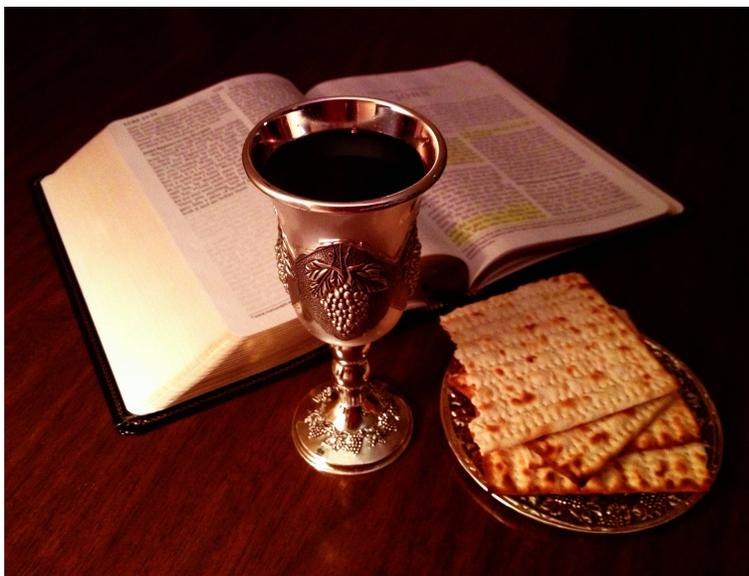


THE TRUTH ABOUT THAT TRADITION



Communion

Communion is a Christian tradition and form of worship that was actually started by Jesus Himself. It comes from the Latin word, “*communio*” meaning, *sharing in common*. Jesus served the first Communion at His last Passover supper with the twelve, who were His first chosen disciples. In 1 Corinthians, chapter 11, we find the guidelines that Paul established for the church of Corinth, who apparently had begun to take the holy practice of communion casually. Paul rebukes the church for making *the meal* their focus, rather than remembering the Lord’s sacrificial death. In many congregations today, the same is also true.

Communion has become a religious ritual, regularly scheduled, and made available for anyone desiring to partake (including visitors and children); sometimes resulting in those who are “unworthy” participating (see pg. 2), while not understanding the significance of the Lord’s Supper.

Traditional Biblical Communion is the practice of serving bread and wine to the congregation, in commemoration of the Lord’s last supper. The bread should be unleavened (without yeast) and taken from one loaf, to be shared by each member; it is symbolic of Jesus’ body, broken on the cross. The wine, when taken, represents Jesus’ blood, shed for the remission (forgiveness) of sins for the New Testament church. When Jesus served His disciples the bread and wine at the Passover meal, He also taught them, admonishing that as often as it would be done, to do it in remembrance of Him.

Eucharist is the term used in reference to communion by some religious groups, such as the Catholic, Anglican, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Orthodox churches. *Among Catholics*, the Eucharist is considered to be a holy sacrament, where individual round wafers are served, instead of bread. They believe that the communion wine and wafers are supernaturally transformed into the actual blood and body of Christ. “While all agree that there is no perceptible change in the appearance of the elements (the wine and wafers), *Catholics believe that their substances actually become the body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ, called transubstantiation* (Wikipedia).” The Roman Catholic beliefs regarding the “host” (wafer) has its roots in *pagan sun god worship*. Catholics and European Protestants actually went to war over whether the Eucharist (communion) was figurative (Consubstantiation) or mystical and supernatural (Transubstantiation).

The Apostle Paul’s Teaching on New Testament Communion

“For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, TAKE, EAT: THIS IS MY BODY WHICH IS BROKEN FOR YOU; THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, THIS IS THE NEW TESTAMENT IN MY BLOOD: THIS DO YE, AS OFT AS YE DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. FOR HE THAT EATS AND DRINKS UNWORTHILY, EATS AND DRINKS DAMNATION TO HIMSELF, NOT DISCERNING THE LORD’S BODY. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep (have died). FOR IF WE JUDGE OURSELVES, WE SHOULD NOT BE JUDGED.”



“This do in remembrance of Me.”

1 Corinthians 11:23-31

“I (JESUS) am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

John 6:48-51



“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we (the church) being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.” **1 Corinthians 10:16-17**

“Then JESUS said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.”

John 6:53-58

“And as they were eating, JESUS took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.” **Matthew 26:26-28 (Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:15-20)**

“Then JESUS said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.”

John 6:32-35

“And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth:” **Genesis 14:18-19**