

## "THE LORD'S SUPPER ON SATURDAY?"

by Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

One of the emerging trends in the Lord's church today is to expand services to Saturday evening to take the Lord's Supper. This is either because the congregation has outgrown their facilities, or to make services more convenient for the membership. This is a frightening trend. Some will ask the question, "What is wrong with it", when we should be asking, "What is right with it?"

The simple answer is that the practice does not follow the New Testament example of when the church should gather together for the purpose of taking the Lord's Supper. The only time we know from the New Testament is the first day of the week (Acts 20:7). Each week has a first day. History shows us, and scripture confirms, that the early disciples took the Lord's Supper every Sunday. **Any other day of the week is without Scriptural authority.** The practice of taking the Lord's Supper any other day, or only once or twice a year is without Scriptural authority.

Does it matter? As we labor in today's vineyard, we need to understand that "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow" is still true. We need to understand that the Lord's Supper is important and that properly taking of the feast involves taking it at the **right time**. The apostle Paul stayed in Troas five days to eat the Lord's Supper with the disciples (Acts 20:6-7). The brethren in Corinth had some problems concerning the Lord's Supper, but obviously not the day that they were to partake of it.

The Lord's Supper involves more than just the proper day. Other topics that generally do not cause discussion include the **elements** that make up the Lord's Supper. The Gospel of Matthew shows that Jesus used the bread from the Passover feast and the fruit of the vine (Matt. 26:17, 26, 27). The bread represents the body of Jesus. The juice represents His blood that was shed on the cross of Calvary. Using other items, such as pizza and coke or cake and milk, may appeal to our taste buds, but they are without Scriptural authority.

The Lord's Supper involves the **right mind**. We need to grasp that the Lord's Supper is worship. Any and all of our worship involves the proper attitude and heart. The Lord's Supper involves us "Remembering Jesus." Our Lord said, "**Do this in remembrance of Me**" (I Cor. 11:24). To remember, you first must know. You cannot remember what you have no knowledge of. Christians should remember **that** Jesus died for them. Christians should remember the **way** that Jesus died. Christians should remember **why** Jesus died for them. Christians should also remember the **result** of Jesus dying for them. Let's remember, this was God's plan.

The Lord's Supper involves **togetherness with other Christians**. Paul came together to break bread with other disciples (Acts 20:7). The Corinthians came together to eat the Lord's Supper (I Cor. 11:17-33). This shows that the Lord's Supper involves more than just eating crackers and drinking juice. The fellowship of the church needs to beware of grasping onto popular trends when it violates the authority of the Lord.

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