

COMMUNION

Scripture Reading: 1 Corinthians 11:23-27

INTRODUCTION:

A. Communion should be taken serious in the life of every Christian.

It should not be just a form or a ritual, but a time of remembering the suffering and death of our Lord and Saviour.

B. The Jews remembered their deliverance from Egypt in the annual Passover festival

(Exodus 12:21-27)

²¹ Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. ²² And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. ²³ For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. ²⁴ And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. ²⁵ And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service. ²⁶ And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? ²⁷ That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped."

Jesus died at Passover time as the new Passover Lamb through whom believers are delivered from sin and Satan (1 Cor. 5:7) *Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:).*

As the Saviour ate the Last Supper during the Passover and just before He died, He instituted this memorial of His death When He said, "*This is My body.*"

THE LORD'S SUPPER IS DESIGNED TO SYMBOLIZE AND COMMUNICATE SIX DISTINCT TRUTHS:

- (1) A memorial to remind us of the central truth in Christianity -- the atonement of Christ (vv. 24-25),
- (2) The fellowship of Christ's body (v. 18a),
- (3) A pinpointing feast in which the believer examines his own walk with Christ (v. 28),
- (4) A feast of thanksgiving for salvation (v. 24),
- (5) A witness to Christ's death (v. 26)
- (6) A feast of hope (v. 26).

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: **this do in remembrance of me.**

25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: **this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.**

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come.