

# **Foundations Lesson #19B**

## **The Bread And the Cup (Holy Communion)**

On the night Jesus was betrayed, he and his disciples ate together. While they were eating, he took bread, gave thanks, and broke it and gave it to them, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body." Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." After Jesus ascended into heaven, the church has continued this ordinance he instituted, the practice of partaking of his body and blood.

### **I. the background of the Bread & the Cup**

- the celebration of the Passover, the deliverance of the Israelites from bondage in Egypt
  - Exodus 12:1-30 / Exodus 12:43-51 / Numbers 9:1-14 / Deuteronomy 16:1-8

### **II. the instituting of the Bread & the Cup**

- "whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup" / "until he comes"
  - I Corinthians 11:26
- similarities in symbolism between the Passover and the Bread & the Cup
  - I Corinthians 5:7 / John 1:29 / I Peter 1:19
- with thanksgiving – I Corinthians 10:16
- in community – I Corinthians 11:20

### **III. The observance of the Bread & the Cup...**

- ...memorializes Jesus' work on the cross. – "in remembrance of me"
  - Joshua 4:1-9, 19-24 / Numbers 21:4-9 / II Kings 18:3-4
- ...celebrates God delivering us from the bondage of sin. – "for the forgiveness of sins"
  - Matthew 26:27-28 / Revelation 1:5-6
- ...proclaims our identification with Jesus Christ. – "my body" / "my blood"
  - Galatians 5:24
- ...requires self-examination. – "if we judged ourselves"
  - I Corinthians 11:27-31 / Psalm 139:23-24
- ...teaches us to anticipate Jesus' return. – "until he [Jesus] comes"
  - I Corinthians 11:26 / Hebrews 9:27-28
- ...foreshadows the celebration in the Kingdom of God. – "anew"
  - Mark 14:25 / Matthew 26:29