

Jesus Chapel



FOUNDATION BIBLE COURSE - WEEK 7

Communion

Wednesday 15th November 2006

- Communion or the Lord's supper is one of two sacraments followed by the Protestant church.
- A sacrament is a commandment of Jesus that He gave by example, the other one is baptism. It is a visible manifestation of the word.

Linked to the Jewish Passover

- Old Testament stories are often shadows or "types" of New Testament doctrine (Hebrews 10:1)
- Passover is the Old Testament type of the Lord's table
- Exodus 12
- Luke 22:15-23; 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

Similarities

- Jesus instigated the Lord's table at Passover
- Both are divinely ordained (Exodus 12:24-27, 42; Luke 22:19)
- A lamb without blemish had to be killed that night. (Jesus is also known as the lamb without blemish 1 Peter 1:9; I Corinthians 5:7))

- The lamb had to be a male and one year old (mature enough to leave its mother. Jesus was 30 years old, the age of maturity (Numbers 4:3)
- The lamb was tested for three days for blemishes. Jesus's ministry was three and a half years in which many tried to test his authority and find fault.
- The lamb was killed in the evening but had to be before darkness to fulfill the sabbath, Jesus was killed at the ninth hour in the evening (about 3:00)
- The passover was to be eaten in the house not taken out. The Lord's supper is to be eaten when the congregation come together.

- The lamb was to be eaten whole, no bone was to be broken (vs 46). When Jesus was killed no bone in His body was broken (John 19:33)
- The passover was for the Children of Israel, the Lord's supper is for the Lord's body, those that come together to worship Him.
- Those that did not have the blood of the lamb sprinkled on their doorpost did not escape death. In the same way those who do not have the blood of Jesus on their hearts will not be saved

Communion

- One difference is the the communion is not an actual meal providing satisfaction to our hunger. It is a very specific action to remember an event.
- There is no doubt that the Lord's supper is about the body of Christ coming together to remember what He did for us.
- As a body we have a certain responsibility to each other.

- When we remember the Lord's death in this way, we are not to have divisions.
- We are one body and when we come to the Lord's table we must have peace with our fellow brethren.
- The consequences of a divided body can lead to sickness and even death. This may be spiritual but also can be physical.

- In the Old Testament it was forbidden to drink blood and eat certain animals because doing this could cause various diseases.
- Jesus now says "My flesh is meat indeed and My blood is drink indeed" John 6:55
- In partaking of the communion we are spiritually strengthening ourselves and the more often we do it, the better!
