

Selfish Spirituality? Part 2

Review- Paul has at length described the proper attitude and actions concerning meat that is associated with the idol market. 8-10 He has asked that Christians adopt an attitude of selflessness and sensitivity to others as Paul himself has modeled 8:13. Paul continues concerning the issue of sensitivity, selflessness, and submission by giving a principle in light of another problem at the church. The women were not demonstrating a submissive attitude at the church service and so Paul educates and exhorts both men and women to understand the orderliness that is to be manifested during the worship service (gathering of the church) 11:2-16. Paul now continues to deal with another social spiritual problem at the church service involving body life of the saints and communion with the Savior 11:17-34

The Church must observe the Lord's Supper in a manner which Reverences the Lord or they will be Judged for their Irreverence

Issue for Paul- Disorderliness and Inequality at the Lords Supper

I. The Problem 11: 17-22

The Divisiveness and Gluttony of the Corinthians at the Lord's supper results in the ordinance losing all significance for them.

A. The Cultural Situation

B. The Corinthian Situation

1. The People were Schizoid :17-19

2. The People were Selfish 20-22

a. The Meeting of the Church

b. The Assessment of Paul 20-22

II. **The Purpose** 11: 23-26

The Divinely Given Purpose of the Lords Supper is the Commemoration of Christ's Death

A. The Tradition

B. The Teaching

1. The Form

2. The Function

a. Absolutely Not- Transubstantiation- Catholic Church Sacrament

- b. Not- Consubstantiation – Luther Quasi Sacrament/ Ordinance
- c. Maybe- Spiritual Presence View. Calvin
- d. Probably- Memorial View – Zwingli Ordinance
Do this in remembrance of me.

3. The Fracture

4. The Theology of the New Covenant. a. Definition of Covenant

b. Description of Covenant

“For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth
was realized through Jesus Christ” John 1:17

Old Cov- Mosaic Law Dispensation Ex 20 Heb 8-9

New Cov- Grace Dispensation Eph 1:10, 3:2,9 Heb 8-9, Jer 31-33

c. Delineation of New Covenant

Summary- The Corinthians were trafficking in the secular and trifling with
the sacred.

They had reduced the greatest spiritual truth to a social time of
Drunkenness and Debauchery. Their Spirituality had turned into Sacrilege.

III. The Procedure 11: 27-32

Therefore, partaking of the Lord’s supper in an
Unworthy way results in Divine judgment unless it is avoided by self-
Judgment.

A. Principle for the Church 27-29

1. The Requirement 27-28

“Unworthy way” “Examine self” “Judged” (The selfishness and drunkenness)

2. The Reason 29

B. Consequence for the People 30-32

IV. The Practice: 33-34

Be Selfless by Serving Others in the Social Context of your Spiritual Services

Summary-

1. Theological Truth-

The Lords supper is not to fill your stomach but to fill your soul by remembering and celebrating the Person & Work of Christ and anticipating His coming again.

It also is not to become simply a ritual devoid of social and spiritual implication. It includes Communion with self and the Savior as well as the saints- the body of Christ.

2. Spiritual Life Truth

We are not to be selfish to others or sacrilegious to the Lord in our Spirituality and Service.

3. Social Truth

We need to know where to break with our culture.

How much of what we do is tied to cultural norms or mores of the day and not the NT?