

I Corinthians 11:17-34

The Lord's Supper and the Covenant

Introduction:

The Lord's Supper should never be a showy kind of pageantry. A pastor came to Gordon Keddie and said, "The Lord's Supper represents "our pageantry." Keddie responded, "This is most unhelpful and even misleading characterization of the sacrament." There is to be no showy elaborate ritual. This is what the Reformers of the 16th century saw as a vast corruption in the so called "sacrifice of the mass." Dr. Loraine Boettner in his comprehensive book on Roman Catholicism states that the mass from Rome's perspective is: "a glaring, elaborate, showy pageantry and drama of the mass." Christ sent his apostles to teach and to baptize not to "say a mass". (Matt. 28:19) The book of Acts and the Epistles give us not one word about "saying a mass". This is the center piece and the greatest abomination of the Roman Catholic Church.

I. Biblical Words of the Institution

A. The Words of the Sacrament:

1. Communion – I Cor. 10:16; 10:17
2. Lord's Supper – v.20
 - a. Expressing our union with Christ
 - b. Nourishment, feeding on Christ by faith – (Larger Catechism, Rev. 19:9)
3. Do this! An explicit command – v.24
4. Remembrance – v.24b
5. Covenant – v.25; II Cor. 5:21; Jer. 31:31-34
6. Proclaim – v.26

II. The Blood of the Covenant

A. From the beginning – Gen. 3:15; Rom. 16:20; Acts 2:23,24

1. Moses at Sinai – Ex. 24:8; Exod. 12:1-14; I Cor. 5:7
2. The Prophet Zechariah – Zech. 9:9-11
3. The book of Hebrews – Heb. 12:24

B. The Manner of Communing

1. Discerning the Lord's body – v.29
2. Participating in a worthy manner – v.27
3. Examining ourselves – v.28

III. The Marriage Covenant of the Lamb

A. Looking forward to the consummation – (Herman Witsius 1636-1708) Rev. 19:7,9; Psalm 16:11; 17:15)

B. Marriage Feast

1. Joined to our Savior in an eternal covenant
2. Marriage of husband and wife parallels Christ and His church – Eph. 5:31,32; Heb. 13:5

Conclusion:

1. *When we come to an ordinary supper table we bring nothing except our mouths and stomachs.*
2. *So in the Lord's Supper we have nothing to bring except our mouth and stomachs to receive the elements. Jesus provides all for us in every case.*

Pastor Nick Iamaio
Reformed Presbyterian Church
207 South First Street, Fulton, NY 13069
315-343-1976
Web Site fultonrpc.org
8/14/2016

