

BIBLE LIFE MESSAGES

# What the Lord's Supper Can Mean to You

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Luke 22:7-20

**1 My wife and I were invited by my son's in laws to participate in their Thanksgiving Day family event. We were pleased and accepted. It was a three-hour drive one way but very much worth it. It was an excellent time and we got to know that family better.**

**Lord Jesus intended for the Lord's Supper, celebrated regularly in most churches, to be that for you.**

**In Luke, chapter 22, verses 7 through 20, we have a record of the Lord's Supper celebrated by the Lord and His disciples. Notice the family atmosphere. 2**

**Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover." "Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked. He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my**

disciples?’ He will show you a large upper room, all furnished. Make preparations there.”<sup>1</sup><sub>3</sub>

They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover. When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.” After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, “Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”<sup>2</sup><sub>4</sub>

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.”<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Luke 22:7-13.

<sup>2</sup> Luke 22:14-18.

<sup>3</sup> Luke 22:19-20.

There are at least three things about the Lord's Supper in this passage that may help you to understand and better appreciate this celebration the next time you participate. <sup>5</sup>

The first thing the Lord's Supper can help you do is ...

### **I. To Be in Fellowship with the Lord - v15-16**

To be in fellowship with the Lord. He said, **I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.** <sup>4</sup> <sup>6</sup>

God's purpose for creating you was to have fellowship with you. <sup>7</sup> Genesis, chapter 3, verses 8 and 9, says, **Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"** It was the practice for Adam, Eve and God to walk together routinely in the garden in the cool of the day. I

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<sup>4</sup> v15.

**suppose Adam and Eve enjoyed that encounter. We know God did because when they didn't show up one day God called out "where are you?"**

**One of the reasons for your existence is for God to enjoy your company. He appreciates your presence as much as you could appreciate His. <sup>8</sup> In fact, Lord Jesus died on the cross so that your fellowship with God could be restored! **Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!** <sup>5 9</sup>**

**What does God do for you when you commit your life to Him? <sup>10</sup>**

**First, you are redeemed from slavery to sin. You now have freedom in Christ. <sup>11</sup>**

**Second, you are put into a saved state. This is in addition to being in the process of being saved. Let me explain.**

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<sup>5</sup> Romans 5:9.

**You are currently a saved person.** Ephesians, chapter 2, verses 8 and 9, **For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith — and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God — not by works, so that no one can boast.** <sup>12</sup>

But the Bible tells us also that from the time you surrender your life to the Lord and are indwelt with His Holy Spirit, you begin to draw closer to Him and more like Him. **This is the process of sanctification;** the process of being saved. Second Corinthians, chapter 3, verse 18, puts it this way, **We . . . are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.**

I like to think of it this way; when you trust Jesus as your Lord you are in a saved relationship to Him. The process of being saved, the sanctification process, is coming more intimate with the Lord and becoming more like Him. When you get to heaven you won't feel out of place! <sup>13</sup>

Third, you come from being lost to being found. <sup>14</sup>

**Fourth, you are justified in God's legal system. You are considered "not guilty" of your past sins. <sup>15</sup>**

**Fifth, you are restored to the fellowship Adam and Eve lost in the Garden of Eden. <sup>16</sup>**

**I believe that in the Lord's Supper you are continually renewing that fellowship! <sup>17</sup>**

**During the communion service I like to confess all my known sin to Him. Then, I can approach the Lord with a clear heart. First John, chapter 1, verse 9, says, If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. <sup>18</sup>**

**On the Day of Pentecost, the cross was fulfilled because on that day the kingdom of God was established; the church. Lord Jesus now eats with us at His table every time we celebrate the Lord's Supper in His name! <sup>19</sup>**

**The second thing, the Lord's Supper is . . .**

## **II. To Be a Remembrance of God's Love - v19**

To be a remembrance of God's love. In verse 19 Lord Jesus said, **This is My body!** <sup>20</sup> This is what you remember when you eat the bread.

In the stable in Bethlehem, God became a man! God took on flesh; humanness. <sup>21</sup> Philippians, chapter 2, verses 5 through 7, **Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.**

Then, Lord Jesus volunteered to die on the cross as a sacrifice; even when He didn't have to! <sup>22</sup>

Remembering that price which was paid for you gives you the incentive to surrender to Him even more. <sup>23</sup>

The third thing, the Lord's Supper is . . .



### **III. To Be a Remembrance of the New Covenant - v20**

**To be a remembrance of the New Covenant. <sup>24</sup> This is what you remember when you drink the cup.**

**So, what's a covenant? <sup>25</sup> A covenant <sup>6</sup> is a solemn agreement between two people, or parties. It's a testament or a will. <sup>26</sup>**

**A good biblical example of a covenant was the public agreement made between Boaz and Naomi's next of kin. <sup>7</sup> <sup>27</sup>**

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<sup>6</sup> διαθήκη.

<sup>7</sup> Ruth 4:1-12 - Meanwhile Boaz went up to the town gate and sat there. When the kinsman-redeemer he had mentioned came along, Boaz said, "Come over here, my friend, and sit down." So he went over and sat down. Boaz took ten of the elders of the town and said, "Sit here," and they did so. Then he said to the kinsman-redeemer, "Naomi, who has come back from Moab, is selling the piece of land that belonged to our brother Elimelech. I thought I should bring the matter to your attention and suggest that you buy it in the presence of these seated here and in the presence of the elders of my people. If you will redeem it, do so. But if you will not, tell me, so I will know. For no one has the right to do it except you, and I am next in line." "I will redeem it," he said. Then Boaz said, "On the day you buy the land from Naomi and from Ruth the Moabitess, you acquire the dead man's widow, in order to maintain the name of the dead

**A new covenant was promised that would be superior to the old one. Jeremiah, chapter 31, verse 33, says, **This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.** 28**

**In the old covenant God brought the Jewish people out of Egypt and supplied them with all their needs. 29 In return, they promised to keep His laws. 30**

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with his property.” At this, the kinsman-redeemer said, “Then I cannot redeem it because I might endanger my own estate. You redeem it yourself. I cannot do it.” (Now in earlier times in Israel, for the redemption and transfer of property to become final, one party took off his sandal and gave it to the other. This was the method of legalizing transactions in Israel.) So the kinsman-redeemer said to Boaz, “Buy it yourself.” And he removed his sandal. Then Boaz announced to the elders and all the people, “Today you are witnesses that I have bought from Naomi all the property of Elimelech, Kilion and Mahlon. I have also acquired Ruth the Moabitess, Mahlon’s widow, as my wife, in order to maintain the name of the dead with his property, so that his name will not disappear from among his family or from the town records. Today you are witnesses!” Then the elders and all those at the gate said, “We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, who together built up the house of Israel. May you have standing in Ephrathah and be famous in Bethlehem. Through the offspring the LORD gives you by this young woman, may your family be like that of Perez, whom Tamar bore to Judah.”

**In the new covenant God's fellowship forever would be available to all people. <sup>31</sup> God's will would be instilled in their memory. <sup>32</sup>**

**In verse 20 <sup>8</sup> the new covenant came into being when Lord Jesus went to the cross. <sup>33</sup>**

**So, when you surrender your life to the Lord, how does the new covenant work for you? <sup>34</sup>**

**Your obligation is that Jesus becomes the Lord of your life. You become a child and a servant eager to obey His will. <sup>35</sup>**

**The benefits of this new covenant are you get eternal life in heaven with God. <sup>36</sup>**

**You get a victorious life right now! <sup>37</sup>**

**You get brothers and sisters from all over the world. I have lived in Europe and in Asia. The rich bond between me and my Christian family is so close. We look different. We come from different cultures. We**

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<sup>8</sup> Luke 22:20 - In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

**speak different languages. But we love one another very much. <sup>38</sup>**

**You get the fruit and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.**

**This is all signified in the Lord's Supper! <sup>39</sup>**

**When you come to the table of the Lord to have supper with Him, confess your sins. Remember and appreciate His love for you and relish in the new covenant that is now yours!**

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