

## Proclaim The Lord's Death – 1Corinthians 11:23-26

Bible Study ~ 3/29/17  
Grace Church of Lockeford

The Corinthian church had a problem. They were not showing love to one another as they celebrated their “love feast” in preparation to communing with one another in remembrance of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ! Paul spends the middle part of this chapter addressing this failure. He determines that the best way to deal with the situation is to remind them of what they are celebrating. The Lord's Supper is a remembrance and a proclamation. **Paul demonstrates that they are...**

### 1. Remembering To Proclaim The Body That Was Broken vv. 23-24

The purpose of this ritual remembrance is to proclaim what Christ has done. That will be seen in v. 26. Here, Paul is reminding them of the event where Jesus instituted communion. This was not Paul's own tradition. It is something he “received” from the Lord and now “delivers” to them. “Received” and “delivered” are the same Greek word.

The events Paul is about to describe took place the same night Jesus was betrayed. This emphasizes both the importance and solemnity of this event. Communion is to be a serious business. During this last supper is when Jesus spoke of His betrayal and even told Judas to do it quickly. Jesus takes bread and uses it as an illustration of what would take place the next day.

He gives thanks helping us to understand that this is actual bread. Jesus always blessed the food before they ate. He breaks it and passes it out telling them that it represents His body. His body is broken for them. Not will be. Is. Bread sustains life. His body gives life. Both are not efficacious until they are broken. Broken for us. This is the same root word as Him breaking the bread. The bread is to be eaten in remembrance of Him. What happened with Jesus' body? The horrific beatings He endured were for our sake! What a tremendous blessing it is to be able to remember all that He has done for us! To remember that by His stripes, we are healed. He was bruised for our iniquities. We partake of communion in remembrance of Jesus that we might proclaim the horrors He endured to deliver us from sin. **We do not stop with remembering to proclaim His body. We are also...**

### 2. Remembering To Proclaim The Blood That Was Shed v. 25

As He had taken the bread, Jesus now takes the cup. This is done after supper (the implication is that the bread was before supper). The cup of wine represents the new covenant in His blood. The old covenant was in the blood of bulls and goats. This covenant is in the blood of Jesus Christ! If the blood of innocent animals could cover sin. How much more powerful is the blood of a sinless man who is more than a man? He is also God! The blood of Jesus Christ ratified a new covenant! It is this new covenant in His blood that we celebrate!

We celebrate as often as we drink it. There is no command, or instruction, on the frequency with which we are required to remember the sacrifice of Christ. Jesus simply said, as often as you drink it. However often we take communion, it is to be done in remembrance of Jesus Christ. In remembrance of the body that was broken and the blood that was shed. Hebrews tells us that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin! It is incredibly beneficial and refreshing to remember what Christ has done. What a blessing to be reminded that His blood was shed so that ours wouldn't be. **We remember that we might proclaim the body that was broken and the blood that was shed. After the remembrance comes...**

### 3. Proclaiming The Death Of Christ Until He Returns v. 26

Again, we see that there is no frequency requirement. However, we also note that it is a command. We are to eat the bread and drink the cup. How often is up to us. When we eat and drink, we proclaim Christ's death. We are to make His death known publicly and broadly for all to hear! The communion service is to be an announcement of all that Christ has done for us!

We are to do this until He returns. Why does it stop when Christ returns? Because at that point He will be with us for the rest of eternity! We will have the living, breathing, visible reminder! What a blessing to be reminded that He is coming! Until He does, we proclaim His death!

We proclaim His body that was broken. We proclaim His blood that was shed. We proclaim that Christ died in my place that I might have abundant life and live forever with Him!

**CHALLENGE:** Never forget the body and blood of Christ. Proclaim His death until He returns!

V. 23

Received – παραλαμβάνω *paralambanō take; take along; take with. To receive (tradition) – to formally receive authoritative teaching (as from an approved source).*

Delivered – παραδίδωμι *paradidōmi deliver; hand over; betray. To pass on (tradition) – to formally impart authoritative teaching (to an approved recipient).* Similar to received. So what Paul was given by the Lord, he passed on.

Betrayed – παραδίδωμι *paradidōmi deliver; hand over; betray. To be turned over (into custody) – to be or become subject to detention by an authority figure.* Same word as deliver. Interesting choice of words.

V. 24

Given thanks – εὐχαριστέω *eucharisteō give thanks. To thank – to express gratitude or show appreciation to (someone).*

Do – ποιέω *poiēō make; do. To do (act) – to carry out or perform an action or course of action.* Present, active, imperative.

Remembrance – ἀνάμνησις *anamnesis remembrance; reminder. Recollecting – the act of putting something in the mind for attention or consideration.*

V. 25

Same Manner – ὡσαύτως *hōsautōs likewise; similarly; same. Similarly – in like or similar manner.*

Covenant – διαθήκη *diathēkē covenant. Covenant – a contractual arrangement between God and a person, or between human beings, which required binding action from one or both parties; one part often had higher status in the arrangement.*

V. 26

Proclaim – καταγγέλλω *kataggellō proclaim. To announce broadly – to make known openly and with wide distribution.* Present, active, indicative.

Comes – ἔρχομαι *erchomai come; arrive. To come – to move toward, travel toward, or approach something or somebody; whether physically or as an abstract location.*