

1 Corinthians 11:17-34 **Order at the Lord's Table**

Problem of disorderliness at the Lord's Table

17 Now in giving these instructions I do not praise you, since you come together not for the better but for the worse. 18 For first of all, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you, and in part I believe it. 19 For there must also be factions among you, that those who are approved may be recognized among you. 20 Therefore when you come together in one place, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper. 21 For in eating, each one takes his own supper ahead of others; and one is hungry and another is drunk. 22 What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise you.

Holy significance at the Lord's Table

23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." 26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

Danger in irreverence at the Lord's Table

27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. 28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

Conclusion

33 Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. 34 But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Problem of disorderliness at the Lord's Table [1 Corinthians 11:17-22]

- ✚ Tolerance of irreverent behavior at the Lord's Table is not praiseworthy.
- ✧ The report that came to Paul indicated that when they came together to eat, it was not to eat the Lord's Supper, but each one takes his own supper ahead of others; one is hungry and another drunk.
- ✧ This kind of dining should be done at home and not in the assembly of the Church.

Holy significance at the Lord's Table [1 Corinthians 11:23-26, 10:16-17, Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14:22-24, Luke 22:14-20]

- ✚ The Lord's Supper was established at Passover, the last meal Jesus ate before He was crucified.
- ✚ The night Jesus was betrayed, Jesus took the bread (Afikomen), gave thanks, and broke it, saying, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

- ✠ Jesus took **the cup after supper** (cup of Redemption and Blessing), saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."
- ✠ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, **you proclaim the Lord's death** till He comes.

Danger in irreverence at the Lord's Table [1 Corinthians 11:27-32]

- ✠ Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.
 - ✧ This calls for each person to examine his own heart at the Lord's Table to be sure his attention and motive is in keeping with the sacredness of the occasion.
 - ✧ For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.
 - ✧ The focus must be the discernment of the sacrifice God performed through the death of Jesus, that paid the price for the provision of atonement for the sins of the world.
 - ✧ This is a most sacred occasion in thanksgiving for God's work of Salvation.

- ✧ Irreverence toward God's work of atonement is the cause of many problems for people.
- ✧ For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.
- ✧ For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.
- ✧ But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.
- ✧ The judgment of God is a call for repentance on the part of the erring believer.
- ✧ Repentance gains forgiveness and avoids condemnation with the world.

Conclusion [1 Corinthians 11:33-34]

- ✠ Therefore, the proper order at the Communion Table is to wait for one another.
 - ✧ If you are hungry, eat at home, so you do not come together for judgment.

- ✧ Paul will deal with other matters when he comes.