"This do ye, as oft as ye drink it."*

- We are to set a time aside (a planned ahead time) for this unique worship service.

c. *"In remembrance of me."*

- There is but one purpose and meaning of the Lord's Supper: **To Remember the life and death of the Lord Jesus Christ.**

#### 3. The reason for observing the Lord's Supper:

- To remember the life and the death of the Lord Jesus Christ.

- To remember what He has done for us, is doing for us, and will come back for us.

- To remember in order to tell others about the Lord Jesus Christ.

### II. THE CONSEQUENCES OF UNWORTHY PARTICIPATION

- What does it mean to partake of the Lord's Supper unworthily?

- To be out of God's will!

- What does it mean to be counted worthy?

- To be in God's will!

1. **Participating unworthily brings shame and makes light of the Lord's life and death.**

2. **Participating unworthily fails to give thought to what he/she is doing.**

3. **Participating unworthily brings discipline and chastisement from the Lord.**

### III. WHAT IS THE RIGHT WAY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LORD'S SUPPER?

#### 1. Before participating:

- confess and repent of all known sin.
- get the right attitude toward others.
- get rid of all selfishness.
- forgive all who have given you hurt.

#### 2. While participating:

- have the right attitude toward the Lord Jesus.
- remember all He has done, is doing, and will do for you.
- talk with the Lord Jesus, He is there with you, that very moment.

#### 3. After participating:

- Continue to stay in God's will.
- Put others first.
- Accept any discipline without complaint that God sends your way.
- Tell others about the Lord Jesus