

A Walk Through The Book Of First Corinthians  
-- to know, grow, and serve. --

Chapter 11

"1CO 11:17 In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. <sup>18</sup> In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. <sup>19</sup> No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval. <sup>20</sup> When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, <sup>21</sup> for as you eat, each of you goes ahead without waiting for anybody else. One remains hungry, another gets drunk. <sup>22</sup> Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you for this? Certainly not! <sup>1CO 11:23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, <sup>24</sup> 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." <sup>25</sup> In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup> For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. <sup>1CO 11:27</sup> Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup> A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. <sup>29</sup> For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself. <sup>30</sup> That is why many among you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep. <sup>31</sup> But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment. <sup>32</sup> When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world. <sup>1CO 11:33</sup> So then, my brothers, when you come together to eat, wait for each other. <sup>34</sup> If anyone is hungry, he should eat at home, so that when you meet together it may not result in judgment. And when I come I will give further directions." - 1 Cor. 11:17-34

The Lord's Supper

- v. 17-22 - Disorder Destroys the Church
  - » "Your meeting does more harm than good." Paul says, "Yes be set apart, but don't be a social club."
  - » A church in disorder is incapable of experiencing all God offers. They definitely have the ability of experiencing God, but there is no way that God can be completely experienced if His people are in discord.
  - » Jesus said that "a house divided against itself will fall" - Luke 11:17
  - » With all this going on, we are not receiving Communion, and the sinners watching the church feel we have nothing to offer. Where's the love?
- v. 23-26 - Communion Unites the Church
  - » Paul passed down the traditions to Corinth that he had received.
  - » Just like Moses passed the Law to Joshua and Elijah passed the Mantle to Elisha Paul handed this tradition of communion to the Gentiles.
  - » The passion story - Luke 22-23
  - » Worship style, dress codes, and technology will change, but the one thing that doesn't is this ceremony where we remember what Jesus did for us. In this ceremony, the whole church passed and future is united.
- v. 27-32 - Judgment Corrects the Church

- » It is unsafe for us to take Communion wrongly.
- » "That is why many of you are weak and sick and have fallen asleep" - v. 30
- » "24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift." - Matt. 5:24
- » Worship on Sunday, especially when we do communion, is set up as a regular time for us to get ourselves right with each and right with the Lord, so we can worship Him rightly.
- v. 33-34 - Order Submits the Church...to Jesus
  - » If a church is in order, it is ready to experience all that God offers. This is in contrast to a church in disorder. A church that is in order is able and prepared to submit itself to Jesus.
  - » Think of a judge's gavel. When the judge's gavel comes down, it means that there is to be order in the court. Let's not wait until Jesus has to slam the gavel of His judgment down on us. Let's just submit to the Lord and get right with each other.
  - » "31 But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way." - 1 Corinthians 12:31
  - » We need to submit our life to Jesus, so He doesn't have to humble us by His judgment.

Do not contribute to disorder that destroys the church, and realize how this ceremony unifies us with the church from every age. Judge yourself, so Jesus will not have to humble us with His judgment, and above all else, except nothing less than order in the church, so we will be able to submit to Jesus and be able to experience as a church everything that God has for us.