

# 1 Cor. 1:10-13;10:16-17-Covers, Colors and Communion

Intro - Special day - Lord's Day and the Lord's Supper. Bible does not prescribe how often to celebrate the Supper...just "often". We observe meal every other month which is a special time to rehearse the gospel as seen in the supper. I like to incorporate the theme of the supper into the whole service - not just a tack on at the end. The whole service/sermon used to prepare us to partake. (crescendo).

Today I want to be very practical (maybe personal) as we prepare to partake. Unusual title of Covers, Colors and Communion. The main point I want to stress today is unity in the body of Christ. We must beware of divisions that can creep into the church. The Meal reminds us of the oneness we have in Christ. Same meal, same amount, eaten at the same time we are ONE bread, one loaf

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## CORINTH

- Context of 1 Cor. 1 passage is Divisions in the church
  - o This church had a lot of problems but also a lot of God's people (Acts 18:10-11)
- One division was over personalities of the preachers (favorite preacher)
  - o I am of Paul -( apostle of gentile) I am of Apollos - educated and articulate(high brow)
  - o I am of Cephas (Peter)- down to earth mans man, the big fisherman (low brow)
- Division was problem in this church
  - o Division was evidence of immaturity and worldliness (1 Cor. 3:1-3)
  - o We need to beware lest worldly divisions creep into the church and attack our unity
  - o Let me be practical....consider a couple of areas before we partake (spirit of division)

## COVID COVERS

The coronavirus has thrown a wrench in how society operates. Leaders have given mixed messages on prevention measures. (debate among experts) There are differences in how extreme one goes in taking precautions. Name calling and shaming is happening in society when others don't see eye to eye on covid precautions. Mask or no mask? - stupid if wear a mask, or, stupid if not wear a mask.

- The world may shame, name call, divide and fight over face coverings...the church should not
- James 2 favoritism and discrimination over clothes (coverings) is forbidden in church
  - o We are not to be a respecter of persons over coverings
  - o The bible commands clothes and modesty ☺ but don't make too much over coverings
- Beware lest Covid measures become a divider in the church - (can be different without division)

## COLOR

I, for one, am glad that God did not make a grey world. "Let there be light" color and variety

- Color is for appreciation not division
  - o Color is being used a divider in our society (the church is a culprit in it)
- There is not a: Black church, white church, Hispanic church, Korean, Pilipino, etc.....
  - o There is only The Church (people from ever tribe, language, people, nation- Rev. 5:9)
  - o we are one one body of Christ (the Supper shows this) unity
  - o The local church should look like the community but not be fixated on color
  - o beware lest we use color as a divider (if color is a conflict then do not partake of meal)
- Color is not a biblical category in Christianity or humanity. Only one race, the human race
  - o From one man He made all nations (Acts 17:26) one flesh of mankind (1 Cor. 15:39)
  - o Eve mother of all living – Gen. 3:20 Picture of twins – one black and one white.
- There are some biblical distinctions in humanity
  - o Male and female Jew and Gentile rich and poor (slave and free)
  - o Even those distinctions are subordinate to the unity among the people of God
    - Gal. 3:28
- The ultimate distinction within humanity is between the redeemed and the damned
  - o The damned are unified the redeemed should be unified (John 17:20-21)
    - The redeemed should call to the damned to join us

## COMMUNION

The Corinthian church extended their problems/divisions to the Supper - some hungry/ some drunk  
 their “communion” was displaying division rather than showing their union (1 Cor. 11:17-34)

- 1 Cor. 10:16-17
  - o Communion with body and blood
  - o He was broken so we would be united
- The Supper shows our unity
  - o Same meal, same amount, eaten at same time
- Before we eat...are there some divisions that need to be mended?
  - o Covid covers? Colors? Personality conflicts? Etc.
  - o Don't eat this meal if you are fostering division
  - o Examine yourself and make thing rights with your neighbor and with God

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Different today because of Covid measures.  
 come forward and take it back to seat

Prepackaged element  
 Isaiah 52,53

LORD's Table

Fencing the table

Discerning the Body (body, blood, church- one loaf)

Examine yourself

Celebrate and partake