

### A Closer Look at Communion #6:

#### **Paul Talks About Much More than Crackers & Juice** (1 Cor 11:17-34, P2)

*The persistent problem when observing communion in our churches:*

#### **Using 1 Corinthians 11:23-25 but Ignoring its CONTEXT.**

<sup>17</sup> Now in giving these instructions I do not praise you, since **you come together** not for the better but for the worse.

<sup>18</sup> For first of all, when **you come together as a church**, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it. <sup>19</sup> For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you.

<sup>20</sup> Therefore when **you come together in one place**, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper. <sup>21</sup> For in eating, each one takes his own supper ahead of *others*; and one is hungry and another is drunk. <sup>22</sup> What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise you.

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; <sup>24</sup> and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." <sup>25</sup> In the same manner *He* also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

<sup>27</sup> Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup> For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. <sup>30</sup> For this reason many *are* weak and sick among you, and many sleep. <sup>31</sup> For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. <sup>32</sup> But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

<sup>33</sup> Therefore, my brethren, when **you come together to eat**, wait for one another.

<sup>34</sup> But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest **you come together for judgment**. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

**Evidence of the greater direct context: "you come together" (5x!)**

### Paul Applies Jesus' Example and Communion Commands (23-26)

1. **Paul Continues to Address the Three Problems** (23a) "\_\_\_\_\_"
2. **Paul Reveals the \_\_\_\_\_ of His Information** (23b)  
"I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you."  
**Paul received the \_\_\_\_\_ explanation from Jesus.**
3. **Paul Points to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus' Commands** (23c; Jn 13)  
"that the Lord Jesus on the [same] night in which He was betrayed"
  - a. **In His worst circumstances, Jesus humbly \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_**
  - b. **He had just washed the \_\_\_\_\_ of those that would forsake Him, deny Him, and betray Him!**
4. **Paul Explains the Meaning of the \_\_\_\_\_** (23d-24)  
"[He] took bread; <sup>24</sup> and when He had given thanks, He broke [it] and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body [which is broken] for you; do this in remembrance of Me.'"
  - a. **What Jesus \_\_\_\_\_: Jesus' sacrificial \_\_\_\_\_**
  - b. **Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ gave His body as a sacrifice for us.**
5. **Paul Explains the Meaning of the \_\_\_\_\_** (25)  
"In the same manner [He] also [took] the cup after supper, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood.'"
  - a. **What Jesus \_\_\_\_\_: Jesus' sacrificial \_\_\_\_\_**
  - b. **Jesus permanently secured the \_\_\_\_\_ Covenant for us.**
  - c. **Jesus obtained present and future \_\_\_\_\_ for us.**
6. **Paul Clarifies \_\_\_\_\_ Details of Communion** (26)
  - a. **Communion is \_\_\_\_\_** (it is not \_\_\_\_\_)  
"do (present imperative "be doing") this in remembrance of Me" (24)  
"this do (present imperative "be doing") in remembrance of Me" (25)
  - b. **Communion is a \_\_\_\_\_** (it does not convey \_\_\_\_\_)  
"do this in remembrance of Me" (24; Luke 22:19)  
"this do in remembrance of Me" (25)  
Heb 10:3 But in those [sacrifices there is] a reminder of sins every year.
  - c. **Communion is observed \_\_\_\_\_**  
"as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup"
  - d. **Communion \_\_\_\_\_ the truth of Jesus' sacrifice**  
"you proclaim (~) the Lord's death" (proclaim; preach; announce)
  - e. **Communion looks forward to the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus**  
"till He comes"

**Paul next addresses the seriousness of the problems in light of communion.**