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1 Corinthians

WALKING **RIGHT SIDE UP** IN AN **UPSIDE DOWN** WORLD

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The Lord's Supper

1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-34

Last time: *Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.*

1 Corinthians 11:1

- The rest of this chapter actually carries on a similar theme—church needs to be about worshipping Jesus in spirit and truth!
- In Corinth, a lack of unity in the body caused the believers to lose the real meaning behind what they were remembering—the sacrifice of Jesus' body on the cross. ***Not who got what seat!***

WE SHOULD NOT DISHONOR THE LORD

- ***What was going on in Corinth?*** First, there was a fellowship meal followed by the celebration of the Lord's Supper.
- It seems that people brought food to share (a.k.a. a potluck). Instead of sharing equally among everyone, the rich ate among themselves with their own fine food, leaving the poor with little or nothing.
- Many people ate and got drunk and did not wait for anybody else. This also caused people to go hungry.

WHAT ARE WE TO REMEMBER?

- 1. Communion is not just a church tradition—Paul received this celebration from the *Lord Jesus!***
- 2. The same *WORDS OF JESUS* that Paul quotes are also quoted by the Gospel writers: **Matt 26:26, Mark 14:22, and Luke 22:19.****
- 3. It is not **transubstantiation** or **consubstantiation**.**
- 4. **Symbolically**, Jesus wants us to remember His sacrifice, the basis for forgiveness of sins, and what it cost to purchase us back from sin and death.**

JESUS PAID THE DEBT OF OUR SIN

- ***The OLD COVENANT was replaced***—the promise of God with His people. Before Christ came, people could approach God only through the blood of animals, priests, and the sacrificial system. The veil separated them from God. ***Sin was only atoned for*** on Yom Kippur. Sin was put away but not forgiven. ***The Law reigned!***
- ***Under the NEW COVENANT***, Jesus died in the place of sinners. Jesus' blood ***truly removed the sins*** of all who put their faith in Him. Full payment was made and total forgiveness granted. ***Grace reigns!***

HOW DO WE REMEMBER?

- The supper is only for believers in Jesus Christ.
- Often: The eating of the bread and drinking of the cup are to be done on a continual basis in the church until the return of the Lord Jesus.
- The Lord's Supper was to be celebrated carefully, cautiously, and entered into with spiritual readiness, and with reverence!
- We should examine ourselves for any unconfessed sin or resentful attitude. **1 Cor. 11:28**

THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SUPPER

The Corinthians had two problems:

1. They did not distinguish Communion from other meals.
2. They did not discern their interrelationship with other believers—the body of Christ.
 - ***They were in danger of disciplinary judgment.*** Not eternal judgment, but severe enough as to cause some believers to be weak and ill; **some had even died.**

Pray. Wait on the Lord. Prepare you heart and partake at the Lord's table of grace!



In Remembrance of Me

1 Corinthians 11:23-26