

Paul's First Letter to the Church at Corinth

1 Corinthians

Victory Christian Center Elder Tim Herman June 28th, 2009

Honor in worship (Chapter 11)

- 11:17-22...the wrong behavior of the Corinthians during the 'Love Feast'
 - V.17..."you're meetings do more harm than good", V.18... because of the divisions (spoken of in chapters 1 & 3) and because of their abuse regarding the Love Feast and Communion
 - V.19...Heresy (differences) is evident by the divisions in the church (all the divided groups can't be "right"), and also indicates which ones are approved by God
 - V.20..."when you come together" indicates the practice of the early church joining for a meal (called a "*Love Feast*" see Jude 12), and Communion followed the meal. See also 1 Cor. 11:33,34
 - V.21...apparently, some people were over-eating and getting drunk at the Love Feast, while others (the poor) were going hungry. And Communion followed the Love Feast!
 - V.22...the behavior of the wealthy ("haves") during the Love Feast towards the "have-nots" was shameful and insulted the house of God
- 11:23-32...teaching regarding Communion
 - Gospel records of the Lord's Communion
 - Matt 26:17-30
 - Mark 14:12-26
 - Luke 22:7-23
- 11:23-32...teaching regarding Communion
 - Why did Jesus institute the Communion with His disciples?
 - History...Exodus 12:1-28 (the Passover, Hebrew is 'Paschal', Latin is '*Agnus Dei*' meaning Lamb of God)
 - Jesus is the Passover Lamb...1 Peter 1:18-21
 - Jesus is offering Himself as the Final Sacrifice...the Lamb of God who will take away the sins of the world (John 1:29, Rev. 13:8)
 - The Body and Blood
 - Catholicism teaches Transubstantiation, meaning the "substance" of the bread and wine is converted to the actual body and blood of the Lord (started in the 12th century)
 - Protestants believe the bread and wine (drink) are symbols (elements) of the body and blood
- 11:23-32...teaching regarding Communion
 - Why do take Communion?
 - Memorialize the death of Jesus (personal remembrance)
 - Remember His death with praise and thanksgiving
 - Establish the New Covenant in the believer's heart
 - Proclaim (announce) the Lord's death
 - Look forward to His return
 - Warnings of taking Communion
 - Do not take in a light or disorderly manner or an unholy frame of mind
 - Self-examination is to be done before receiving Communion (Greek is for testing metal to see if its genuine)
 - Failure to consider the Lord's suffering during Communion brings judgment, and possibly premature death