

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Intro:

Much division has occurred in the church of Christ because of the debate over how the Lord's supper is to be observed. Some churches believe that Christ took only one cup and one loaf and that therefore the same pattern must be followed today. Others feel that there is no significance to the biblical example and that we may participate in the Lord's supper any way we like. Since this memorial is the Lord's it behooves us to see what he says about this event.

- I. The Lord's Supper is considered at least five times in sacred text.
 - A. Matt 26:26-29
 - B. Mark 14:22-25
 - C. Luke 22:17-20
 - D. I Cor 10:16-17
 - E. I Cor 11:23-29

- II. Jesus commanded "this do."
 - A. "This do" means we should do it the way he did. Lk 22:19
 - B. Jesus set forth the divine pattern in this matter.
 - C. What Jesus attached significance to we must also.

- III. The Lord's Supper is important and must be taken seriously.
 - A. God saw fit to record it 5 times.
 - B. This was a memorial left by Christ himself.
 - C. Corinth had condemned themselves disregarding the pattern. I Cor 11
 - D. It is the very focal point of Christian worship. Acts 2:42, 20:7
 - E. We must take it seriously today to be pleasing to God.
 - F. We must discover how Christ wants us to observe it.

- IV. What did Jesus do?
 - A. Jesus took a single loaf of bread. Mk 14:22
 1. The one Loaf represents Christ's one body.
 2. Bread is "artos" in Greek which is singular for one loaf.
 - B. Jesus took a single cup. Mt 26:27
 1. They all drank from (Gk: ek - out of) it.
 2. It was filled with the fruit of the vine.
 3. Cup is "poterion" in Greek and is singular for one cup.
 4. The Cup represents the one New Covenant. Lk 22:20

- V. What must we do today?
 - A. Jesus said "do this" to remember him.
 - B. We must do what Jesus did to remember him.
 - C. The early church used only one cup. I Cor 11:2, 23-25
 - D. The Holy Spirit recorded the use of only one cup.

- VI. Other considerations.
 - A. Because the Holy Spirit records the event 5 times it is important.
 - B. To change the pattern given is violation of God. Mt 15:9
 - C. We are not Christ's if we do not follow Christ's pattern. Lk 6:46