**R963 Rumination for July 9, 2023**

The **T**heme: **The lord’s passover and the Lord’s Supper** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *It is the sacrifice of* ***the LORD'S Passover****.* Ex. 12:27

 *This is not to eat* ***the Lord's Supper.*** I Cor. 11:20

The **T**hots:

The **Passover** was instituted by the Lord for Israel and the **Lord’s Supper** by the Lord for His Church.

1. **The Passover and the Lord’s Supper** – **the Ordinance and the Observance.**
2. **The Passover**: *It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover.* Ex. 12:27
* It is the Lord’s **O**rdinance – *This is the ordinance of the passover:* Exo. 12:43-51
* To be **O**bserved *in the fourteenth day of the first month at even* *is the LORD'S passover.* Lev. 23:5

Cf. **The Lord’s Supper**: An **O**rdinance from the Lord to be **O**bserved as **O**ften as possible – [See Reflections]

* *For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you*
* *For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come*. I Cor. 11:26
* *They continued stedfastly in…breaking of bread, and in prayers*. Acts 2:42
* *And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread…*  Acts 20:7
1. **Their Prohibitions, Permissions and the Participants.**
2. **The Passover**: *There shall no stranger eat thereof:* Exodus 12:43

Cf. **The Lord’s Supper**: no unbeliever should partake of it. I Cor. 10:21

*Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table*,

1. **The Passover:** *Every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him,*

 *then shall he eat thereof.* Exo. 12:44

Cf. **The Lord’s Supper:** Those **B**ought and Redeemed by the Precious **B**lood of Christ:

*Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold…*

*But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:* I Pet. 1:18, 19

1. **The Passover:**

*When a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD,*

*let all his males be circumcised, …no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof*. Exo. 12:48 cf. 44

Cf. **The Lord’s Supper**: to be observed by **B**aptised **B**elievers. No unbaptised believer in the NT Church!

See Acts 2:41; 8:12; 8:36, 38; 9:18; 10:47, 48; 16:31-33; 18:8; 19:5; 22:16

1. **The Practice of Remembrance in the Symbolic Acts:** Exo. 12:7-9
2. **The Passover:** *In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man* ***a lamb****…* Exo. 12:3

*They shall* ***take of the blood****, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. They shall* ***eat the flesh*** *in that night, roast with fire, and* ***unleavened bread;***

Cf. **The Lord’s Supper:**

*John seeth Jesus…saith, Behold* ***the Lamb of God****, which taketh away the sin of the world.* Jn. 1:29

 *For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:* I Cor. 5:7 cf. 11:23-25

*The Lord Jesus…took* ***bread****: And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is My* ***body****, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me…Also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This* ***cup*** *is the new testament in My* ***blood****: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

1. **The Continuation of the Congregation to keep the Feast.**
2. **The Passover:** *All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.* Exo. 12:47

*And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.* Exo. 12:14

1. **The Lord’s Supper:** I Cor. 11:23

*For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you…*

*They continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread…* Acts 2:42

1. *For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come*. I Cor. 11:26
2. **The Remembrance and Reverence in the feast**
3. **The Passover**
* **R**emember the Day - Exo. 13:3
*Moses said unto the people,* ***Remember*** *this day, in which ye came out from Egypt.*
* **R**evere the Occasion – Exo. 12:27

*That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when He smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses.*

*And the people bowed the head and* ***worshipped***.

1. **The Lord’s Supper** –
* The **R**emembrance: *this do in* ***remembrance*** *of Me.* I Cor. 11:24, 25
* The **R**everence: *For even Christ our passover is* ***sacrificed*** *for us:* I Cor. 5:7

*Now Christ our Passover is slain, The Lamb of God without a stain;*

*His flesh, the true unleavened bread, Is freely offered in our stead.*

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 963**

 *For as* ***often*** *as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come.* I Cor. 11:26, KJV, NRSV, HCSB, YLT, ASV, NKJV

1. In this basic text for the observance of the Lord’s Supper, the word “***often***” is used in most of the translations of the Bible.

But how *often* is “*often*”? How “*often*” should we be observing the Lord’s Supper?

* Is it once a year?

Like the Passover which was held *in the fourteenth day of the first month at even [is] the LORD'S passover*. Lev. 23:5

* Is it three times in the year?

As with the three important feasts for the people of Israel? Deut. 16:16

*Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which He shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty.*

* Is it twice or once a month?

 Is there a biblical basis for such a periodical observation?

 If there is, where is it?

* Is it to be every week?

 Once a week, and on the first day of the week, seems to satisfy the requirement of “*often*”, though there is no imperative to that effect. However, the indicative is that it was possible that the early church in Troas came together on the first day of the week to break bread so that Paul while in a hurry to continue with his missionary even stayed back just to be with the church there to observe the Lord’s Supper: Acts 20:6-7

 *And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days. And* ***upon the first day of the week****,* ***when the disciples came together to break bread****….*

Finally, it is noteworthy that the very early New Testament Church kept the Lord’s Supper faithfully, and as *often* as they would come together for other church gatherings as well, so that it is recorded that *they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and* ***in breaking of bread****, and in prayers*. (Acts 2:42)

How “***often***” do you break bread or observe the Lord’s Supper? Why? **REFLECT**

1. Another requirement laid down in the ordinance of the Lord’s Supper as delivered by the Lord to Paul to the church at Corinth, and thus, to all of us, is that when we come together our main purpose is to remember Him and none other – I Cor. 11:23-25

*For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed took bread: And when He had given thanks, He brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is My body, which is broken for you:* ***this do in remembrance of Me.*** *After the same manner also He took the cup, when He had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in My blood:* ***this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of Me…****For* ***as often*** *as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup,* ***ye do*** ***shew the Lord's death till He come.*** I Cor. 11:26

The primary purpose in coming together as often as we can for the Lord’s Supper is to remember our Lord in His death (and of course, in His resurrection as well) until He comes again. It is not even to “worship Him in songs” for the Lord’s Supper is never referred to as a “worship service.” Of course, we will definitely and ultimately Revere (Worship) Him as the Result of our Remembering Him!!

How “often” do you come together with the Lord’s people to observe the Lord’s Supper? Do you come together for the Purpose to Remember Him, leading you to Revere Him for what He did for you in Redeeming you and waiting for His Return to take you back to be with Him? Remember – ***do this… shew the Lord's death till He come.*  REFLECT**

**Points To Ponder:**

***R****emembering the Lord should lead to* ***R****evering Him, not* ***O****ne without the* ***O****ther.*