

Communion

The word “communion” is translated from the Greek word “koinonia”. “Koinonia” has been translated into the word “fellowship” 12 times in the New Testament and “communion” six times in the King James Version.

The full meaning is “having in common,” “partnership,” “fellowship,” “to share a common experience,” “oneness.” Therefore, when we speak of the communion service or Lord’s supper, we are participating in the death of the Lord Jesus Christ in all its fullness.

1 Corinthians 11:26
(NKJV) For as often as
you eat this bread and
drink this cup, you
proclaim the Lord's
death till He comes.

1 Corinthians 10:16-18 (NKJV)

The cup of blessing which we
bless, is it not the communion
of the blood of Christ? The
bread which we break, is it not
the communion of the body of
Christ?

17 For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.

18 Observe Israel after the flesh: Are not those who eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar?

The two outstanding features of the communion service are the blood and body of the Lord Jesus. We are to become partakers of the bread and wine which are emblems of His blood and body. And as we partake of them we are to remember or bring to mind what they stand for.

Luke 22:19-20 (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."

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

1 Corinthians 11:23-34 (NKJV) For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

25 In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

30 For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.

33 Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.

34 But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

1 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)

Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

Exodus 12:1-28

In order to have an understanding, we will consider the blood and the body in that order. 1. The blood of the Lord Jesus has two basic functions:
To establish a new contract. (I Corinthians 11:25)
To cleanse away sin. (Matthew 26:28) (Revelation 1:5)

a) To establish a new contract,
testament or covenant

(1) The Abrahamic covenant
established by blood

Genesis 15:5-10

Genesis 17:1-14

The substitute of God's and man's
blood was shed.

(2) When Jesus shed His blood, it no longer was a substitute; it was the blood of God.

Acts 20:28 (Amp)

Acts 20:28 (AMP) Take care and be on guard for yourselves and the whole flock over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you bishops and guardians, to shepherd (tend and feed and guide) the church of the Lord or of God which He obtained for Himself [buying it and saving it for Himself] with His own blood.

His Blood was also the blood of man, as He was the Son of man. Thus the contract was sealed by the blood of both parties. God's and man's in one sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ.

b) To cleanse away sin

The blood of Jesus removes sin and delivers us from the judgment of sin.

I John 1:7

Matthew 26:28

1 John 1:7 (NKJV) But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

Matthew 26:28 (NKJV) For this
is My blood of the new
covenant, which is shed for
many for the remission of sins.

The blood of the Passover lamb was the only means of salvation from the judgment of death. The blood had to be over the door, and the people had to remain inside their homes. Jesus' blood was shed. He is the door, and the only safe place is in the Lord Jesus Christ.

2. The body of the Lord Jesus Christ is also a provision for us, as the body of that Passover lamb was for Israel. We must discern or understand the body of the Lord Jesus.

I Corinthians 11:29-30

Israel was to partake of the
Passover lamb, as we are to
be partakers
of the body of Jesus, our
Passover lamb. (1 Corinthians
11:24 – “take, eat”)

Israel's Passover lamb
caused them to be
completely whole.

Psalms 105:37

Psalm 105:37 (NKJV)

He also brought them

out with silver and

gold, And there was

none feeble among His

tribes.

The body of Jesus also makes us whole.

Isaiah 53:4-6 (10)(Amp)

Matthew 8:17

I Peter 2:24

Isaiah 53:4-6 (10) (AMP)

Surely He has borne our griefs
(sicknesses, weaknesses, and
distresses) and carried our sorrows
and pains [of punishment], yet we
[ignorantly] considered Him
stricken, smitten, and afflicted by
God [as if with leprosy].

5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our guilt and iniquities; the chastisement [needful to obtain] peace and well-being for us was upon Him, and with the stripes [that wounded] Him we are healed and made whole.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has made to light upon Him the guilt and iniquity of us all.

Isaiah 53:10 (AMP) Yet it was the will of the Lord to bruise Him; He has put Him to grief and made Him sick.

When You and He make His life an offering for sin [and He has risen from the dead, in time to come], He shall see His [spiritual] offspring, He shall prolong His days, and the will and pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in His hand.

The lack of understanding of the body of Christ has caused many Christians to be weak and sick and die prematurely.

(I Corinthians 11:29-30)

The stripes or wounds of Jesus are for our healing, both spiritual and physical.

But there is another truth to understand here and that is that we are also the body of Christ.

Ephesians 5:30 (AMP)

Because we are
members (parts) of His
body.

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (AMP) The cup of blessing [of wine at the Lord's Supper] upon which we ask [God's] blessing, does it not mean [that in drinking it] we participate in and share a fellowship (a communion) in the blood of Christ (the Messiah)? The bread which we break, does it not mean [that in eating it] we participate in and share a fellowship (a communion) in the body of Christ?

17 For we [no matter how] numerous we are, are one body, because we all partake of the one Bread [the One Whom the communion bread represents].

And as such we should remember that we are to minister to one another and accept the ministry of another as a part of that body.

Ephesians 4:16

Ephesians 4:16 (NKJV) from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

We should take a look at the type (Passover lamb) to see what other truths are there.

a. Israel was to keep the lamb
for four days before it was
killed

Jesus was taken from the
foundation of the world and held
for four 1,000-year days before
He laid down His life.

I Peter 1:18-20; II Peter 3:8

b. Seven days of unleavened bread were to follow the slaying of the lamb

Leaven is a type of sin and the number 7 stand for the completeness or fullness. The blood of Jesus cleanses us from sin for all time. Only one sacrifice was necessary for total cleansing, and we should remain sin-free to the end.

c. The lamb was eaten with bitter herbs

Along with the blessings and deliverance of God, there is tribulation. We are no longer members of this world, and we will suffer. Romans 8:17

d. They were to eat all of it

We are to partake of the fullness of Christ, of everything that He is and has for us.

e. No bones were broken of the
lamb. Exodus 12:46

Not one of His bones was
broken. John 19:36

f. They were to eat ready to travel, fully equipped.

God wants us to put on all He has for our protection and work of the ministry.

Ephesians 6:10-18

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