A Purposeful Remembrance 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

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September 2, 2018

Introduction:

Most every time that we celebrate the Lord's Supper, I like to remind us of a couple of essentials. Think of these matters as first things first.

Other Views Concerning the Lord's Supper

- 1. <u>Transubstantiation</u>—This view is held exclusively by the Roman Catholic Church. This means that when a Priest pronounces the words of consecration, the bread and wine actually become (not represent) the body and blood of Jesus. It is important to note in this view that the change is not in the chemistry. In other words, the bread retains the shape, texture, and taste of bread. However, the belief is that what the bread essentially is has been changed.
- 2. <u>Consubstantiation</u>—This was the view of Martin Luther, although, he did not use this term. This is the view that while the elements themselves do not change, the presence of Christ is in the elements. So, along with the elements, one receives the real presence of Jesus. (Thus the reason for the prefix con—"con" as a prefix gives the meaning of "together.")

What is the Baptist view?

Like Baptism, we believe in a <u>symbolic</u> view of the Lord's Supper.

So, in sum, we believe that...

- 1. The elements are <u>symbolic</u> of Jesus, not literal.
- 2. We participate in this observance to remind ourselves of grace, not receive grace.
- 3. Because of the symbolic nature of the Lord's Supper and the reason for the Lord's Supper, The Lord's Supper is an experience for the believer.

The symbol is only meaningful for those who understand the symbolic value. The reason for participation is only meaningful for those who have believed in the message that the observance represents.

<u>Text</u>: ²³ For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Message:

The Lord's Supper is an "on purpose" remembrance.

- Who we were?
- What He did?
- Where are we on our journey?

The Lord's Supper is a remembrance "with a purpose."

Here is the church together remembering. The Supper is deeply personal and that is important. But, there is also importance that we are together. There should be no hierarchy. We all need forgiveness. We all need Jesus. We are indeed equal at the foot of the cross.

Here we will celebrate the Lord's Supper.

After the passing of bread and completion of song but before eating, I will read Isaiah 53.

Centuries before the birth of Jesus, Isaiah prophesied about the awaited Messiah. . .

Isaiah 53

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ²He grew up before him like a young plant and like a root out of dry ground. He didn't have an impressive form or majesty that we should look at him, no appearance that we should desire him. ³He was despised and rejected by men, a man of suffering who knew what sickness was. He was like someone people turned away from; he was despised, and we didn't value him. ⁴Yet he himself bore our sicknesses, and he carried our pains; but we in turn regarded him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced because of our rebellion, crushed because of our iniquities; punishment for our peace was on him, and we are healed by his wounds. ⁶We all went astray like sheep; we all have turned to our own way;

and the LORD has punished him for the iniquity of us all. ⁷He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth. Like a lamb led to the slaughter and like a sheep silent before her shearers, he did not open his mouth. ⁸ He was taken away because of oppression and judgment; and who considered his fate? For he was cut off from the land of the living; he was struck because of my people's rebellion. ⁹He was assigned a grave with the wicked, but he was with a rich man at his death, because he had done no violence and had not spoken deceitfully. ¹⁰Yet the LORD was pleased to crush him severely. When you make him a guilt offering, he will see his seed, he will prolong his days, and by his hand, the LORD's pleasure will be accomplished. ¹¹ After his anguish, he will see light and be satisfied. By his knowledge, my righteous servant will justify many, and he will carry their iniquities. ¹²Therefore I will give him the many as a portion, and he will receive the mighty as spoil, because he willingly submitted to death, and was counted among the rebels; yet he bore the sin of many and interceded for the rebels.

After the passing of the Drink, put these Scriptures on the Screen.

After the death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, John saw a vision of the worship in Heaven and he wrote . . .

Revelation 5:6-14

⁶ Then I saw one like a slaughtered lamb standing in the midst of the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders. He had seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent into all the earth. ⁷ He went and took the scroll out of the right hand of the one seated on the throne. ⁸ When he took the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and golden bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of the saints. ⁹ And they sang a new song:

You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals,

because you were slaughtered, and you purchased people for God by your blood from every tribe and language and people and nation.

10 You made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they will reign on the earth.

¹¹Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels around the throne, and also of the living creatures and of the elders. Their number was countless thousands, plus thousands of thousands. ¹²They said with a loud voice,

Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing!

¹³ I heard every creature in heaven, on earth, under the earth, on the sea, and everything in them say, Blessing and honor and glory and power be to the one seated on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!

¹⁴The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped.

After the Lord's Supper. . . one last thing . . .

The Lord's Supper is a remembrance that calls us "to a purpose."

We have proclaimed today, but we continue to proclaim.