

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

February 6

2022

The Lord's Supper

The memorial feast which Christians participate in each Lord's day is called "the Lord's supper" in 1 Corinthians 11:20. How wonderful it is that God established this memorial for the benefit of His saints. In eating and drinking we show His death till He comes and we do it in memory of Him (1 Cor. 11:24, 25). There are many perversions of the Lord's supper both as to time and its function.

The early Christians came together on the first day of the week to break bread (Acts 20:7). This verse tells us when the supper is eaten. Any time on this day is a scriptural time. Convenience and expediency will determine the hour in this day for each local church to meet for this memorial supper. This apostolic example showing the time when the supper is to be eaten is the only authority in the New Testament telling us when to eat it. This example allows no other day to eat I but the first day. It further shows that each week always has a first day and, consequently, the Lord's supper is always eaten on every first day of the week.

The Lord's supper is a "communion" of the blood and body of Christ (1 Cor. 11:16). And why should it not be? The Christian has been benefitted and blessed so many ways by the blood of Christ that it is a further joy and responsibility to so share in it in the Lord's supper. "Communion" is the share – yes, further share – in His blood.

Eating the supper is not for the remission of sins, and it is "not the most important part of the worship." One so sharing in His blood is further blessed, but it is not the most important part of worship; all worship divinely authorized is equally important. We do not departmentalize worship!

The eating of the supper is in order to remember Christ. Paul quotes Jesus saying, "Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me" (1 Cor. 11:24). Jesus died "for" us and the supper is memorial in nature and function: "this do in (eis, in order to) remembrance of me." One might improperly drink and become "guilty of the body and blood of the Lord" (1 Cor. 11:27). Each one should "examine" himself and, having done so, eat and drink. This way one eats discerningly and worthily; otherwise, one is damned (1 Cor. 11:27ff).

These truths characterized the practice of the early church and all true churches of Christ today. Do you engage in this supper each Lord's day?

✍️ Earl Robertson

We Are To Worship On The First Day of The Week

The other day I saw a post card that read, “Come To Church On Saturday - Sleep In On Sunday!” The post card went on to read, “If you’re not a morning person, or simply want to spend Sunday mornings relaxing with the one’s you love, check out the new Saturday Night Service at Vertical Church! You will experience the same message and worship that you would on Sunday morning.”

Now, this might sound appealing to many in the world today, but I found it to be very alarming! Why? Well, because the all inspired and sufficient word of God (2 Timothy 3:16-17) commands, and gives approved examples of Christians in the first century worshiping on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2), not on the seventh day (i.e. Saturday) or any other day, but again, on the first day of the week (i.e. Sunday).

Sadly, there are too many in the religious world today who overlook and fail to comply with Bible authority. For example, there are many today, just as there were some in the first century who seek to worship God as they please (Colossians 2:23). There are many today, just like some in the first century who ignorantly worship God (Acts 17:23). Now, because of this, there are many today who worship in vain (Matthew 15:9). So, you see, we must not be a people who waste our time worshiping in error, but rather we must be a people who worship God in spirit and truth (John 4:24).

Therefore, beware lest anyone cheats you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principals of the world, and not

according to Christ (Colossians 2:8). Do not be conformed to this world (Romans 12:1-2), but rather be one who diligently abides in the doctrine of Christ (2 John 9). Do all that you do in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:17). Keep the commandments of God (1 Corinthians 7:19), serve Him acceptably with reverence and godly fear (Hebrews 12:28), and be one who always gives unto the Lord the glory due to His name (Psalm 29:2).

Once more, Christians are to offer their worship to God on the first day of the week, and if one seeks to offer their worship to God on any other day than the first day of the week, they are simply just wasting their time. So, let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience (Ephesians 5:6), and be one who has no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them (Ephesians 5:11).

✍ Brad Phillips

Belleville church of Christ

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

www.bellevillechurch.net

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

Brad Phillips..... (765) 720-2816