



The Lord's Supper

Pastor George Stahnke, 04/22/2001

At Passover Jews all over the world retell the story of the plagues and the Exodus and thus proclaim the central fact on which their peoplehood is founded. Likewise, the Christian community *proclaim the death of the Lord* as our exodus from sin, death, the tyranny of satan, and as the basis for our existence. Both proclamations look not only back toward a past redemption but also forward to a future one; hence the proclamation is until he comes the second time.

1. A monument sacred to the memory of Jesus Christ.

Luke 22:19-20 And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁰In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

1 Cor. 10:16-17 Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ? ¹⁷Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." ²⁵In 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." ²⁶For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

2. The Body of Christ

John 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

1 John 3:16 This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

Galatians 1:4 who gave himself for our sins to rescue us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father,

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Titus 2:14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

1 Cor. 15:3 For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

2 Cor. 5:15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

1 Peter 2:24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

3. The Blood of Christ

Romans 5:9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

Hebrews 9:14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

1 Peter 1:18-19 For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

Rev. 5:9 And they sang a new song: "You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

4. Renewed commitment

1 Corinthians 10:14-18 (NLT) So, my dear friends, flee from the worship of idols. ¹⁵You are reasonable people. Decide for yourselves if what I am about to say is true. ¹⁶When we bless the cup at the Lord's Table, aren't we sharing in the benefits of the blood of Christ? And when we break the loaf of bread, aren't we sharing in the benefits of the body of Christ? ¹⁷And we all eat from one loaf, showing that we are one body. ¹⁸And think about the nation of Israel; all who eat the sacrifices are united by that act.

What does the Lord's Supper mean for us today?

- The Lord's Supper is a memorial of Christ's love.
- The Lord's Supper is a proclamation of the death of Christ.
- The Lord's Supper celebrates our deliverance from sin by and the tyranny of satan through Christ's death.
- The Lord's Supper is a time of renewed commitment to Christ's purpose for our lives.
- The Lord's Supper is a time to remember that our commitment to each other.