

CALL to PRAYER - thank God for a gathering place to worship...The Place is The PERSON

Exodus 24:1-11 - Eating a meal with God

Intro - It is fitting for our first Lords Day of the year for us to celebrate the Lords Supper. The Supper is a *solemn celebration*. It is solemn because we remember our sin and sins dire consequences that Jesus absorbed for us. It is solemn because of the dignity of the One whose supper it is...and we to are approach His Table with reverence. But it also celebratory because The Exalted King has invited us to eat. "We enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise." As we prepare ourselves for this solemn celebration, I want to use Ex. 24 to do so. In this remarkable passage - there is a *Book*, there is some *Blood*, there is a *Covenant* and there is *Communion*. Here we see that the people of God, who are in a relationship with God and are committed to God, get to have a meal with God. The Redeemed are ushered into His presence and get a glimpse of the glory under His feet while they enjoy a meal. Our situation this morning is not dissimilar. We get to worship from afar...and eat a meal in faith...looking forward to that day when faith will be sight ... see Him as He is...share a meal face to face

THERE IS A BOOK

- Moses recounted the word of the Lord to the people Exodus 24:3a
 - Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of Christ (Rom. 10:17)
 - We need to hear God's word proclaimed
 - God has spoken and we should listen
- Moses wrote down the words of God Exodus 24:4a
 - We tend to forget much of what we hear
 - Lest we forget - God has graciously written it down for us (inscribed)
 - no list at the grocery store probably means I am going back
 - God has given us book. Lets not neglect the "list" stick to the *list*
 - We should read it as Moses did - Exodus 24:7
 - Give attention to it on Sundays...and on every day

THERE IS SOME BLOOD

- There is a lot of blood in our religion
 - Our religion deals with matter of life and death (not frivolous stuff)
 - The wages of sin is death.
 - Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness Heb. 9:22
- Moses collected basins of blood Ex. 24:6
 - He sprinkled the alter....the people.....the book Ex. 24:8 (Heb. 9:19)
 - "There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins..."
- In the Meal of Remembrance we are to remember the blood. Matt. 26:27-28
 - Blood reminds of the awful consequences of our sin and the precious price paid
 - Life is in the blood. Sin forfeited our life. He gave His life so we could live

THERE IS A COVENANT

- A covenant is a binding agreement that is the basis of a relationship between people.
 - The book is the book of the covenant - Ex. 24:7
 - The blood is the blood of the covenant Ex. 24:8
 - The book contains the promises. The blood seals the promises
- The Book and The Blood of the covenant comes with a *commitment*
 - Christ is committed to His church
 - He sealed His commitment in His own blood
 - That blood is sprinkled throughout His book
 - The church is to be committed to Christ 2 Tim. 1:12
 - Ex. 24:3 Ex. 24:7
 - This meal is a reminder of the covenant commitment we enter into
 - Don't partake if you won't commit

THERE IS COMMUNION

- There is a meal between these committed party's
 - There has been a written covenant... sealed with blood....now share a meal
 - Ex. 24:9-11
- Here, sinners get a glimpse of the God who redeemed them...covenanted with them
 - They are brought near but they must still worship from afar - Ex. 24:1
 - They see God. But only as if seeing the bottom of His feet
 - They are below and looking up
 - They see a pavement of transparent sapphire is under His feet - 24:10
 - They are seeing through "A sea of glass" (Rev. 4:6)
 - get a glimpse of the bottom of His feet
- They ate and drank while looking up Ex. 24:11
 - We get to eat and drink this morning
 - let us look up in faith as we worship from afar
 - peering through the sapphire sea of glass to see the soles of His feet
 - if we do, we will see nail pierced feet
 - as we eat and drink let's remember...
 - the *Book*, the *Blood*, the *Covenant*...and have *Communion* with our God
 - "His oath, His covenant, His blood support me in the whelming flood; when all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay..."
 - We eat in anticipation of feast yet to come Matt. 26:29
 - we'll see Him face to face (1 Cor. 13:12; 1 John 3:2)

Open communion to all committed Christians

Fencing the Table - only for Christians

Examine yourself - worthy by knowing unworthy

Discern the Body - understand the elements

Let's enjoy this solemn celebration

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