

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, April 21, 2024

1. Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-26
2. How did the church celebrate the Lord's Supper in Corinth? What was the problem Paul addresses with regards to their celebration of the Lord Supper? How would the dining customs in first century Corinth negatively impact the Lord's Supper in the church?
3. What is the Lord's Supper saying about the body of Christ that makes secular divisions so egregious in celebrating it?
4. Paul says something astonishing in v.17, that when they were coming together as a church to celebrate something as beautiful and meaningful as the Lord's Supper, that their coming together "wasn't for the better but for the worse." He then goes on to say that "It is not the Lord's Supper that you eat." (v.20). What are the practical implications to what Paul is saying here?
5. In v.19 Paul says "there must be factions (i.e. divisions) among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized." What does he mean? What do you learn from that statement about the way the Lord's Supper should be administered?
6. In order to instruct them in the proper administration of the Lord's Supper, Paul goes back to Jesus' words of institution which He revealed to him. In doing so we learn that the Lord's Supper is a perpetual sign and seal of the Covenant of Grace which God made with His people (which we see in Jesus' words "This cup is the New Covenant in my blood"). What does this mean?
7. We also learn that the Lord's Supper is a means of grace. What does this mean? How is this communicated in the acts of eating and drinking? Read John 6:22-59 and 1 Cor.10:16-17 to help in your answer.
8. We also learn from v.26 that the Lord's Supper is announcing the great truth that salvation is accomplished through the atoning work of Jesus on the cross. The key word in v.26 is *proclaim*. What does this word mean? Describe how the Lord's Supper is God's flannel board, displaying the story of salvation.
9. What practical application can you make from this text/sermon?
10. Pray!

Reading of Law: Romans 6:11-12

So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus. ¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions.

Prayer of Confession:

Our Father in heaven, how great and glorious you are! You are the one true and living God in whom alone there is life. Father, by the gracious work of your Spirit you have made us new in Christ, and yet how prone we are to think of ourselves in relation to our old way of life. We do not stand on the fact that sin has lost its controlling power over us now that we are in Christ, but when temptation comes we yield to it, feeling as though we are still slaves to it. We let sin reign in us and push us around as if it were still master over us when the reality is we have been raised to newness of life in our union with the risen Christ. For it is His resurrection power that has raised us from spiritual death and is now at work in us. This is the truth of the gospel, and we confess it and ask that you forgive us for not living in accord with it. Father, please help us to believe this great truth and to appropriate it, that we would not let sin reign in our mortal bodies, but we would walk in newness of life by the power of our risen Savior to whom we are joined by faith. We ask these things for His name's sake, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness: Hebrews 10:19-22

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

WLC: 124

Q. 124. Who are meant by father and mother in the fifth commandment?

A. By father and mother, in the fifth commandment, are meant, not only natural parents, but all superiors in age and gifts; and especially such as, by God's ordinance, are over us in place of authority, whether in family, church, or commonwealth.

[Prov. 23:22](#), [25](#); [Eph. 6:1-2](#); [1 Tim. 5:1-2](#); [Gen. 4:20-22](#); [Gen. 45:8](#); [2 Kings 5:13](#); [2 Kings 2:12](#); [2 Kings 13:14](#); [Gal. 4:19](#); [Isa. 49:23](#).

OT Reading: Psalm 133

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! ² It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! ³ It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.