

## COMMUNION SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 3, 2024

In two days, millions of Americans will be voting to decide who will govern us. There has never been such a clear distinct difference between the candidates, nor has the fate of our Constitutional Republic been on the line.

Just about everyone is on edge to see what will happen two days from now, but no one except God knows exactly what will happen. He knew in eternity past every minute detail about the 5<sup>th</sup> of November, in 2024 and every day thereafter.

He is omniscient and omnipotent which means He knows everything and has power over everything. Jesus Christ is in control of all things; He determines who will be president and who will win all the other positions to be filled in our government.

His plan and His decisions are absolutely perfect; He knows the beginning to the end, and nothing surprises Him. So, if our side wins, we will rejoice and give glory to God. If our side does not win, we still should rejoice and give glory to God because He is perfectly righteous and just.

If the dark side wins, the Country that we have loved for so long will cease to exist. We will feel horrible, but we will still be God's children.

We would have to be careful not to allow the plethora of mental attitude sins, sins of the tongue, and overt sins to take hold of our soul and cause us to be bitter.

The darker things get, the brighter we should shine. We need to be the salt and light that our Lord called us to be.

**Matthew 5:13-16** *"You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how will it be made salty again? It is good for nothing anymore, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. 14) "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15) "Nor do men light a lamp, and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand; and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16) "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.*

The plan for our life and our mission remains the same. We are to continue to learn and apply Bible Doctrine as we grow in grace and knowledge. Our goal is to be good and faithful servants to our wonderful God whom we love more than our Country or anything else.

Ephesians 6:10-18 give us more detail:

**Ephesians 6:10-18** *Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might. \*11) Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. 12) For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13) *Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. 14) Stand firm therefore, having girded your**

***loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15) and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16) in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one. 17) And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18) With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,***

\* What is unfolding in the U.S. and around the world is a spiritual battle. Satan has untold numbers of fallen angels who battle against God's elect angels. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers and powers of spiritual darkness. I believe the majority of Democratic candidates running for office, and those who support them, are pawns of the dark side, who use them to lie, cheat, and bring chaos and suffering to the wonderful world that Jesus Christ created.

So our struggle is not against the pawns we can see, but it is against those that we can't see. How can we have victory over those that we cannot see? Well, we certainly can't have victory by depending on our own effort, but we can have victory by depending completely on Jesus Christ. He trains us to put on all of our spiritual armor so that we can stand firm, by trusting in His faithfulness and power to defeat the unseen enemy.

**Romans 15:13 Now may *the God of hope* fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

The phrase **“the God of hope”** is monumental because we all have had the frightening experience where we thought that there is no hope. That fear disappears when we remember that our God is the God of hope!

Without the clear and certain promises of the Word of God, the believer would have no basis for **hope** (15:4; Ps. 119:81, 114; Eph. 2:12; cf. Jer. 14:8).

**“hope” of the glory of God.** Unlike the English word **“hope,”** the NT word contains no uncertainty; it speaks of something that is certain, but not yet realized. The believer’s ultimate destiny is to share in the very glory of God (*Rom. 8:29, 30; John 17:22; 2 Cor. 3:18; Phil. 3:20, 21; 1 John 3:1, 2*), and that **hope** will be realized because Christ Himself secures it

**1 Peter 1:13 . . . *fix your hope* completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.**

**Acts 24:15 *having a hope in God,* which these men cherish themselves, that there shall certainly be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked.**

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**Two Elements:**

**UNLEAVENED BREAD** represents the perfect sinless humanity of J.C.

**John 6:47-51 "I assure you, anyone who believes in me already has eternal life. 48) Yes, I am the bread of life! 49) Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, but they all died. 50) However, the bread from heaven gives eternal life to everyone who eats it. 51) I am the living bread that came down out of heaven. Anyone who eats this bread (believes in Christ), will live forever; this bread is my flesh, offered so the world may live."**

**John 6:35 - Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst."**

**THE CUP** represents the sacrifice of Christ for us on the cross.

He died twice on the cross and voluntarily gave up his life for us.

Jesus Christ died twice on the cross. His first death was a spiritual death when He took on Himself the sins of the world. The second death took place when He died physically by giving up His breath.

His sacrifice is the only thing that satisfies the justice and +R of God. It is the only thing that stands between us and the Lake of Fire.

**John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"**

Anyone can eat and anyone can drink, eating the bread and drinking from the cup is a public declaration that you have put your faith alone in Jesus Christ alone by grace alone.

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He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him and by His stripe we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray, each one to his own way, and He (GF) made Him (God the Son) the iniquity of us all.

God demonstrates His love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

He said, "this cup is new covenant in my blood, do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me.

Hymn #258