

CALL to PRAYER -

Return thanks for our Savior and His so great a salvation

Phil. 3:7-11 - Renunciation and Celebration

Intro - The first day of every week is special because God has set this day apart as a time of rest, worship and recognition of the God of Creation and Salvation. As a local church we set aside six of the sabbaths each year for the observance of the Lord's Supper. We call it an "ordinance" because Jesus has ordained and ordered us, as His people, to partake of this meal. He said to, "*Do this in remembrance of Me*" and in doing so we are to "*Proclaim His death until He comes.*"

This meal is a solemn celebration. It is solemn because of our sin...It is solemn because of the great expense that Jesus incurred to pay the price for our sin. It is *SOLEMN* because of our sin ... but it a *CELEBRATION* because there is a Savior of sinners. This meal proclaims good news! It says that there is one Savior and His name is Jesus! This is a symbolic meal and a memorial meal that points to Him. It is a meager meal and a restrictive meal because it is *ONLY* Him. But it is also a joyful meal because we want to celebrate Him. As we prepare ourselves to partake; remember that this is a *RENUNCIATION* of ourselves and a *CELEBRATION* of Jesus Christ.

RENUNCIATION

- Phil. 3 contains a great personal testimony. It is a complete renunciation of self
 - 3:4-6 Paul lists all his greatest assets and accomplishments.
 - ...heritage, achievements, personality, things that made him special...
- Then in verse 7 he takes an evaluation 3:7
 - His greatest self-made successes and assets he counts as a deficit and a loss
 - More than that...3:8 rubbish/garbage/dung
 - 3:9 there is a forsaking of his own "righteousness".
 - Is. 64:6 filthy rags/dirty diapers
 - There is a complete renunciation of self and all self-righteousness.
- You will notice that the Lord's Supper is a very meager meal
 - Bread = Body of Jesus Cup = Blood of Jesus there is nothing else
 - The Supper is not garnished with any of our "goodness".
 - There is not room in the gospel for any of our accomplishments
 - It is Jesus and Jesus alone with a complete renunciation of our selves.

CELEBRATION

- ❖ The Supper is focused on Jesus. A rejection of self but a celebration of the Savior
 - Psalm 115:1
 - "*Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross is cling, naked come to Thee for dress, helpless look to Thee for grace, Foul I to the fountain fly, wash me Savior or I die.*"
- ❖ In this testimony of Phil. 3 there is mention of: Righteousness, Death & Resurrection
 - *RIGHTEOUSNESS* 3:9
 - The gospel is about how to gain a righteousness Rom. 1:16-17 2 Cor. 5:21
 - We gain righteousness by forsaking ourselves & embracing Christ. Gal. 3:27

- The Meal symbolizes this faith as we take the elements.
 - Faith is the vehicle that gets us to Christ who is the Savior.
 - He is the Only One who gives righteousness to sinners.
- We take unleavened bread - symbolizing no sin in the Saviors body
 - My body is a different thing - Rom. 7:18
 - Forsake my sinful self/body....Celebrate Christ's righteous self and body. 1 Peter 2:24
- DEATH 3:10c
 - By faith we are associating/linking ourselves with Jesus' death
 - We are recognizing that Jesus died.... not for His sin but for my sin
 - He is my Substitute
 - "Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe, sin had left a crimson stain..."
 - We take a cup which reminds us of the shed blood - Heb. 9:22
 - I can't pay for my own sins
 - "What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!"
- RESURRECTION
 - Memorial Meal - meals often accompany memorials - reminisce
 - With this Supper we remember a death AND a resurrection 3:10a
 - Rev. 1:18 1 Cor. 11:26
 - We celebrate that He came out of the grave and He is coming back for us
 - Those who are in Christ will live even though they die
 - 3:11 John 11:25
- ❖ This Supper is a complete renunciation of ourselves and a total celebration of Jesus
 - He is our righteousness.
 - He is our Substitute and Savior.
 - He is our Life.

Open Communion

Fencing the Table

Examine yourself

Celebrate the Supper

*Redeemed how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb
Redeemed thro' His infinite mercy, His child and forever I am.*

*Redeemed and so happy in Jesus, no language my rapture can tell;
I know by the light of His presence With me doth continually dwell.*

*I think of my blessed Redeemer, I think of him all the day long;
I sing, for I cannot be silent; His love is the theme of my song.*

*Redeemed, redeemed, Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed how I love to proclaim it
His child and forever I am.*