COMMUNION

& THE LORD'S SUPPER

Scripture Reading:

John 13:15-17:

¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. ¹⁷ If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

Gem of Light – When believers assemble to celebrate the ordinances, there are present messengers unseen by human eyes. There may be a Judas in the company, and if so, messengers from the prince of darkness are there, for they attend all who refuse to be controlled by the Holy Spirit. Heavenly angels also are present. These unseen visitants are present on every such occasion. There may come into the company persons who are not in heart servants of truth and holiness, but who may wish to take part in the service. They should not be forbidden. There are witnesses present who were present when Jesus washed the feet of the disciples and of Judas. More than human eyes beheld the scene. **[Desire of Ages P. 656.2, E.G.W.]**

Introduction: One of the most important Christian rituals is communion. Today we will learn what it means, why we do it, and who should do it.

1. What is the Lord's Supper? – Matthew 26:26-30

The Lord's Supper is a participation in the emblems of the body and blood of Jesus as an expression of faith in Him, our Lord and Savior.

2. What does the bread represent? – Matthew 26:26,

John 6:48-51, John 1:1

Christ is the bread. The bread is the Word. The Word is the bible.

The bread is to be without leaven (Exodus 12:19, 20)

What does leaven represent? – 1 Cor. 5:7, 8

3. What does the Juice represent? – Matthew 26:27, 28

The juice represents the blood that Jesus shed for us. It also represents the flow of communication from us to God and from God to us.

4. When did the first communion take place?

John 13:1

(For origin of Passover see Exodus Chapters 11 & 12)

- 5. Who is the Passover Lamb? John 1:29, Rev. 13:8
- 6. What happened to Judas? John 13:2

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7. **Where was Jesus?** – John 13:3, 14:3

8. **Describe the scene here?** – John 13:4-10

 $Vs\ 4$ – Jesus took off anything that would inhibit His action here. He removed unnecessary clothing.

Vs. 6 – Peter questions Jesus

Vs. 7 – It's ok not to understand everything now, but Jesus promises we will.

Vs. 8 – What would happen to Peter if He were to refuse Jesus

Vs. 9 – Peter still does not obey His master, but requests His own desires.

Vs. 10 – Since a complete cleansing has already taken place, Peter only needed the recent dirt/sin cleansed.

9. Is Jesus only talking about dirt? – John 13:11

10. What is Jesus' command? – John 13:12-15

-Does He want us to understand this?

-Vs. 13 – Who is Jesus? –

-What should we do along with the Lord 's Supper? -

11. Are we better than Jesus? – John 13:16, Matthew 20:28

-When Jesus uses the phrase "verily, verily" or "most assuredly" it denotes much importance. This is when Jesus is speaking directly from the father.

12. What is the benefit of following in Jesus' example?

1 John 2:6, John 13:17

13. What is the reason for prophecy?

John 13:18-19, Psalm 41:9

14. Who do we receive if we receive Jesus? – John 13:20

15. Should Christians continue the Lord's Supper and who should participate? –

1 Corinthians 11:23-30

Vs. 23 – What is this passage referring to?

Vs. 24-26 – Did the early Christian church continue Communion/The Lord's Supper after Jesus crucifixion?

Vs. 27 − Is Communion an important thing?

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Vs. 28 – What should precede communion?

Vs. 29 – What could be the result of not taking communion seriously?

It is my prayer today we all choose to commit or re-commit our lives to Jesus and thank Him for the gift of sacrifice, forgiveness, and the offer of eternal life.

Amen