

The Lord's Supper

Part 2

Review of Lesson 1

- Instituted or established by Jesus (“Do this...”)
- Called the Lord’s Supper, the Lord’s table, communion, breaking bread.
- Once the Lord’s kingdom was established, Christians in local churches ate this supper **every** Sunday.
- In observing this supper, they ate **unleavened** bread and drank fruit of the **grape** vine.
- Observed as a **proclamation** of Christ’s death, in **remembrance** of His sacrifice, and in **anticipation** of His return.

Proper Observance of the Lord's Supper

Five Questions

Questions Related to the Following Passages:

Matthew 26:26–29; Mark 14:22–25;
Luke 22:14–20

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave *it* to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. Then He said to them, "With *fervent* desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide *it* among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And He took bread, gave thanks and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup *is* the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.

Questions

1. In what **order** should we partake of the elements?
 - The unleavened bread first, **then** the fruit of the vine.
 - The accounts in Matthew, Mark, Luke make that exceedingly clear, as well as Paul's recap in 1 Corinthians 11:23–25.

Questions

2. What do they each represent?

- The unleavened bread: “This is My **body**” (Matthew, Mark); “This is My **body** which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me” (Luke).
- The fruit of the vine: “For this is My **blood** of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins” (Matthew’s account, fullest of the three).
- Represent? Matthew 26:29.
- “Miracle of the Mass”?

Questions

3. What should be done **before** the bread and fruit of the vine is given to everyone to eat?
 - We should give thanks for each—for the bread and the fruit of the vine.
 - Matthew and Mark’s accounts: “blessed” the bread; Luke’s account: “gave thanks.”
 - All three record that He gave thanks for the cup, or the fruit of the vine.

Questions

4. Should someone **break** the bread after giving thanks?
 - Some say YES—fits the pattern, and symbolizes the broken body of Jesus.
 - 1 Corinthians 11:24—“this is My body which is broken for you” (KJV, NKJV).
 - No other translation renders it this way.
 - None of the accounts record Jesus saying this.
 - John 19:36: “not one of His bones shall be broken.”

Questions

4. Should someone **break** the bread after giving thanks?
 - Why did Jesus break the bread?
 - “Best thing since sliced bread.”
 - Same was done with ordinary meals (Matthew 14:19; 15:36; Acts 27:35).
 - Mark 8:19; Luke 24:35.
 - No wonder, then, that “break bread” is used to describe eating the Lord’s supper (Acts 2:42; 20:7).

Questions

5. Do we have to eat ALL the bread and drink ALL the juice?
 - And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, “Drink ye all of it...” (Matthew 26:27, KJV, ASV very similar).
 - ALL refer to contents or people? Other translations make it clear it refers to the people (e.g., “drink from it, all of YOU,” NKJV).
 - “When He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they ALL drank from it” (Mark 14:23).