

# **COMMUNION COMMANDS**

## **I Corinthians 11:17-34**

**We should observe communion thoughtfully**

### **I. LOOK AROUND** (17-22)

- What is your attitude toward others in the fellowship?

#### **A. THEIR "FELLOWSHIP"** (17)

- Their meetings did more harm than good!

#### **B. THEIR FAULTINESS** (18-22)

##### **1. Divisiveness** (18-19)

a. The facts (18)

b. The factions (19)

- Created a contrast whereby one's true colors were seen

##### **2. Disrespectfulness** (20-21)

a. They were not focused on the Lord's supper (20)

b. They were focused on their own supper (21)

##### **3. Disgracefulness** (22)

- Unpraiseworthy practices that should make the rich ashamed

**APP:** When coming to the Lord's Table we should consider our attitudes toward those in the fellowship.

### **II. LOOK BACK** (23-25)

- What are we coming to commemorate?

#### **A. REMEMBERING CHRIST'S DEATH**

1. The background (23-24a)

2. The sacrifice of His body (24a)

3. The significance of His blood (25)

- See Romans 3:25, Ephesians 2:13-16, Colossians 2:13-14 and Hebrews 10:11-18

#### **B. REMEMBERING CHRIST'S DIRECTIVE**

1. Responsibility: Do this!

2. Remembrance: In remembrance of Me > Focus on Him!

#### **C. REPORTING CHRIST'S DEATH** (26a)

- There are instructional and evangelistic elements here

**APP:** When coming to the Lord's Table we should reflect on Christ's sacrifice.

Over please >

### III. **LOOK AHEAD** (26)

- We will one day experience communion with Christ in person.

#### A. CHRIST'S APPEARANCE

- He is coming again - See I Thessalonians 4:14-17

#### B. OUR ANTICIPATION

- A hope of Heaven - Titus 2:13

**APP:** When coming to the Lord's Table we should rejoice in knowing He is coming again.

### IV. **LOOK WITHIN** (27-34)

- How should we prepare for communion?

#### A. CONSIDER YOURSELF (27-30)

##### 1. The Duty (28)

- You must examine yourself

##### 2. The Danger (27, 29)

a. Irreverence: Eating and drinking in an unworthy way (27a)

b. Desecrating the Lord's body (27b)

c. Mistreating the church body (29)

##### 3. The Damnation (30)

- Due to a failure at self-examination, many were weak, sick and dead.

#### B. CORRECT YOURSELF (31-32)

##### 1. The priority (31)

##### 2. The alternative (32)

#### C. CONTROL YOURSELF (33-34)

##### 1. Be pleasant (33)

##### 2. Be prepared (34)

**APP:** When coming to the Lord's Table we should review our heart's condition.

### **CONCLUSION:**

**Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.**

**- 1 Cor. 10:31**

We glorify God when we observe communion thoughtfully by ...

- Looking Around (17-22) ... Looking Back (23-26a) ... Looking Ahead (26b) and  
Looking Within (27-34)

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