

Lesson 15

The Lord's Supper and Healing

Instructor:
Duane Sheriff

VIDEO OUTLINE

Note: All scriptures used in this lesson are quoted from the *New King James Version*.

- I. The communion table that we approach as Christians is the continuation of ancient Israel's Passover meal.
 - A. They were to slay the lamb, take the blood, and put it on the top and side posts of their doors. The angel of death would pass over their homes, and God would deliver them from the consequences of their sins. He would be merciful to them in forgiving them.
 - B. The Lord said, "Make sure you eat the lamb." Every home and family had to partake of the Passover meal, and the next day, God delivered them.
- II. Jesus is our Passover meal. He brought substance to all types and shadows.

Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

1 Corinthians 5:7

- A. Jesus said that except we eat His flesh and drink His blood, we have no life in us. Jesus was saying that we have to mix faith with what His blood provided—the benefits of His shed blood. We also have to mix faith with the breaking of His body.

Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

John 6:53–56

- B. To eat the flesh of Jesus is to appropriate by faith what His body was broken for.

- C. We also need to mix faith with the blood of Jesus and appropriate the forgiveness of sins. Just because we are forgiven doesn't mean we are experiencing the power of forgiveness in our lives for all of our sins: past, present, and future.
- III. Communion, that we Christians partake of as the Lord's Supper, is thousands of years old. When we come to the table, we are celebrating the very life, labor, and love of Jesus Christ Himself.
- IV. We have missed the reality that Jesus broke one loaf of bread, and it multiplied exponentially. A piece of bread went into the heart and life of the disciples and, subsequently, into every believer. The body of Jesus is now being multiplied into every believer through the breaking of the bread during communion.

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

1 Corinthians 11:23-25

- A. People have misunderstood the term "unworthy manner." Paul is not talking about our worthiness to come to the table. If you're a child of God, Jesus has made you worthy to partake of every blessing and promise He has ever made. You receive all of these by faith in who Jesus is and what He did, not by your own performance.

Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

1 Corinthians 11:27-28

- B. Coming to the table in an unworthy manner and not discerning the Lord's body can result in premature death.

For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

1 Corinthians 11:29-30

- C. It shouldn't be commonplace for every Christian and every local church to be weak and sickly, with people dying prematurely. Paul is saying here that you are as the people of God who were delivered from Egypt. God has translated you from the power of darkness into the kingdom of His dear Son.
- D. God wants to reverse this pattern of weakness and sickness in the church at the communion table. The goal is that we would be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might through the life of Jesus and the forgiveness of our sins. Then, we would be healthy and live long on the earth.
- V. Most Christians understand that the blood of Jesus was shed for the remission of all of our sins, and that when we mix faith with the blood, we're forgiven of all sins. However, Paul didn't say our problem was discerning the blood; he said our problem was discerning the body.
 - A. Paul said that we are the bread—the body of the Lord Jesus Christ. When we come to partake of the communion elements, we're supposed to remember, recognize, and honor the fact that this represents the body of Christ. In a local church, just like the one loaf of bread is Jesus, whose body was broken for all of us, we break the physical bread and it multiplies. One Christian eats part of the bread, then another Christian eats part of the same bread. And now, the local body is one bread and one body in Christ.
 - B. We are the body of Christ, and Jesus is the head of the body. Once you discern that the body is not one member—Jesus alone—but many members of which Jesus is the head, you can understand how we have authority as His body to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many.

1 Corinthians 12:13-14

- C. Most believers don't see the value or the power of the church. They don't understand their new identity in Jesus or see their union with Jesus and the body of Christ.
- D. Everything God has done in your life is not just for your profit, it's for the profit of the body.

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.

1 Corinthians 12:7

- E. It's not just about you and Jesus, it's about you and His body here on earth. The assignment we have from God is to love one another and to flow together so that we might be witnesses of Jesus on the earth.

For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

1 Corinthians 12:8-11

- F. Christ is not one member of the body, and He's not the whole body. Jesus is the head of His body—the church.

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:12

- G. Jesus is the head of the body. People criticize the body of Christ, not realizing that by doing so, they are canceling the power of God in their lives that enables them to be strong, be healed, and live long.

If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body," is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where would be the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where would be the smelling?

1 Corinthians 12:15-17

- VI. We're under commandment to not forsake the assembling of ourselves—the sacraments, community, and a local body—because the local body is the very body of Jesus, of which He is the head. Every local body is to be the full expression of Jesus in that community.

And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

- A. Jesus's body was broken so that it could be multiplied on the earth, where He would become the head.

But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. And if they were all one member, where would the body be?

1 Corinthians 12:18-19

- B. Jesus won't (and can't) say, "I have no need of you." Jesus has need of all the members of His body because He's the head of the body, not the head of all the individual members.

But now indeed there are many members, yet one body. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

1 Corinthians 12:20-21

- VII. Jesus is the head of His body. We give Him worship, absolute praise, and thanksgiving, but we also recognize that all of God's people are a part of the very body of Christ on the earth. That recognition will cause healing, strength, and long life to spring forth in the body.

- A. We are united to Jesus Himself and to one another in Jesus. That's why Jesus took Saul's persecution of the church personally.

Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

Acts 9:4

- B. Saul perceived that the body of Jesus is the church on the earth and that he had been persecuting Jesus personally, not just Christians (Acts 9:1-5). He got that revelation and discerned that the people of God, Christians, are the very body of Christ (Acts 9:9-11).

VIII. How we treat one another is how we treat the Lord.

And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me. "Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' "Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:40-46

IX. For the Passover meal, every family, by faith, had to apply the blood to their house. When they did, God forgave them, and the angel of death passed over them. Every family had to eat of the Passover lamb. When we partake of that one bread, it's the life of Jesus, the Lamb of God, and the Bread of Life that's come down from heaven. It's distributed equally throughout the body.

A. Something supernatural happened that night during the Passover meal. They not only applied the blood by faith, they also ate the lamb. And the next morning, they came out with not one feeble person among them.

He also destroyed all the firstborn in their land, The first of all their strength. He also brought them out with silver and gold, and there was none feeble among His tribes.

Psalms 105:36-37

X. Jesus encountered a Canaanite woman whose daughter was possessed with demons and in need of healing and deliverance. He never turned anyone who needed healing away, but something different happened in this instance.

And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped

Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Matthew 15:22-28

- A. Jesus said that He was called the lost sheep of Israel and that it wasn't right or proper to take the children's bread and give it to dogs. She was a Gentile. She was not a part of the house of Israel; therefore, she had no covenant with God.
- B. She looked at Jesus and said, "*Even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table*" (Matt. 15:27).
- C. Jesus called healing "the children's bread," and that woman got her daughter healed on just a crumb.
- D. When we come to the Lord's table, we're not coming just to get a crumb. Jesus has become the entire loaf to you and me—His people. And when we partake of that bread, there's healing in it.

Need prayer?

Please call **719-635-1111** for prayer or for more information on Charis Bible College.

awmi.net | charisbiblecollege.org

