

Lighthouse Bible Church

November 3rd, 2013

Revelation 1: 4 – 8

Scripture Reading: Matthew 24: 27 - 31

‘Washed from our sins in His blood’

Stand – Read – Pray

I want to take a break from the book of John because we are celebrating the Lord’s table today and I want to look at this passage in Revelation that speaks to that subject from the perspective of remembering what Christ did for us and proclaiming His death until He comes.

The passage we often go to in our communion time at the Lord’s table is **1st Corinthians 11: 23 – 26.** Even before that, we usually read Verses 27 – 31 to prepare our hearts in self-examination so that we do not partake of this table in an unworthy manner.

A significant part of this passage in 1st Corinthians 11 is what is said in **Verse 26** where it says **for as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.**

Our partaking in the Lord’s table, communion, is not only a time of remembering what Jesus has done for us but also proclaiming what He has done until He comes back.

This passage in Revelation 1 really brings those two great truths together as we remember what He has done for us by **washing us from our sins in His own blood** and **He’s coming back with clouds and every eye will see Him.**

The book of Revelation itself was written by the Apostle John and according to Verse 9 he was banished to the island of Patmos because he held to the word of God without compromise and he held his testimony about who Jesus is.

While he was on the island an angel came to him with the revelation about Jesus Christ and the information contained in the book of Revelation. The revelation came from God, through Jesus, to an angel and then to John and he wrote, as Verse 19 says, the things which you have seen, the things which are and the things which will take place after this.

And he wrote the book of Revelation, as Verse 4 says, **to the 7 churches in Asia**. And by the way, these 7 churches represent the different kinds of churches and different kinds of people in the churches, even today. So what was written to those original 7 churches applies just as much to us today.

And thus we have one of the most incredible books of all, the book of Revelation that speaks of events yet future to us; but before John gets to any of that, he wants to greet the churches on behalf of the trinity of God.

He says in **Verse 4: grace to you and peace from:** Then he lists the 3 persons of the Trinity; first **from Him who is and who was and who is to come** which is a reference to God the Father. Look at **Revelation 4: 8 – 9** & **Revelation 11: 16 – 17**

Then you have **from the 7 Spirits who are before His throne**. 7 in revelation is the number of completeness or fullness or perfection and is identifying the Holy Spirit. In **Revelation 4: 5** it talks about the 7 Spirits of God and in **Revelation 5: 6** it says the **Lamb**, which is Christ, **had seven eyes which are the 7 Spirits of God sent into all the earth**.

Then in **Verse 5** he says **and from Jesus Christ** and then goes on to describe the attributes and character and power of Christ. And it is to that which I want to look at briefly this morning before we approach the Lord's table.

In Verse 5 John identifies Jesus as **to him who loves us and washed us from our sins in His own blood** and in Verse 7 he says **behold He is coming with clouds and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him.**

In that statement by John about Jesus, you have everything that we are called to remember and proclaim in 1st Corinthians 11. We are called to remember Jesus giving His body and shedding His blood, we are called to proclaim His death, in the giving of His body and shedding of His blood, and we are to do that until He comes.

So before we approach the Lord's table, I want to take just a few minutes and do that, to proclaim His death through the shedding of His blood and to encourage all of us to **look for the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ** as **Titus 2: 13** tells us to.

One of the reasons that we are to remember the body and blood of Jesus Christ given for us is because it is through that very blood that we **were washed from our sins** **Revelation 1: 5** says and that is the greatest expression of **His love for us** verse 5 also says.

That is really the fullness of what John said in **John 3: 16** **for God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son** and that giving was through the giving of His body and the shedding of His blood **that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life.**

Look at **Revelation 7: 14** for a minute. This is the time of the tribulation in which many, many people will be saved by the blood of Jesus. *Read Verses 9 – 15.*

In **John 13: 8 – 10** Jesus is about to wash the disciples feet and when He gets to Peter, Peter says **You shall never wash my feet! Jesus answered him, if I do not wash you, you have not part with Me. Simon Peter said to Him, Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head. Jesus said to him, He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean and you are clean but not all of you.** *Comment*

Read **1st Corinthians 6: 9 – 11** do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you; but you were **WASHED**, you were sanctified you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.

In **1st Peter 1: 19** it says **knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things from your aimless conduct ... but with the precious blood of Christ, as a lamb without blemish or spot.**

In **1st John 1: 7** it says **the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleansers from all sin.** You see, that is the love of God for His chosen people that would send His own Son to shed His blood so that we could be washed from our sins. It is a total and complete forgiveness of all of our sins because Jesus took them upon Himself on the cross.

Colossians 2: 14 says that **our sins were blotted out, taken out of the way and nailed to the cross.** And **Acts 3: 19** adds **repent therefore and be converted that your sins may be blotted out.**

That is what we are to remember and to proclaim 'until He comes'. Which is the second part of this passage in **Revelation 1: 7** which says **behold, He is coming with clouds and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him, Even so, amen.**

When we approach the Lord's table we do so with the constant reminder that Jesus will be coming back someday. And His second coming will be far different than His first coming.

The first time Jesus came to this earth, He came unnoticed by most people, He came quietly, He came in humility and meekness and He came as the unglorified suffering servant to give His life.

The second time He comes however, He will be seen by everyone. This passage says **every eye will see Him** and they will, wont they. In **Matthew 24: 27** it says **for as the lightning comes from the east and flashes to the west, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.**

In **Revelation 6: 12 – 17** *Read then go to* **Revelation 19: 11 – 15** *Read*

As a matter of fact **2nd Thessalonians 2: 8** says that when Jesus comes back **He will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming,** the anti Christ and all his armies.

And **Zechariah 14: 1, 4** says **behold the day of the Lord is coming...the Lord will go forth and fight against those nations as He fights in the day of battle and in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives.**

So we know that **every eye will see Him** when that day comes, even **those who pierced Him**, the Jews, as **Zechariah 12: 10** says **and I will pour on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look in Me whom they pierced, yes they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn.**

And they, along with all the **tribes of the earth** will mourn for Him as Zechariah says and as **Matthew 24: 30** says **then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.**

So what does that mean for us today as we come to this table? Well, in **2nd Peter 3: 11** it says **seeing all these things will come to pass, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness.**

In **1st John 3: 2** it says **beloved, now we are children of God and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He, Jesus, is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.**

2nd Corinthians 7: 1 says **therefore, having these promises** and part of those promises was God being a Father to them which comes as a result Jesus returning, **let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.**

And that is the call for all of us who are born again believers, as we approach this table, is to examine ourselves in light of what Christ has done for us in the shedding of His blood to wash us from our sins and the hope and purity we have and strive for as we look forward to and prepare for His soon return.

That passage in **1st Corinthians 11: 28** says **but let a man examine himself and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.**

Have you had your sins washed in the blood of Jesus? If you haven't, then this time of communion is not for you.

If you have been washed in the blood of Jesus, having all your sins removed as far as the east is from the west, do you **look forward to the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ** as **Titus 2: 13** calls us to.

And do you proclaim the death, burial and resurrection and soon return of Jesus with the purity of your heart and life and with the gospel message from your lips? Let's approach the Lord's table together.

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Introduction:

1st Corinthians 11: 23 – 26

Verse 4:

Revelation 4: 8 – 9, Revelation 11: 16 – 17

Revelation 4: 5, Revelation 5: 6

Verse 5:

Titus 2: 13, John 3: 16, Revelation 7: 14

John 13: 8 – 10, 1st Corinthians 6: 9 – 11

1st Peter 1: 19, 1st John 1: 7, Colossians 2: 14

Verse 7:

Matthew 24: 27, Revelation 6: 12 – 17

Revelation 19: 11 – 15, 2nd Thessalonians 2: 8

Zechariah 14: 1, 4, Zechariah 12: 10

Matthew 24: 30

Application:

2nd Peter 3: 11, 1st John 3: 2, 2nd Corinthians 7: 1

1st Corinthians 11: 28, Titus 2: 13

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