

The Ordinance of the Lord's Supper

Text: 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church

Elkin, NC

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I. THE PARTICIPANTS (vs. 1-2)

1. Paul was addressing believers in the church at Corinth.
2. According to I Corinthians 10:16-17, the bread and the cup of the Lord's Supper are a "communion" or sharing in and with Christ.
3. Only born-again, blood-washed, heaven-bound believers can appreciate what Christ did for them.

II. THE PROBLEM (vs. 17-22)

1. First, they observed the Supper when there were divisions among them (v. 18).
2. Second, there were heresies (a party spirit) and cliques (v. 19).
3. There was self-deception (v. 20)
4. There was selfishness and indulgence (v. 21-22).
5. Drunkenness
6. They ignored the poor.
7. Finally, there was a spirit of irreverence for the church and the ordinance (v. 22).
8. When one partakes of the Lord's Supper unworthily (vs. 27, 29).
 - (1) One becomes guilty of the body and blood of Jesus (v. 27).
 - (2) One condemns oneself to experience God's discipline (v. 29).

III. THE PUNISHMENT (vs. 27-30)

1. Many are weak (feeble)
2. Many are sick (physically ill)
3. Some sleep (die).

IV. THE PREPARATION (vs. 28, 31)

1. Examine oneself.
2. Judge oneself (v. 31).
3. Confess any known sin.
4. Make restitution and reconciliation where needed.

V. THE PROPER MEANING

1. The meaning of the bread (v. 24). *"Take eat, this is my body, which was broken for you."*
The element of bread represents the body of Christ.
2. The meaning of the cup (v. 25). *"This cup is the new testament in my blood."*
(Heb 9:13-15).

VI. THE PURPOSE

1. To obey the Lord's command (vs. 24, 25). *"This do"*
2. To remember the Lord (vs. 24, 25) *"This do in remembrance of me."* Who He is and what He has done for us.
3. To proclaim the Lord's death until He returns (v. 26).