

INTRODUCTION: One of the interesting customs of the middle east concerns refreshing weary travelers of the desert. When the traveler would stop by for a drink of water, the host would fill the cup up to the top if he wanted him to stay longer for fellowship or he would fill the cup half full to indicate they'd better be moving on quickly! The word "cup" means 'to hold together'. We are kept together by God's power (I Pet 1:5), held together in His hands (John 10:28-30), and embraced by His love (Jude 20-21) The Lord's cup is always running over for us! May we cry out in joy with King David: **"My cup runneth over."** Psalm 23:5

The Communion of the Lord's Supper is a picture of the cross of Christ and is...

I. ...A DAILY REMINDER To Be In His Fellowship!
"This do in remembrance of Me" - I Cor 11:24-26



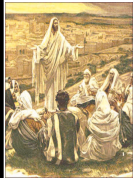
- A. The Bread **Reminds** Us Of What Christ Did For Us In His Body!
1. Jesus took our sins in His own body on the cross! I Pet 2:24
 2. His soul was made an offering for our sins - Isa 53:10
 3. He made intercession to God for all transgressors - Isa 53:12
 4. His body was bruised & wounded for our transgressions- I Cor 11:24, Isa 53:5
 5. We are set apart for God's glory thru Christ's sacrifice - Heb 10:10-14
 6. All sins and immoralities are forgotten and forgiven forever - Heb 10:15-18
 7. With His stripes we are healed - Isa 53:5
 8. Our names were written upon the palms of His hands - Isa 49:16



B. The Cup Bids Us To **Come** into His Fellowship and Get To Know Him!

1. The cup here is a picture of His intimacy with us for...
 - a. restoration thru forgiveness of sins- Gen 40:11
 - b. fellowshiping thru reading His word and praying - Psa 23:5
 - c. ministry to bring others into His fellowship - Matt 10:42
2. Our cup (our heart) has to be clean to enjoy His fellowship - Matt 23:25-28
 - a. we must give our heart to God as it is and watch His ways - Pr 23:26-35
 - b. our hearts are cleansed by... [Psa 19:14]
 - 1) confession of sin & repentance of... - 1John 1:8-10
 - a) double-mindedness which leads to hypocrisy - Jam 1:5-8
 - b) honoring others above God - Jam 2:8-13
 - c) bitterness which leads to immorality - Jam 3:1-18
 - d) lust which leads to rejection of God - Jam 4:1-10, I John 2:15-17
 - e) legalistic living that produces condemnation of others - Jam 4:11-12
 - 2) believing the word of God - John 15:3, Acts 15:9, Psa 119:9
3. "Drink" (receive) ALL the cup (His total commitment to us) for... [Matt 26:27]
 - a. Cleansing from ALL sin - "My blood... is shed for... sins." - Matt 26:28
 - b. Fellowship with Him (I Cor 1:9), believers (I Jn 1:7), the Church (I Jn 1:3)
 - c. Sanctification (set apart) by His Spirit for His work in our life - II Tim 2:19-21
 - d. Suffering for the Lord - Phil 3:10, I Peter 2:17-25, John 15:17-27
 - e. Filling of His Spirit that is evidenced by... Eph 5:18
 - 1) His relationship in our heart "Abba, Father"- Gal 3:26, Gal 4:6, Rom 8:14-17
 - 2) Our fellowship in His presence - I John 1:3, Acts 4:13

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C. Christ Then Gives Us His Faith to **Serve** in His Spirit - Gal 2:20, Eph 3:14-19, Heb 12:2

1. The power of the Spirit came to us when we received Christ - Acts 1:8
2. The anointing of God's Spirit rests upon Christ's sacrifice for us - Rom 8:11
3. The power of the Spirit is released when we believe on Christ - John 7:37-38
4. The power is displayed when we pick up our cross by... - Matt 16:24-25
 - a. witnessing Christ's work in our heart - Acts 1:8
 - b. demonstrating His Holy Spirit's character in our yielded life - Gal 5:22-24
 - c. laying down our life (a picture of the cross) for other Christians - I John 3:16
 - d. doing good works to glorify God in our walk with Him - Eph 2:8-10, Matt 5:14-16

II. ... A DIVINE DISCERNMENT To Restore Fallen Fellowship:
"Be ye followers of me" - I Cor 11:1, 27-34, Jam 4:1-12

- A. Personal Discernment: "Let a man examine himself" - I Cor 11:28
1. We need to confess all known sin (self-righteousness) to God - I John 1:9
 2. Confession cleanses the guilt (condemnation) in our spirit - I Jn 3:19-21
 3. Confession of our faults to those we have offended clears us from the bitterness we harbor against them - Eph 4:32
 4. A clean conscience allows us to freely love God & others - Matt 22:36-40

B. Fatherly Discipline "Which corrected us" - Heb 12:9

1. "Whom the Lord loves, He chastens" Heb 12:6
2. It proves that we are His son - Heb 12:5-8
3. It produces "subjection unto the Father" - Heb 12:9
4. "That we might be partakers of His holiness" - Heb 12:10
5. "It yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness" - Heb 12:11, Jam 3:17-18



C. Godly Concern: "Come not together unto condemnation" - I Cor 11:34

1. "...unworthily, eats and drinks damnation to himself" - I Cor 11:29
2. "Many are weak... sickly... and many sleep (dead)" - I Cor 11:30
3. We judge ourself to avoid His judgement - I Cor 11:31
4. "We should not be condemned with the world" - I Cor 11:32

III.... A DESCENDING DIADEM For Eternal Fellowship: "Til He come" - 1 Cor 11:26

A. Comfort of the Cross - Eph 2:11-18



1. All our sins have been paid! - Heb 10:7-14
2. All family & friends who are saved will go to heaven! Rom 10:9-13
3. The cross is our power to live the Christian life - I Cor 1:18
 - a. is our proof of fellowship with Christ - Mark 8:34-38
 - b. is our path for discipleship - Matt 28:18-20
 - c. is our path into the gospel ministry - I Cor 15:1-4
 - d. is our protection from the world - Gal 6:14

B. Comfort of the Catching Up (rapture) to Heaven! I Thess 4:13-18

1. New body for all believers (no more flesh nature!)- Phil 3:20-21
2. "So shall we ever be with the Lord" - I Thess 4:17
3. In our Father's house, a mansion to live in - John 14:1-3
4. Crowns to prove our love and His Lordship! - Rev 4:10-11



C. Comfort of Christ's Crown



1. Christ returns as King of Kings! Rev 19:11-16
2. World peace for 1000 years! Rev 20:4
3. Satan cast into the bottomless pit! Rev 20:1-3
4. A new heaven and a new earth!! Rev 21:1
5. God wipes away all tears - Rev 21:4
6. There shall be no more death!!! - Rev 21:4
7. No more sorrow, crying or pain!!! - Rev 21:4
8. "He shall reign for ever and ever." AMEN! Rev 11:15

