

## Lesson 6

# Lord's Supper

### 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

When the early church met together, they generally had a meal. This meal was called a “love Feast”, referred to in Jude 12 as the “feast of charity”.

#### **Some things to keep in mind about the “feast”:**

- Symbol of fellowship
- they generally met in the evenings after work
- it was a pot-luck and everyone shared
- this allowed everyone to bring what they could
- at some point after the meal they observed the Lord's Supper

\* At Corinth it had all been mixed and abused due to their lack of discipline and order (v. 34).

We get a good understanding of the Lord's Supper by understanding the problems they had with it.

#### **1. There was a problem of disunity (17-22)**

V. 20 They called it the Lord's Supper but note verses 21-22.

- Those who had more to give came early and ate all the food.
- They were also bringing intoxicating drink.
- Those who came later who did not have much (or anything) were left hungry.

### The Lord's table promotes unity among believers (v. 33-34)

#### 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

We are all partakers. Everyone that is a partaker of Christ.

How do we identify those who are partakers of Christ? (Mk. 16:16, 1 pe. 3:21)

Note the context in 1 Cor. 10:1-4.

\*All believers MAY partake, but there are still some qualifications.

#### **2. The problem of purpose (v. 23-26)**

\*To shew the Lord's death.

There is a dual application of this just like baptism.

In baptism:

- identify with the death and resurrection of Christ
- demonstrate my death to the old life to live the new

In the supper:

- the elements show the broken body and shed blood
- our partaking demonstrates our commitment to die daily and that we are striving to keep our commitment.

We see this application 2 ways:

1. The principle of examination (27-32)

- v.28 examine yourselves
- v.29 unworthily
- v.31 judge ourselves
- v. 32 chastened of the Lord

What is Unworthily?

1 Corinthians 10:21. Fellowship with devils.

Note verse 14. Idolatry and fellowship at the table of devils goes beyond the image and place.

In verses 6-14 it is:

- lust after evil things
- idolatry
- fornication
- tempting Christ (Num. 21:5-6 to speak against God and the man of God).
- murmuring

2. The principle of discipline (5:6-13)

They were barred from the table and put out of the church. Note v. 8 Sincerity and Truth.

**We are to examine ourselves:**

- Saved
- Baptized
- Member of good standing in this church or another Bible believing and practicing church
- Right heart toward God and other church members