

PALM SUNDAY COMMUNION SERVICE

1 Corinthians 11:17-22

INTRODUCTION:

1. Our Lord gave 2 ordinances to the Church.
 - a) Baptism & Communion

2. The Scriptures are clear that all believers are to be faithful to these ordinances.

3. Jesus commanded His disciples in Matthew 28:19 to go and baptize.
 - a) This follows Christ's example of being baptized in Matthew 3:13-17.

4. During Jesus last Passover meal in the Upper Room, Jesus initiated Communion, (or what we call The Lord's Supper) telling His disciples to continue the observance as a remembrance of Him.
 - a) *Luke 22:19-20*

5. In **1 Corinthians 11** we see that Paul had been faithful in establishing these ordinances in Corinth, although he himself didn't personally baptize many of the believers.
 - a) *1 Corinthians 1:14-16.*

6. *John 4:2*

7. Jesus transformed the Passover meal into the celebration of the **GREATER DELIVERANCE** He would bring, of which Passover was only a foreshadow.

8. When we eat the **BREAD** (his body) and drink the **WINE** (his blood), *we remember the spiritual and eternal redemption* that He brought with His sacrifice.

9. The Passover celebrated the temporary, physical deliverance of the **Old Covenant**.
 - a) The Lord's Supper (Communion) celebrates the permanent spiritual deliverance of the **New Covenant**.
 - b) *Luke 22:20*

10. These **LOVE FEASTS** were congregational meals stressing **FELLOWSHIP, AFFECTION**, and a mutual **CARING** for one another.

11. **Vs 17a**
 - a) "*instruction*" - command

12. Vs 17b

a) "*because when you come together it is not for the better, but for the worse*"

1) "*worse*" - carries the idea of a "*moral evil*"

b) **WOW!!!!** Instead of being a time of Loving Fellowship and spiritual enrichment, it was a case of self-indulgence...which was a mockery of our Lord's sacrifice.

THREE ASPECTS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AT CORINTH

I. THE PERVERSION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

1. Vs 18a

a) "*church*" - ekklesia = means a "*called out assembly with a purpose*"

2. Vs 18

a) "*When*" - Apparently this was an ongoing problem.

b) "*divisions*" - schisms = divisions

3. Vs 18

a) "*and I believe it in part*"

b) Cf. 3:1

1) "*flesh*" or natural man.

4. Vs 19

a) "*genuine*" - means to pass the test

5. Vs 19

a) "*factions*" - these folks are disruptive and destructive.

6. Titus 3:10-11

7. Vs 20-22

8. When Christians come together for the LORD'S SUPPER, it is absolutely necessary to leave behind all sin, selfishness, bitterness and pride.

9. Matthew 5:23

II. THE PREPARATION

1. Vs 27-34

III. THE PRACTICE

1. Vs 23-26