

**The Lord's Table:
More Than Crackers and Juice**

(1 Corinthians 11:17-34)

Summary:
*Paul Addresses Problems,
and Uses Communion
as the Truth to
Bring the Needed Solutions*

**The Common Thread
of
1 Corinthians 11:17-34**

“come together”

**The Three-Fold Problem
at Corinth**

- A. **Separations** (17-19)
 - **Schisms** – divisions by wrong attitudes or choices
 - **Heresies** – deviations from orthodox teaching
- B. **Selfishness** (20-21)
- C. **Shaming of the Assembly of God** (22)

**The Example and Commands
of the Lord Jesus**

- A. The **Timing** of His Commands (23)
 - “in the night in which He was betrayed”
 - He had just washed the feet of those that would:
 - forsake Him,
 - deny Him, and
 - betray Him!

**The Example and Commands
of the Lord Jesus**

- B. The **Meaning of the Bread** (24)
“this is my body ... for you”
sacrificial payment
- C. The **Meaning of the Cup** (25)
“This cup is the new covenant in My blood.”
sacrificial procurement

The Example and Commands of the Lord Jesus

D. The Extent of the Commands (26)

- Mandatory (“this **do** in remembrance of Me”)
- Continuous (“as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup”)
- Declarative (“you proclaim the Lord’s death”)
- Expectant (“till He comes”)

Paul’s Condemnation and Solutions to the Problem

A. Condemnation (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.

Paul’s Condemnation and Solutions to the Problem

B. Command #1 – Examination (28)

But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

- Examine for what? Is this calling for a general evaluation of and confession of sin?
- *Am I relating properly to the Body?*
- Does a believer choose to participate?

Paul’s Condemnation and Solutions to the Problem

C. Explanation (29, cp 34)

For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body.

(24) The Lord’s “for you” body

1 Corinthians 10:17 – we are one bread/body

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

(# times “body” occurs in Ch 12?)

Paul’s Condemnation and Solutions to the Problem

D. Chastisement (30-32)

- *Jesus takes division in His body seriously.*
 - *Jesus takes the treatment of His body personally.*
- “Saul, Saul. Why are you persecuting Me?”*

Paul’s Condemnation and Solutions to the Problem

E. Commands #2 & #3 (33-34)

- Solution for Shaming
Wait for one another (33)
- Solution for Selfishness
Eat at home (34)

Review

- *Are you divisive, or are you committed to the one bread, one body?*
- *Are you considering others in the body, putting them before yourself?*
- *Are you assembling with the purpose of meeting the needs of others, rather than your own needs?*

Communion Commitments

The Bread

- *I reaffirm by belief in the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, Who bore my sins on the cross and rose again.*
- *I recognize my responsibility to consider and care for the body of Christ, the church, of which I am a part.*
- *I recommit myself to sacrificially serve the body of Christ, the church.*

The Cup

- *I renew my pursuit of growing in the grace and knowledge of the Lord Jesus, and in the blessings that are now mine through the new covenant procured by His blood.*