

COMMUNION CHOICES

I Corinthians 28-29

How will you chose to observe communion today?

I. LOOK IN ... EXAMINE YOURSELF (28)

- A contemplation requirement

A. EXAMINE YOUR PERSONAL CHRISTIANITY

1. The Force of the word
 - a. A Command: Examination required
 - b. The Condition: A scrutinizing probe
2. The Usage of the word
 - a. Test driving oxen - Luke 14:19
 - b. Looking over your work - Gal. 6:4
 - c. Careful scrutiny - I Thess. 5:21
 - d. Particular testing before selecting a deacon - I Tim. 3:10
 - e. Discovering God's will - Rom. 12:2
 - f. Proving one's faith by testing it - I Peter 1:7
 - g. Examining one's credentials - I Cor. 16:3
3. The Application of the word
 - a. How are you doing spiritually?
 - b. Is there unfinished business between you and God?
 - c. Are you overlooking or ignoring anything?
 - d. Are your motives right?
 - e. What improvements do you need to make?
 - f. Do you maintain secret stashes?
 - g. Are you a fake or hypocrite?
 - h. Can you pass inspection?
4. The Limit of the word
 - The command is to examine ourselves and not others
5. The Context of the word
 - a. After the examination you may eat or take communion
 - b. This assumes that there is nothing discovered that would keep you from partaking

B. EXAMINE YOUR PUBLIC CHRISTIANITY (17-22, 33-34)

1. Are you reckless? (17)
2. Are you divisive? (18-19)
3. Are you selfish? (20-21)
4. Are you careless? (22)
5. Are you impatient? (33-34)

Over please >

II. LOOK OUT ... JUDGMENT'S COMING! (29)

- The condemnation reality

A. THE PROBLEM

- Not judging the body rightly

1. Mishandling Christ's body

- An indiscriminating irreverence

“How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?” - Heb. 10:29

2. Mistreating the church body

- With disruptive disgracefulness

B. THE POISON

- He eats and drinks damnation to himself

1. What should be worshipful becomes deadly – cf. II Sam. 6:1-11

2. What may look right is actually rotten

C. THE PENALTY (30)

- Sickness and death from disobedience

D. THE PICTURE

- Death and distress affected many in this church

E. THE PRINCIPLE

- God takes the worship of His sacred Son seriously.

CONCLUSION:

How do you choose to observe the Lord's Table today?

- Will you examine yourself?

- Or will you face judgment?

Feel free to use these notes for personal study.

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