

The power of THE LORD'S SUPPER

²³ For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread; ²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." ²⁵ In the same way He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26 NASB

WHEN WE TAKE COMMUNION:

1. I remember His sacrifice and receive His grace

And when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

1 CORINTHIANS 11:24 NASB

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows.

PSALM 23:5 NASB

WHEN WE TAKE COMMUNION:

2. I repent and confess my sins

²⁷ Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy way, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. ²⁸ But a person must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:27-28 NASB

²⁷ And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is My blood of the covenant, which is being poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

MATTHEW 26:27-28 NASB

For I will be merciful toward their wrongdoings, And their sins I will no longer remember."

HEBREWS 8:12 NASB

For this reason I say to you, her sins, which are many, have been forgiven, for she loved much; but the one who is forgiven little, loves little.

LUKE 7:47 NASB

I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

REVELATION 7:14 NASB

WHEN WE TAKE COMMUNION:

3. I strengthen my faith by proclaiming that He will return

Is the cup of blessing which we bless not a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is the bread which we break not a sharing in the body of Christ?

1 CORINTHIANS 10:16 NASB

THE LORD'S SUPPER DIRECTS US IN TWO DIRECTIONS

A. It directs us vertically as we remember His body and blood, give thanks for His sacrifice, have fellowship with Him through faith, and proclaim the Lord's death until He returns. (1 Corinthians 10:16).

B. It also directs us horizontally as we are moved by grace toward our brothers and sisters in the faith. (1 Corinthians 10:17).

We discern the body of Christ upward in glory and outward in love.

“ This banquet is a spiritual table at which Christ communicates Himself to us with all His benefits. At that table, He makes us truly partake of the merits of His suffering and death as He nourishes, strengthens, and comforts our poor and desolate souls by the eating of His body, and relieves and renews them by the drinking of His blood. ”

The Belgic Confession, written in 1561

⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread that comes down out of heaven, so that anyone may eat from it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats from this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I will give for the life of the world also is My flesh. [...] ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves. ⁵⁴ The one who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. [...] ⁵⁶ The one who eats My flesh and drinks My blood remains in Me, and I in him. [...] ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down out of heaven, not as the fathers ate and died; the one who eats this bread will live forever.

JOHN 6:48-51, 53-54, 56, 58 NASB

Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding feast of the Lamb.'" And he said to me, "These are the true words of God."

REVELATION 19:9 NASB

²⁹ 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 with you, new, in My Father's kingdom." ³⁰ And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

MATTHEW 26:29-30 NASB

Blessed are those slaves whom the master will find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that he will prepare himself to serve, and have them recline at the table, and he will come up and serve them.

LUKE 12:37 NASB