

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 11:17-34

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

BEING A BELIEVER – PART 1

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Fellowship, Obedience, Carnality

When we come to the Bible, from Genesis to Revelation

We must always keep our focus on the Lord and His word to us.

<< Keeping the main thing the main thing must be our main thing >>

The Reason Being is:

We can become so religious that we forget about God.

They Had Forgotten God in Their Love Feast

1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Now in giving these instructions I do not praise you, since you come together not for the **better** but for the **worse**. :18 For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are **divisions** among you, and in part I believe it. :19 For there must also be **factions** among you, that those who are **approved** may be recognized among you. :20 Therefore when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper. :21 For in eating, each one takes his own supper ahead of others; and one is hungry and another is drunk. :22 What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise **the church of God** and **shame** those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise you... :23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was **betrayed** took bread; :24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; **do this in remembrance of Me.**" :25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the **new covenant** in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, **in remembrance of Me.**" :26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you **proclaim** the Lord's **death** (till) **He comes.** :27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy

manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. :28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. :29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. :30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. :31 For if we would **judge ourselves**, we would not be judged. :32 But when we are judged, we are **chastened** by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. :33 Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. :34 But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

BEING A BELIEVER

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

1.) Means we remember our liberation

v.17-22

The Corinthian Believers in Greece Had Forgotten Their **Freedom**

REMEMBERING OUR LIBERATION

1a.) We've been liberated from segregation

v.17-19

Now in giving these instructions I do not praise you, since you come together not for the **better** but for the **worse**. :18 For first of all, when you come together **as a church**, I hear that there are **divisions among you**, and in part I believe it. :19 For there must also be **factions** among you, **that those who are approved may be **recognized** among you.**

Can you imagine going to church

And the experience did **more damage than good** to the name and message of the Gospel - Jesus Christ.

THE POINT IS FELLOWSHIP, AND CHRISTIANS BEING TOGETHER
The character and quality of Christian friendship is to be a model to others.

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. :35 By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

REMEMBERING OUR LIBERATION

1b.) We've been liberated from selfishness

v.20-22

:20 Therefore when you come together **in one place**, it is not to eat the **Lord's Supper**. :21 For in eating, each one takes his **own supper** (*the agape meal*) ahead of others; and one is hungry and another is drunk. :22 What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you **despise the church of God** and **shame those who have nothing**? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise you.

They had blended two events into one.

One was of their making, the other was of the Lord's

(1) The Love Feast

That which preceded the Lord's supper, it was a pot-luck of feasting and fellowship but to the extreme – many were being gluttons and some were getting intoxicated, drunk.

(2) The Lord's Supper

Is an expression of the church's unity with one another and with Christ.

Philippians 2:3-4

Let nothing be done through **selfish ambition** or **conceit**, but in lowliness of mind let each **esteem others better than himself**. :4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, **but also for the interests of others**.

BEING A BELIEVER

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

2.) Means we remember our satisfaction

v.23-26

The Corinthian Believers in Greece Had Forgotten Their Satisfaction

2a.) Our fear has been satisfied

v. 23-24


:23 **For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you:** that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was **betrayed** took bread; :24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body **which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me**

These are familiar words from Paul.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the **Scriptures**, :4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the **Scriptures**,

(he's pointing his readers and us to the science of the Bible – it is written)

 **remembrance** *an-am-im-nace'-ko*; to call up or to draw up. To bring to mind or into the mind. To be reminded. To keep in the forefront of the mind. To work at it.

Dr. H.A. Ironside

Said that *“the meaning is made more clear if we see it through the eyes of Jesus Himself. He is asking, requesting, inviting His disciples so tenderly that they would take this picture and keep it with them until they meet again. – “Look at it from time to time so that you don't forget what I am like.*

Our communion services are reminders of what
our Savior looks like.

Colossians 2:16-17

So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or Sabbaths, :17 **which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Messiah.**

Isaiah 53:3-6

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. :4 Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. :5 But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. :6 We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Romans 5:8

But God **demonstrates** (in the now) His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ/Messiah died for us.

“that the Lord Jesus on **the same night** in which He was **betrayed took bread**”

a warning that even in the closest circles there can be betrayal.
>>> Spiritual matters are eternally important <<<

Matthew 26:19-28

So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover meal. **:20** When evening had come, He sat down with the twelve... **:26** And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.” **:27** Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. **:28** For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins...

John 6:47-63

Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. **:48** I am the bread of life. **:49** Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. **:50** This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. **:51** I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world... **:63** It is the Holy Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. **The words that I speak to you are spirit**, and they are life.

The Prophetic Shadow of What Was

Leviticus 23:5

On the fourteenth *day* of the first month at twilight *is* the LORD’S Passover.

Exodus 12:5-7

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take *it* from the sheep or from the goats. **:6** Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. **:7** And they shall take *some* of the blood and put *it* on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it.

The Fulfilled Substance of What Now Is

John 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”

1 Corinthians 5:7b

For indeed **Christ, our Passover**, was **sacrificed for us**.

The Prophetic Shadow of What Was

Exodus 12:8

Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with **unleavened bread**

Leviticus 23:6

And on the fifteenth day of the same month it *is* the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** to the LORD; seven days you must eat **unleavened bread**.

John 6:35

And Jesus said to them, “**I am the bread of life**.
He who comes to Me shall never hunger,

1 Peter 1:18-19

knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, *like* silver or gold, from your aimless conduct *received* by tradition from your fathers, :**19** but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.

1 Corinthians 5:7a

Therefore purge out **the old leaven**, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are **unleavened**.

John 6:41

Then the Jews then complained about Him, because He said,
“I am **the bread** which came down from heaven.”

1 Corinthians 5:8

Therefore let us **keep the feast**, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with **the unleavened bread** of sincerity and truth.

REMEMBERING OUR SATISFACTION

2b.) Our questions have been satisfied

v.25

In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the **new covenant** in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, **in remembrance of Me.**”

What does He mean by “New Covenant”

What was wrong with the Old One? – Nothing was wrong with the Old Testament but the Old pointed to the coming of the New. The old testament revelation did exactly what it was supposed to do. It painted the picture of redemption and salvation. It showed us of our great need to be forgiven. It spoke of God’s great love for mankind and how He would rescue humanity from sin. With words like “atonement, sacrifice, offering, worship.

Jeremiah 31:31-33

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I (*The Lord*) will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah - :32 not according to **the covenant** that I made with their fathers in the day *that* I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. :33 But this **the covenant** that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Exodus 12:1-8, 12-14, 23

Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, :2 “This month *shall be* your beginning of months; it *shall be* the first month of the year to you. :3 Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: “On the tenth of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of *his* father, a lamb for a household. :4 And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take *it* according to the number of the persons; according to each man’s need you shall make your count for the lamb. :5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take *it* from the sheep or from the goats. :6 Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. :7 And they shall take *some* of the blood and put *it* on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. :8 Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it... :12 “For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I *am* the LORD. :13 Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you *are*. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy *you* when I strike the land of Egypt. :14 “So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance... :23 For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike *you*.

During the Passover Seder in Jewish homes, one of three pieces of unleavened bread, matzah, is broken in half, wrapped in a napkin, hidden, and later brought out to be served as the last morsel of food eaten at the end of the lengthy observance of this ancient Jewish feast. This bit of unleavened bread is called the (in heb) "**afikomen**" or epikomen **grk = "that which is to come"**. It symbolizes the Passover lamb.

From the Past - Yet Future

Revelation 5:6

And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain,

From the Past - Yet Future

Zechariah 12:8-10

In that day the LORD will defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; the one who is feeble among them in that day shall be like David, and the house of David *shall be* like God, like the Angel of the LORD before them. :9 It shall be in that day *that* I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. :10 “And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on 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.

"This night the Lord God will pass through to kill the **Egyptians**, and when he sees the blood upon the lintel and on the two side posts, the Lord will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come into your houses to kill you."

John 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! **The Lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world.

**“BEING A BELIEVER MUST BE A CHOICE
THAT YOU AND ONLY YOU CAN MAKE”**

_____ *End of Study* _____

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