

Proclaim the Lord's Death Until He Comes

1 Corinthians 11:23-33; Coast Community Church; Jackson Tran; 01-12-2020

- Remembering the Past
 - Remembering the Exodus/Passover
 - The Last Supper was a Passover meal
 - The Exodus
 - The Exodus is in the background of 1 Corinthians
 - Paul purposefully builds upon the theme of the Exodus/Passover and Jesus' fulfillment
 - *Jesus is the New Passover Lamb* through reinterpreting the bread as His body
 - *Identity as the New Covenant People* - Paul reiterates to the Corinthians their identity
 - *Family-only Meal*
 - Celebration of the Passover was an important *family* event
 - It is significant that in a *family-focused* time of the Passover that Jesus ushers in the Last Supper
 - Jesus calls His disciples *from* their own families and identifies them with *His* own family (John 1:12-13; Matthew 12:50; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17)
 - *Unity, Servanthood, Sacrifice and Love*
 - This is a major theme emphasized during the Last Supper in both Luke 22:4, as well as John 13:1-15
- Looking Forward to the Future
 - Partaking of the Lord's Supper is proclaiming Jesus' death *until He returns in the future*
 - The Lord's Supper is a foretaste, an appetizer for the future banquet that is the Wedding Feast of the Lamb
 - All four Gospel writers point to the eschaton in their account of the Lord's Supper
 - Isaiah 25:6-9 paints a picture of the future banquet
 - *Jesus is the New Passover Lamb*
 - Revelation 19 expands on the banquet and identifies Jesus as the "Lamb," a reference to the paschal sacrifice
 - *Identity as New Covenant Believers/Family-only Meal*
 - The banquet is to be eaten with the communion of the saints
 - We will rejoice in community with the children of God (family-only)
 - *Unity, Servanthood, Sacrifice and Love*
 - Jesus instituted the church so as to ensure that together, His body, would encourage one another in faith and good deeds so that it *can* be confident in looking forward to His return (Hebrews 10:19-20)
- Keeping in Mind the Present
 - The Lord's Supper is situated *in the present*
 - Paul states that *in doing* (the act of breaking bread and drinking the cup) we *are* proclaiming Jesus' death until he comes
 - The act itself is an announcement of the Gospel to the world
 - *Jesus is the New Passover Lamb*
 - The Lord's Table is not *our* sacrifice to God, but rather a *sacrament* whereby God's grace is given to *us*
 - Jesus is the paschal lamb – *He* is the sacrifice for sins and we receive the benefits in the *now*
 - *Identity as New Covenant Believers*
 - It is in the present that the past springs forward and the future reaches backwards and we experience the greatness of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross

- We are made New Covenant Believers *because* of Jesus and the Lord's Supper continues to announce and reinforce that
 - *Unity, Servanthood, Sacrifice and Love*
 - Jesus' entire ministry was about *one another*
 - Paul stressed to the church in Corinth that the Lord's Table was about eating the meal *together*
 - You do not get to eat on your own and think you are eating the Lord's Table (1 Cor. 11:20)
 - The sharing of the Lord's Table binds believers *together as one* in The One (1 Cor. 10:16-17)
 - "Do this in remembrance of me" is not a command to *an individual*, but a command to all of us
 - In some way, we are all remembering Jesus *together* in the Lord's Table
 - *Family-only meal*
 - In the Lord's Supper, the church (as a whole) affirms the gospel-believing covenant member *as* a gospel-believing covenant member
 - Practical Applications
 - Who Eats and Who Doesn't?
 - Those who are "unworthy" due to *disunity* and demonstrating a severe lack of sacrifice and love and are *unrepentant* of it (1 Cor. 11:22-34)
 - To examine means to look at oneself and come to the conclusion that one must repent and confess
 - Those who are living in severe/scandalous unrepentant and/or hidden sins (1 Cor. 10; 5:6-13)
 - This includes sexual immorality, greed, swindling others, idolatry, reviling others, and drunkenness (5:1-2, 9-11)
 - The Lord's Table is for *repentant* sinners who are making known their failures and actively turning away from sins and seeking righteousness
 - The Church is to *Remove* the "Wicked" from the Lord's Table (*Family-only Meal*)
 - As a family-only meal, we are *affirming* each other's family-identity when we partake of the Lord's Table together
 - The church affirms the right confession (the gospel) and the right confessor (a person who shows repentance and faith) *through* baptism and the Lord's Supper
 - That is, one way in which you assess whether or not you are worthy of partaking the Lord's Supper is by being in a family who is continuously holding you accountable and affirming your confession and life
 - Why partake in *weekly* communion?
 - Be able to repent, confess, and come back to partake and be affirmed in your faith by the Body
 - To not participate in the Lord's Supper should be a scary place for Christians to be
 - It tells you that *you may not be a New Covenant Believer*, that you *may not be part of the family*, and that *Jesus may not be your Passover sacrifice*
 - It is a huge warning to *repent and believe*
 - Enjoy God's grace; proclaim the Gospel; celebrate Jesus
 - Be encouraged by the witness of other believers who are still trusting in Jesus
 - Biblical precedence (1 Cor 11:17-34; 1 Cor. 16:2; Acts 20:7)