

## 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 - A Sanctioned Celebration

Intro - It is fitting that our first Lord's Day of the year is also a Lord's Supper SONday. Our tradition at CBBC is to observe six per year. The Lord's Table is an essential element in the life of the local church. Protestant churches have generally agreed that there are at least two factors that must be present before a congregation is to be considered a true/genuine church. 1] The right preaching of the Word. 2] The right use of the Sacraments. These two are a minimum. You can't be a church, (or a church member in good standing), if the Lord's Supper is omitted or neglected. The Ordinance is not optional for the Christian because Christ has ordered us to observe it – *"Do this in remembrance of Me."* But the faithful observance of the Sacred Meal is more than just a duty...it is also a delight duty. It is a holiday and a celebration where the believer gets to taste the gospel. When the Word is preached, we get to *hear the gospel* & it builds our faith. At the Supper we get to *taste the gospel* & build our faith - Ps. 34:8. So, before we partake today, we are going to think of the Supper as a **Sanctioned Celebration**.

### A SANCTIONED Celebration

- Sanctioned = Official                      Approved/Certified
  - 2024 is an election year. Political adds - candidate says, *"I approve this message."*
    - This distinguishes it from messages from unapproved or outside entities.
  - Jesus Christ says of His Supper, *"I approve this message."*
- The Supper is official, but it is also an Ordinance.
  - We call it an *"Ordinance"* because the Lord of the Church has ordered us to do it.
    - 1 Cor. 11:24 - *"...Do this in remembrance of Me."*
  - The Ordinance is not optional for the believer...its observance is obligatory.
  - A Christian can't pick and choose whether to participate in the Lord's Supper any more that he can pick and choose whether to participate in Baptism. Issue of obedience
    - Our Lord has ordered it, and we must obey and observe it. A delightful duty
- The Lord's Supper is an official Christian holy day. It is a sanctioned holiday
  - There are no official Christian holidays except the Lord's Day and the Lord's Supper
  - Jesus said of the Supper, *"DO THIS in remembrance of Me"*
    - He didn't say to remember Him with trees and presents...or.... bunnies & eggs He said to remember Him with bread and wine. **"DO THIS..."**
  - We ought to be more eager observe the official sanctioned celebration than the ones which are unofficial, unsanctioned, and not certified by Jesus Christ
    - Deut. 12:32
- This sanctioned Supper is like an anniversary. A repeated reminder of a bond and oath.
  - "Sacrament" comes from a Latin word meaning "a sacred oath."
    - A sacred oath of allegiance by a soldier
  - This meal reminds us of our bond to Christ and our allegiance to Him
  - WC - XXVII Sacraments – *"...to put a visible difference between those who belong to the church and the rest of the world, and solemnly to engage them to the service of God in Christ according to His word."*
  - 1689 Baptist – *"The supper...to be a bond and pledge of their communion with Him and each other."*

*A Sanctioned CELEBRATION*

- The Supper is: Official & obligatory....but it is also celebratory
  - Not to be a boring religious ritual
  - This is an official holiday...a feast/festival...a celebration of salvation
- We celebrate with a meager meal but this meal has a mighty message
  - We celebrate a VICTORY
    - My sin make me a loser...an eternal loser
    - But my Savior won a victory ...and won it for me!
    - *“O victory in Jesus, my Savior forever, He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood He loved ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him, He plunged me to victory, beneath...”*
  - We celebrate a SUBSTITUTION
    - 2 Cor. 5:21
    - Jesus is our Passover Lamb
    - We remember and celebrate that He took our place.
    - Luke 22:15
    - Jesus suffered so we could celebrate.
    - Jesus drank the bitter cup of God’s wrath so we could enjoy the sweet cup of God’s blessing.            Psalm 34:8
  - We celebrate SALVATION
    - God has saved us from our sin....from ourselves...from the wrath to come...
    - God has saved us from what we deserve and given us what Jesus deserved.
    - We celebrate forgiveness and eternal life given to us by the Eternal Son
- This Supper is a celebration with anticipation
  - 1 Cor. 11:26   “....until He comes.”
  - This meal is a foretaste of glory divine....we anticipate eating with Him
    - Luke 22:15-18, 28-30
  - There is a family reunion coming...and eternal holiday
    - We will see Him as He is <sup>1 John 3:1-2</sup> & feast with Abraham, Isaac & ... <sup>Matt. 8:11</sup>
    - *“...all the ransomed church of God will be saved to sin no more...”*
  - Let’s eat and enjoy!                            Heidelberg Catechism # 75

Open Communion

Fencing the Table

Examine yourself

Discern the Body

|   |  |   |                      |
|---|--|---|----------------------|
| <i>“Man of Sorrows what a name</i>      | <i>For the Son of God who came</i>     | <i>Ruined sinner to reclaim,</i>        | <i>Hallelujah...</i> |
| <i>Bearing shame and scoffing rude,</i> | <i>In my place condemned He stood.</i> | <i>Sealed my pardon with His blood,</i> | <i>...</i>           |
| <i>Guilty vile and helpless we,</i>     | <i>Spotless Lamb of God was He,</i>    | <i>Full Atonement! Can it be?</i>       | <i>...</i>           |
| <i>Lifted up was He to die,</i>         | <i>“it is finished” was His cry;</i>   | <i>Now in heaven exalted high,</i>      | <i>...</i>           |
| <i>When HE comes our glorious King,</i> | <i>All His ransomed home to bring,</i> | <i>Then anew this song we’ll sing,</i>  | <i>...</i>           |