

W @ K L J P r a J @ r J O u r n a l

**DAILY BIBLE STUDIES**

*“Thoughts & Observations Concerning The Lord’s Supper”*

*Selected Scripture*

*February 24 – March 1, 2008*

**THE LORD'S DAY** –If God wills, this coming Lord’s Day we will come together corporately to celebrate The Lord’s Supper. We have had many studies concerning The Lord’s Supper over the past months, and will continue to do so if God so wills. This week we are going to include in our study some *“Thoughts & Observations”* from various men of God as well as various confessions concerning The Lord’s Table. These quotations are in no way to be seen as an exhaustive treatment of this great and Holy means of grace God has given to His church but I pray we will glean some truths as we contemplate these thoughts and read the Holy Scripture. Read **Matthew 26:26-29**.

*What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?*

Suggestion for prayer: *Ask the Lord to teach you from His Word this week.*

**MONDAY** –“Our Lord Jesus, in the night wherein he was betrayed, instituted the sacrament of his body and blood, called the Lord’s Supper, to be observed in his church, unto the end of the world, for the perpetual remembrance of the sacrifice of himself in his death; the sealing of all benefits thereof unto true believers, their spiritual nourishment and growth in him, their further encouragement in and to all duties which they owe unto him; and, to be a bond and pledge of their communion with him, and with each other, as members of his mystical body.” (Westminster Confession XXIX.1) Read **1 Corinthians 10:16-17, 21, 11:23-26, 12:13**.

*What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?*

Suggestion for prayer: *Father, I thank You for The Lord’s Supper in which I can visibly see the picture of Jesus’ sacrifice for my sin. Help me approach The Table with a Holy reverence for You; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

**TUESDAY** –“Worthy receivers, outwardly partaking of the visible elements, in this sacrament, do then also, inwardly by faith, really and indeed, yet not carnally and corporally but spiritually, receive and feed upon, Christ crucified, and all benefits of His death: the body and blood of Christ being then, not corporally or carnally, in, with, or under the bread and wine; yet, as really, but spiritually, present to the faith

Praise & Prayer	ADORATION Hallowed be Your name. (6:9)	AUTHORITY Your Kingdom come... (6:10)	APPEAL Give us this day... (6:11)	AQUITTAL Forgive us our debts... (6:12)	ASSISTANCE Deliver us from evil. (6:13a)	ADMIRATION For Yours is the Kingdom... (6:13)	Lord's Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

M a t t h @ W 6: 9-13

of believers in that ordinance, as the elements themselves are to their outward senses.” (Westminster Confession XXIX.7) Read **1 Corinthians 11:28, 10:16.**

*What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?*

Suggestion for prayer: *Dear God, help me to daily feed upon Christ by faith. Thank You that as Jesus said, those who eat of Him shall never hunger. Thank You Christ that you are present with us Your children in a very real way.*

**WEDNESDAY** –“Although ignorant and wicked men receive the outward elements in this sacrament; yet, they receive not the thing signified thereby; but, by their unworthy coming thereunto, are guilty of the body and blood of the Lord, to their own damnation. Wherefore, all ignorant and ungodly persons, as they are unfit to enjoy communion with Him, so are they unworthy of the Lord’s table; and cannot, without great sin against Christ, while they remain such, partake of these holy mysteries, or be admitted thereunto.” (Westminster Confession XXIX.8) Read **Matthew 7:6, 1 Corinthians 5:6-7, 13, 11:27-29, 2 Corinthians 6:14-16, 2 Thessalonians 3:6, 14-15.**

*What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?*

Suggestion for prayer: *O God, help me to examine myself in preparation to come to The Lord’s Supper. Help me not to eat and drink in an “unworthy manner”, but ask for forgiveness of sin from a repentant heart and therefore be cleaned.*

**THURSDAY** –“...all the Reformers insisted that at the table we give thanks to Christ for his finished and accepted work of atonement, rather than repeat, renew, reoffer, re-present, or reactivate it, as the Roman Catholic doctrine of the mass affirms. The prescribed ritual of the Supper has three levels of meaning for participants. First, it has a past reference to Christ’s death which we remember. Second, it has a present reference to our corporate feeding on him by faith, with implications for how we treat our fellow believers (1 Cor. 11:20-22). Third, it has a future reference as we look ahead to Christ’s return and are encouraged by the thought of it. Preliminary self-examination, to make sure one’s frame of mind is as it should be, is advised (1 Cor. 11:28), and the wisdom of the advice is obvious.” (J.I. Packer) Read **1 Corinthians 11:20-22, 28.**

*What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?*

Suggestion for prayer: *Jesus, thank You that Your atoning death was a sacrifice that was offered “once for all”. Help me to remember that sacrifice when I come to Your table and change me to be more like You in word and deed.*

**FRIDAY** –“Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees. Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ’s sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.” (A Prayer offered by the Minister before Holy Communion from The 1662 Book of Common Prayer of The Church of England) Read **Psalms 51.**

*What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?*

Suggestion for prayer: *“Father, may our prayer follow Christ’s teaching from Luke 11; forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us”.*

**SATURDAY** –“...the signs are bread and wine, which represent the invisible food which we receive from the body and blood of Christ. For as God, regenerating us in baptism, ingrafts us into the fellowship of his Church, and makes us his by adoption, so we have said that he performs the office of a provident parent, in continually supplying the food by which he may sustain and preserve us in the life to which he has begotten us by his word. Moreover, Christ is the only food of our soul, and, therefore, our heavenly Father invites us to him, that, refreshed by communion with him, we may ever and anon gather new vigour until we reach the heavenly immortality. As often as we communicate in the symbol of our Saviour’s body, as if a pledge were given and received, we mutually bind ourselves to all the offices of love, that none of us may do anything to offend his brother, or omit anything by which he can assist him when necessity demands, and opportunity occurs. That such was the practice of the Apostolic Church, we are informed by Luke in the Acts, when he says that “they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:42). Thus we ought always to provide that no meeting of the Church is held without the word, prayer, the dispensation of the Supper, and alms. (John Calvin, Institutes of the Christian Religion XVII. 1, 44) Read **John 6:53-58, Acts 2:40-42.**

*What truth(s) did I learn from God’s Word today?*

Suggestion for prayer: *Holy Father, thanks for giving us life in Christ. Jesus, thank You, for being our food that never perishes. Holy Spirit, thank You, for opening our eyes to the beauty of the Gospel. Keep us forever by Your power through faith, Amen.*