

Fort Payne church of Christ



The Weekly Moment

A Weekly Motivational Message

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Is It Really That Important?

Many times over the years, I have heard men, standing in front of the congregation, say that we were about to partake of the *“most important part of the worship service”* – the Lord’s Supper. If it truly is *“the most important part of the worship service”*, then why do many Christians take it so lightly?

First, we should answer the question: Is it the most important part of the worship. Without answering that first, we can’t deal with the second question.

The ***Lord’s Supper*** is a remembrance/memorial to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It was instituted by our Lord on the night of His betrayal as recorded in Matt. 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:16-20 and repeated by the Apostle Paul in I Cor. 11:23-29. A study of the Lord’s Supper is a soul-stirring experience because of the depth of meaning it contains. It was during the age-old celebration of the Passover on the eve of His death that Jesus instituted a significant new fellowship meal that we observe to this day. It is an integral part of Christian worship. It causes us to remember our Lord’s death and resurrection and to look for His glorious return in the future. But is it *“the most important part of the worship service?”*

To better reach a reasonable answer, let’s consider the different parts of our worship. According to scripture, the early church sang, prayed, gave of their means, heard sermons and partook of the Lord’s Supper. When looking at each of these individually, it is reasonable to conclude that each of these items of worship can actually be done anytime the Lord’s church comes together – except taking of the Lord’s Supper. The only time scripture references taking the Lord’s Supper is on the first day of the week in Act 20:7. (Giving is also commanded *“upon the first day of the week”*, but I can’t see any argument that would restrict a Saint from giving on any other day).

The Lord’s Supper, on the other hand, is tied to the first day of the week because of what it symbolizes – the death of Jesus Christ. Following Christ’s death, he arose on the first day of the week. That is the purpose of the Lord’s Supper – to remember His death and resurrection. An excellent article by Dr. Dave Miller (Apologetics Press) entitled [Sunday and the Lord’s Supper](#) provides a better understanding than I can provide.

None of the other items of worship are tied to the death of Christ. For that reason and that reason alone, I would concur that the Lord's Supper is "*the most important part of the worship service*".

Now we can turn our attention to the second question: why do many Christians take it so lightly? In dealing with this question, I will limit the discussion to those who are absent from the assembly on the Lord's Day. I am not attempting to question the sincerity of those present in the assembly who are partaking of the Lord's Supper. I doubt that few, if any, Christians who are present for the worship would refrain from partaking of the Lord's Supper unless they deem themselves "unworthy" of partaking. That is a matter they must deal with.

That leaves us with those who *willfully* miss the assembly on the Lord's Day; thereby missing the opportunity to commune with their Lord in the Lord's Supper. Those may argue that "*I partake of the Lord's Supper when I am there.*" It would seem that, to these individuals, the Lord's Supper has very little meaning and is not that important. I cannot imagine holding that view, but apparently many do. Otherwise, church buildings across this nation would be full each Sunday.

Folks, we cannot live a life as a Christian in a cavalier manner if we expect to see Heaven from the inside. I believe observing the Lord's Supper every Lord's Day is so critical to our relationship with Christ that every attempt should be made to be present to partake of it.

Is it really that important? *It most assuredly is!*

Think about it.

Here's hoping you'll make the "*most of your minutes*" this week.

Hope to see you at Bible Study tonight.

In Christian Love,

Bob Strickland