

WHAT HAPPENS IN THE LORD'S SUPPER?

The loaf and cup are certainly symbols of a memorial feast as the lamb and other staples were symbols of the Passover. But there must be much more here.

1. **Worship** is the first and foremost thing that occurs when we partake the Lord's supper.

Mat 26:29 "But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

- A. The worship must be dynamic not ritualistic in nature.
- B. Worship means to bow, or to come into His presence. It also means to prostrate oneself.
- C. Worship is more than ones duty or obedience to commandments.
- D. We must determine now if we are here to appease ourselves or to worship the living God.

2. **Remembrance** of the death of Jesus must find its way into the Lord's Supper.

A. The germ of life that existed in the grain or grape has been sacrificed for the loaf and cup.

1 Cor 11:24-26 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." (25) In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." (26) For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

- B. The loaf and the cup are deliberately set apart on the table to show separation or death.
- C. We eat and drink to show the Lord's death until He returns

1 Cor 15:1-4 Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, (2) by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. (3) For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, (4) and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

D. The Lord's Day shows the resurrection of Jesus while the Lord's Supper shows His death (Acts 20:7).

Acts 20:7 On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.

- a. The Lord's Supper commemorates the mortality of man or his death as the Lord's Day memorializes the resurrection or immortality of man.

3. **Commemoration** of God's love is in the Lord's Supper observance.

A. The loaf and the cup certainly commemorates or memorializes the Lord's Supper.

4. **Affirmation** is another event that happens in the Lord's Supper.

A. There is an affirmation of a new covenant, certainly. We are in a covenant relationship with the Lord Jesus.

Mark 14:24 And He said to them, "This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.

B. We stand here at the Lord's Supper as servants of the great King. We are bought with a price.

1 Thess 1:9 For they themselves report about us what kind of a reception we had with you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God,

C. We forfeit the claim of living for ourselves and have chosen to live for God.

Matt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

5. **Communion** and Fellowship are clearly seen in Lord's Supper.

A. "Each disciple, in handing the symbols to his fellow-disciple, says in effect, 'you, my brother, once an alien, are now a citizen of heaven; once a stranger, are now brought home to the family of God. You have owned my Lord as your Lord, my people as your people. Under Jesus the Messiah we are one. Mutually embraced in everlasting arms, I embrace you in mine: thy sorrows shall be my sorrows, and thy joys my joys. Joint debtors to the favor of God, and the love of Jesus, we shall jointly suffer with Him. Let us, then, renew our strength, remember our King, and hold fast our boasted hope unshaken to the end.'"

(Alexander Campbell - Millennial Harbinger, Vol I, p. 68)

1 Cor 11:20-21 Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, (21) for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk.

1 Cor 10:16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?

6. **Expectation** of future glories that shall be revealed should stir our hearts at the table of our Lord.

1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. (3) And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

7. **Appreciation** for the removal of past sins should be a focus at the Lord's Supper.

A. We are to worship the forgiver.

Matt 26:28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

1 Cor 10:16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?