

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

**DAILY BIBLE STUDIES**

*"Why The Lord's Table?" (Overview)  
(Review from 2006)  
Selected Scripture*

*March 30 – April 5, 2008*

**THE LORD'S DAY** –This week we are going to continue our study of the Sacrament of The Lord's Table. We are going to continue to take the first Lord's Day of the month (Communion Sunday), and study in greater detail on this blessed topic of the Lord's Table. This week will be primarily an overview of this entire theme and will not be exhaustive into any one area. I pray this will serve to be a blessing to us all. Read **Matthew 26:26-30**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to instruct you and teach you from His Word and to teach you the significance of the Table of the Lord.*

**MONDAY** –As I stated yesterday, this topic is so vast that I realized there was no way it could be dealt with properly in a quick manner. So we want to take several messages over a period of Communion Sundays to look at areas concerning and pertaining to this ordinance of The Lord's Supper. We will answer several questions along the way which will include: What is the meaning of the table? Who should participate and who should not? How is it possible to make the table an idol and its practice a form of idolatry? What is the picture of "shared life" and "community" we find at the table? And many more... Today, read another account of the Lord instituting the Table at the Last supper from **Luke 22:14-23**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer: Thank God that He set up the practice of the Lord's Table, and ask Him to help you worship and praise Him through it.*

**TUESDAY** – It was J.C. Ryle (1816-1900) who said, "Some neglect it altogether; some completely misunderstand it; some exalt it to a position it was never meant to occupy, and turn it into an idol." With so much

Lord's Day	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)
Mon							
Tue							
Wed							
Thu							
Fri							
Sat							

M a t t h e w 6: 9-13

confusion on this issue we are lead to ask the question of “Why was the Lord’s Table ordained in the first place? Again I would like to quote Ryle as he answers this question with, “It was ordained for the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of the death of Christ, and of the benefits which we thereby receive.” When a person eats these elements they are reminded in a most vivid way of the death and sacrifice of the body and shed blood of our Lord. They are also reminded of the benefits Christ has made possible for their soul. Read **1 Corinthians 11:23-26**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer: Thank Jesus today for the sacrifice of His body and shed blood. Praise Him that it is by His work alone we can be made right with God.*

**WEDNESDAY** –In **1 Corinthians 11:24 and 25** the Apostle Paul quotes Christ Jesus as saying “*Do this in remembrance of Me....*” The word remembrance is the word anamnesis {an-am'-nay-sis} which means a remembering, recollection. The “continual remembrance of Christ’s death” was the first and foremost reason for which the Lord’s Supper was ordained. For Paul later says in **verse 26**, “*as often as you eat the bread....you proclaim the Lord’s death till he come.*” The table is a time when the true believer is brought to focus solely on the death of Christ in his place and as his substitute, and is a visible proclamation of that grand act of grace and mercy put forth at Calvary. Read **Hebrews 10:1-25**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer: Thank the Lord Jesus for His great sacrifice. Meditate on the great and vast grace of God in the Gospel message. Ask God to help you to proclaim Christ’s death clearly in your life.*

**THURSDAY** –When Jesus took the bread and wine in hand and said, “*This is my body and blood*” (**Matthew 26:26, 28**), it was obvious to His disciples they were not eating the physical body and blood of the Lord. We understand that Christ was using these as symbols. Jesus Himself taught a sermon in the gospel of John that dealt with “*eating and drinking*” His body and blood. Although this sermon was not speaking about the Lord’s Supper, as it had not yet even been instituted, it was speaking to the point that is illustrated and signified in the Lord’s Table. It speaks to “communion by faith” with Christ and it is a powerful teaching of our Lord that spells out the intimacy and true fellowship of Himself to His own. Read **John 6:41-58**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to my life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to help you to fully understand and grasp the significance of being joined to Christ by faith. Thank Him for the visible sign He has given to us which commemorates His death, and helps us to celebrate the New Covenant relationship we enjoy with God.*

**FRIDAY** –This following excerpt is from Spurgeon’s Sermon “Fencing the Table”, and it speaks to the issue we saw yesterday as well as to the necessity to be regularly at The Table. “The other ordinance is the Lord’s Supper; and, as baptism sets forth, typifies, (mark you, nothing more than typifies,) and is the emblem of the new birth, so the Lord’s Supper is the emblem of the spiritual feeding of that new life. Now, though a man is born only once, he eats a great many more times than once, and drinks a great many more times than once. Indeed, to eat and to drink often, are necessary to the maintenance of our life. If we neglected to do so, we should soon find ourselves in an ill case. Hence, the Supper of the Lord, representing, as it does, the spiritual feeding of the new-born life upon the body and blood of Christ, (and only representing it, mark you,—not really doing it in any carnal sense,) is oftentimes to be repeated. We find that the early Christians very frequently broke bread together; I think they did so almost every day.” Read **Acts 2:38-42**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer: Thank the Lord that you can have fellowship with Him and for that great truth signified at the Table to us who are saved.*

**SATURDAY** –As we stated in the beginning this is just an overview and we will Lord willing bring out many details about the Lord’s Table as we continue this small study in the months to come. As we end this week let us to turn our attention to the great truth expressed to us in Scripture of “*examining ourselves*” before coming to The Table. Start with your self examination today as we prepare to come before The Table tomorrow. Read **1 Cor. 11:27-32**.

*What principles in these verses are applicable to your life today?*

*Suggestion for prayer: Ask God to help you to prepare and examine yourself.*