

What Is Communion?

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

I. v. 23-25 IT IS A TIME OF IDENTIFICATION

- A. When we take the Lord's Supper, we are publically identifying ourselves with Jesus Christ. Now, it is possible for a lost person to partake of the Lord's Supper but it simply would have no meaning for them. This act holds no saving power! However, for those who are washed in the blood, it is a time for us to declare publically that we believe His death and resurrection were for us!
- B. Let us who have been declared by or statement of faith and baptism boldly identify ourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ! The Bible reminds us that those who know Him are not to be ashamed of Him, **Mark 8:38**. The world may call us fools. They may say we use the Lord as a crutch. Regardless of what they say, let us take our stand with the redeemed and loudly proclaim our faith in Him and our dependence upon His sacrifice.
- C. The Lord's Supper is a prime time to identify yourself with the Lord Jesus!

II. v. 26 IT IS A TIME OF DECLARATION

- A. This verse reminds us that when we celebrate the Lord's Supper, we are declaring His death and resurrection to new generations of people. This is to be a time of education as well as a time of worship. We must always take the time to explain what we are doing when we take the bread and juice. This service is a prime time for declaring the Gospel message to those who do not know it.
- B. In a day when many churches are becoming "*culture friendly*" and others are abandoning the gospel, let us determine that as long as there is breath in our bodies, we will strive to protect the message in our church! We could compromise and draw a crowd, but I had rather preach the truth to a few than to drag a crowd behind me into a Christless eternity!

III. v. 26 IT IS A TIME OF EXPECTATION

- A. We are also reminded that the Lord's Supper stirs up our thoughts concerning the return of the Lord Jesus Christ. The truth is, He died for us, He rose again for us and He ascended into Heaven for us. He makes intercession for us at the throne of God. May we never forget that He has also promised to return someday for us, **John 14:1-3; 1 Thess. 4:16-18**.
- B. The Lord's Supper serves to remind us that He is coming! It should *stir us up* to think that one day soon, our Savior will return from glory to take His children home to Heaven.

When we partake of the bread and juice, remember the words of a wonderful old song: "When He was on the cross; I was on His mind!"