

1 Cor. 11:23-26 - Two Elements in Remembering One Lord

Intro - A Lord's Supper Sunday is always a special day at CBBC. We partake of this *Memorial Meal* as a means of remembering our Lord Jesus Christ and obeying our Lord Jesus Christ. He has commanded us to "*Do this in remembrance of Me.*" Today, 1000's in our city will participate in the *Memorial Marathon* in order to honor & remember those who were lost in the bombing. But we partake of this meal not because Jesus is lost (He is at the right Hand of the Father) but we eat to remember that we were lost and that Jesus saved us by taking our death and giving us His life. Our city *runs to remember* but the church of Jesus Christ *eats to remember*. And this meal we partake of is a prescribed meal of only two small elements - some Bread & a Cup. These two elements point us to One Person who has two natures...the God-Man. Both elements remind us of something human and of something Divine. The meal reminds us of physical suffering and spiritual suffering. Death is proclaimed in these elements ^(1Cor. 11:26) the 1st death & the 2nd death. In these elements we see hell, but we also see heaven. Life & Death, Heaven & Hell, Justice & Mercy, Human & Divine...a small meal with a very big message. So, before we eat of the Bread and drink of the Cup...lets meditate on the meaning of the elements in this *Memorial Meal*.

THE BREAD

1. The Bread represents The Body. The body of the Lord Jesus Christ
 - a. "*This is My body...*" 1 Cor. 11:23-24
 - b. The Bread reminds us of the human body of our Lord.
2. The mystery of the Incarnation (1 Tim. 3:16a)
 - a. The Son of God becomes man. God took on flesh John 1:1,14
 - b. Jesus is fully God and fully man. One Person with two natures
 - c. He came from heaven to earth. Jesus is Bread from heaven.
 - i. Jesus is Manna from heaven - John 6:48-51 (Mysterious Bread)
 - d. Bread is a staple of life...
 - i. Jesus came from heaven to earth to bring us from earth to heaven -
 1. Manna came down to give us LIFE
3. Life is received by broken bread. For bread to benefit it must be broken
 - a. Bread cannot remain pristine if people are to profit from it. Must be cut up/mashed up
 - b. We receive life by the death of the pristine Christ.
 - i. The Body of the Lord Jesus Christ must be broken if we are to benefit.
 - c. The perfect humanity our Lord was the perfect receptacle to carry all our sin.
 - i. My sin infused to Christ's flesh - 1 Peter 2:24a
 - d. God visited physical suffering upon Jesus' sinless body because He bore my sin.
 - i. The Body was broken so I could be forgiven.
 - ii. Because The Body was broken...the Bread is broken in remembrance.
 - iii. Bread is a staple to life and Jesus' broken body is the staple for eternal life
4. There is a big message in a little piece of bread.

THE CUP

- The Cup contains the fruit of the vine which represents Christ's blood - 1 Cor. 11:25
 - Life is in the blood and Jesus laid down His life so we could live - John 15:13
 - Heb. 9:22
 - But the term "*The Cup*" carries a deep, dark, and dual meaning.
- The Cup = judgment & death
 - Psalm 75:7-8 (100 proof)
 - Isaiah 51:17
 - Jer. 25:15-17 (Passover presentation last week - the cups)
 - Matt. 20:22 - "*Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?*"
 - The Cup proclaims a death.... but not just a physical/temporal death
- The Cup = 2nd death
 - The Cup was the cup of God's eternal wrath....eternal death - 2nd death - Rev. 20:14
 - Is it any wonder Jesus prayed, "*Let this cup pass from Me, never the less not My will but...*"
 - I want to be careful and respectful when I say this:
 - Many men died by way of a cross. Death by cross was not unique...
 - many men have endured that kind of physical/temporal torment
 - But only One has ever endured a DEATH BY CUP
 - The whips, lashes, mockery, crown, cross, nails were nothing compared to THE CUP Rev. 14:10 - full strength / infinite proof
 - Jesus endured an eternal hell as he hung upon that cross.
 - The physical suffering never made Him cry out but The Cup...
 - "*My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me ?!*"
 - Jesus willingly drank the cup of wrath the Father gave Him - John 18:11
 - Jesus, being eternal, could endure eternal hell in a temporal timeframe.
 - It would take me an eternity...and I could never drink it - too strong
 - Remember trying to choke down nasty medication as kid?
 - Jesus drank my cup, and the cup of whoever believeth...down to its very dregs. The culminated punishment of countless believers was consumed by our Substitute, Redeemer, and Savior. He drank it all to save us all.
- The Cup = a cup of blessing
 - 1 Cor. 10:16
 - Jesus drank the cup of wrath I deserve so I could drink the cup of blessing He deserves.
 - Jesus took my hell in order to give me His heaven. 2 Cor. 5:21 Gal. 3:13
 - He drank a *cup of condemnation* so I could drink a *cup of salvation*.
 - Cup of anger/love...wrath/peace...trembling/joy...cursing/blessing
 - This is worth celebrating and remembering.
 - We eat to remember and drink to remember.

THE CELEBRATION

Open / Close Communion
A Solemn Celebration

Fencing the Table

Examine yourself

Two Element to Remember Him by