

Lord's Day 29

Questions 78 & 79

Question 78: *Are the bread and wine changed into the real body and blood of Christ?*

Answer: *No. Just as the water of baptism is not changed into Christ's blood and does not itself wash away sins but is simply God's sign and assurance, so too the bread of the Lord's Supper is not changed into the actual body of Christ in keeping with the nature and language of sacraments.*



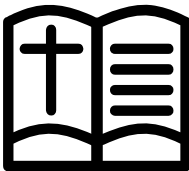
Heart of the Matter:

In the act of remembering, it is important to partake of the emblems as symbols of security for your past-present-and future.

How does the Lord's Supper cover your past? _____

How does it cause you to feel nourished for today? _____

How does it cause you to feel about eternity? _____



Key scriptures:

Ephesians

5:26

Titus

3:5

Matthew

26:26-29

1 Corinthians

10:16-17

11:26-28

10:1-4

Genesis

17:10-11

Exodus

12:11,13

Titus 3:5 *"... he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit..."*

Express your gratitude for this mercy. _____

Matthew 26:26-29 *"While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take and eat; this is my body.' Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, 'Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom'."*

Express how you think you would feel sitting at a communion table with Jesus present, in person. _____

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Question 79: *Why then does Christ call the bread his body and the cup his blood, or the new covenant in his blood? (Paul uses the words, a participation in Christ's body and blood.)*

Answer: *Christ has good reason for these words. He wants to teach us that as bread and wine nourish our temporal life, so too his crucified body and poured-out blood truly nourish our souls for eternal life. But more important, he wants to assure us, by this visible sign and pledge, that we, through the Holy Spirit's work, share in his true body and blood as surely as our mouths receive these holy signs in his remembrance, and that all of his suffering and obedience are as definitely ours as if we personally had suffered and paid for our sins.*

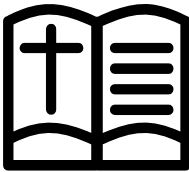


Heart of the Matter:

If God required obedience of Jesus — even the death of the cross, how do we need to be more obedient to the Father, in dying to self?

Where should you begin? _____

Set one goal. _____



Key scriptures:

John

6:51,55

1 Corinthians

10:16-17, 11:26

Romans

6:5-11

Romans 6:5-11 *"If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — because anyone who had died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus."*

In what ways do you consider yourself dead to sin? _____

What are several reflections of Christ 'living' in you? _____

In what ways would you like a greater reflection? _____
