**R920\_Rumination for Sept. 11, 2022**

The **T**heme: **It’s Supper Time!** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com/)

The **T**ext:*A certain man made a great* ***supper****, and…sent his servant at* ***supper*** *time to say…Come;* Lk. 14:16, 17

The **T**hots:

Intro. **D**ifferent Times for *Supper*…

 **D**epending on the **C**ountry and their **C**ulture. *Supper* **C**onveys *meals* at different times. Supper in one place may mean a noon meal or evening meal and, in another place, even a light meal after dinner (evening meal). Among the Jews, Greeks, and Romans, *supper* (Gk. *deipnon*) referred to the main meal of the day,

 eaten at or toward evening and often extended into the night (e.g., Luke 14:16-17; John 12:2-4; etc.).

**The Different Suppers in the Bible:**

1. **Herod’s Birthday Supper. Mk. 6:21-29**

*Herod on his birthday made a supper to his lords, high captains, and chief estates of Galilee.*

1. Herod’s **D**aughter’s **D**eadly **D**ance.
2. It *pleased Herod* andhe swore to **R**eward her. 6:22, 23
3. Salome’s **R**equest after consulting her mother: she asked for *the head of John the Baptist*. 6:24, 25
4. Herod did not **R**eject it and John was Beheaded. 6:26-27
5. The **D**amsel’s **D**espicable and **D**astardly **R**eceipt of John’s head on a platter! 6:28

*And brought his head in a charger, and gave it to the damsel: and the damsel gave it to her mother*.

1. Only a **D**estiny of **D**readful **D**oom can be expected – presenting a **B**eheaded head **D**ripping in **B**lood!
2. **Parable of the Banquet Supper.** Lk. 14:15-24
3. The **Inten**t of the **I**nvitation: 14:12

*When thou makest a dinner or a* ***supper****, call not thy friends, nor thy brethren, neither thy kinsmen,*

*nor thy rich neighbours; lest they also bid thee again, and a recompence be made thee.*

1. The **Contents** of the **I**nvitation: 14:16-24
2. The **P**reparat**ion** for the Supper and its **I**nvitees. Lk. 14:16, 17

*A certain man made a great supper, and bade many…at supper time: Come; for all things are now ready*

1. The Guests **P**leading for Exemp**tion**: “***I*** *cannot come*” 14:18-20

*And they all with one consent began to make excuse…I pray thee have me excused…I cannot come.*

1. The **Exten**sion of the **I**nvitation to others: Lk. 14:21-24

*Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind…I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.*

1. Cf. The **Sent** One (*Jesus, the Messiah*) was rejected by Israel; now it is **E**xtended to the Gentiles.
2. **The Lamb’s Marriage Supper.** Rev. 19:9
3. The Marriage **S**pouses: It is between **C**hrist and the **C**hurch. Eph. 5:25

*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it.*

1. The Marriage **S**upper: *Blessed are they which are* ***C****alled unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.* Rev. 19:7-9
2. *Let us be glad and* ***R****ejoice, and give honour to Him:*

 *for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and His wife hath made herself ready.*

1. Her **R**obes of **R**ighteousness: *To her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white:*

 *for the fine linen is the* ***R****ighteousness of saints.*

1. The **R**evered Blessing: *Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.*
2. **The Great God’s Supper** **Rev. 19:17-21**
3. The **C**ommand to all **C**reatures to Gather.

*I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;* 19:17

1. The **C**onsumption of the **C**arcases: 19:18

*That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.*

1. The **C**ulprits who will **C**hallenge **C**hrist and His **C**ompany, and their **C**onsummation.
2. The Beast and his **C**ohorts – *I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies…and with him the false prophet…and them that worshipped his image…cast alive into a lake of fire…* 19:19, 20
3. *And the remnant were slain with the sword of Him that sat upon the horse…* 19:21
4. The **C**onclusion – Satan **C**hained **C**aptive **C**ast into the pit [abyss] for 1000 years!Rev. 20:1-3

*And I saw an angel…laid hold on…the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,*

*And cast him into the bottomless pit…till the thousand years should be fulfilled.*

1. **The Lord’s Supper** **Lk. 22:20, 21, NKJV**
2. It is the Lord’s **C**ovenant with His **C**hurch.

*He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you*

1. It is a **R**emembrance Supper. Lk. 22:19, NKJV

 *And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying,*

 *"This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."* . 11:26

1. It is to be observed until He **R**eturns. I Cor. 11:26, NKJV

 *For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come.*

*Jesus has a table spread Where the saints of God are fed,*

 *He invites His chosen people, Come and dine; C.B. Widmeyer,*

**REFLETIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 920**

1. *If any man now will hear His voice, And open the door,*

 *Then Jesus will come and sup with him, As ne’er before.* Fanny Crosby

 The above stanza is based on the text in Revelation 3:20 –

*Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door,*

*I will come in to him, and will* ***sup*** *with him, and he with Me.*

The above Bible text is from the context of Jesus addressing the angel of the church in Laodicea (Rev. 3:14-22). The Lord is standing outside the church (having presumably been driven out of the church premises) and He is knocking at the shut door of the church asking those inside to open the door so that He can go in to sup with them and have fellowship with them again – He has been shut out of the church and He is standing outside! In actual fact, the Lord no more appeals to the church as a whole, but to the individual believer in it – *If any man…*

Frequently this text has been used as a Gospel invitation and in many Christian songs (as above) to a sinner to open his heart door for Jesus to enter. But this is not according to the context.

The Church of Laodicea was a lukewarm church, neither hot nor cold, so much so that the Lord was tired of them and wanted to spew them out of His mouth, so to speak, He would prefer them to be hot or cold but certainly not lukewarm, neither hot nor cold. He could never use that church because of its compromised condition. The church also had no use for the Lord because the Lord wanted full obedience to Him and to His word, so they thrust Him out and locked their church door against Him,

The Lord is not knocking at the door of a sinner’s heart but at the door of a church-goer’s heart! Is the Lord outside or inside your heart’s door? The church the Christian attends has thrust their Lord out; they do not want Him in their fellowship nor in their community life. They have their own ideas of “running” the church – they have no place for the Lord, but they have plenty of modern ideas and methods to multiply the members of the church! They are rich and prosperous and seemingly doing very well.

In this last communication with the church of Laodicea, the Lord no more addressed the church as a whole but to any member believer who still wants Him to open his heart door for Him to enter so that He can sup with him and have fellowship with him!

Are you in a Laodicean church? Then come out and open your heart door to the Lord.

**Revelation 3:15-22 (NKJV)**  *15  I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot.
16  So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. 17  Because you say, 'I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing'--and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked--
18  I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see.
19  As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent.
20****Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door,***

***I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.*** *21  To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.
22  He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.* **REFLECT**

1. What kind of church are you attending today? Is it a **B**ible-**B**ased, **G**od-**G**lorifying and **C**hrist-**C**entred **C**hurch? If not…*Come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.* II Cor. 6:17f **REFLECT**

**POINTS TO PONDER:**

*You cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons.* (I Cor. 10:21, NKJV)