

## **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

**May 4, 2025**

The ordinance of the Lord's Supper is a divinely appointed testimony from the believer's heart to God respecting the believer's trust in Christ's efficacious death. As such, it has nevertheless been greatly perverted, the Church of Rome having developed the unwarranted doctrine of **Transubstantiation** which is the changing of the elements of the bread and wine, when they are consecrated in the Eucharist, into the body and blood of Christ (a doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church).

The Lutheran doctrine of the Eucharist includes **Consubstantiation** which is the doctrine that the substance of the body and blood of Christ coexist in and with the substance of the bread and wine of the Eucharist, to the effect that Christ must be present by omnipotent power in the elements—a blessing to believers, but not to others.

The Lord's Supper is not about Jesus Christ coming back to earth to take the form of bread or wine, or to mingle with the bread and wine. The Lord's Supper is a reminder for us to remember Him and what He did for us on the cross. After He had given His disciples, instructions concerning the bread and the wine, He said, “***do this in remembrance of Me.***”

We are just sojourners on this earth; our primarily citizenship is in heaven because that is our eternal home.

***Philippians 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;***

It is very important that we are accurate when we study the Word of God. That is one reason why He gave certain men the spiritual gift of being a pastor-teacher. Most people don't have the time or the inclination to learn the Greek and Hebrew or to study the Bible for eight hours at a time. Nor do they want to take on the crushing responsibilities of a pastor.

It is easy to be distracted from what is most important in this life and to forget why we are here and what our mission is. The purpose of the Lord's Supper is to help us remember the Person and Work of our Lord Jesus Christ who bore our punishment on the cross.

We will now take a close look at 1 Corinthians 11:26, which has three major aspects to it:

**1 Corinthians 11:26 “For as often as you” eat this bread and drink the cup, “you proclaim the Lord's death” “until He comes.”**

The phrase, “For as often as you.” eat this bread and drink the cup, shows that our Lord gives us some leeway as to how often we observe the “Lord’s Supper.”

The next phrase, “you proclaim the Lord’s death” means that we are to proclaim the gospel, not only when we show our faith in Christ in public as we partake of the bread and the cup, but to proclaim His death to anyone who will listen to the gospel. Proclaiming the Lord’s death is essentially explaining how He voluntarily took the punishment of your sins and my sins and the sins of the whole world on Himself on the cross.

The last phrase, “until He comes.” which is the greatest phrase of all because our Lord Jesus Christ is telling us that He is coming back to earth to take us back with Him to heaven and so shall we all be with our Lord!

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

Do you know why they ate unleavened bread at the Passover, and we eat it during the Lord’s Supper? It speaks of Christ’s perfect sinlessness.

Anyone can eat; anyone can believe in Christ (by eating of the living bread which is a metaphor for believing in Jesus Christ).

**John 6:51 “I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever;**

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

His substitutional death on the cross is the only thing that satisfies the Justice and +R of God. Every believer and unbeliever will live forever in one of two places: heaven: (**1 Thes. 4:13-18**) or the lake of fire (**Rev. 20:11-15**). The cross is the only thing that stands between us and the Lake of Fire. *Furthermore, He conquered sin and death on the cross so they no longer have power over us.*

When we eat the bread and drink of the cup, we are publicly demonstrating our trust in Him regarding where we will spend eternity.

You don't have to be a member of CBC to partake of the Lord's Supper because you are already a member of the universal Church in Christ.

We have been studying something called Escrow Blessings that God the Father created in eternity past for every believer in the Church Age. Every believer could receive these wonderful Escrow Blessings if they meet the condition of becoming a mature believer.

i. Here is the bottom line:

Our gracious benevolent God, in eternity past, devised a personal specific plan for the life of every Church Age believer and also set aside personal specific escrow blessings for every believer. Every believer has an equal opportunity to execute God's plan for their life and an equal opportunity to receive escrow blessings in time and in eternity, by reaching Spiritual Maturity.

How can anyone who understands the wonderful things that God did for us in eternity past, not be eternally grateful to Him and to be in awe of His love, His faithfulness, and His power. It isn't too late for us to act on the knowledge we now hold.