

Communion Meditation – Table Manners

1 Cor 11.17-34 (28)

“Let a Man Examine Himself”

Mar 12th, 2017

3 Sections

- **v17–22** ~ Bad behavior at the Lord’s Table
- **v23–26** ~ Origins of the Lord’s Table
- **v27–34** ~ Judgment of the Lord’s Table

vss 17-22 ~ **Bad Behavior**

- **v17** ~ Paul is upset / “I do not praise you”, “not better .. worse”
- **v18** ~ “there are divisions among you”
- **v19** ~ “there must be factions among you” (*parenthesis – useful purpose*)
- **v20** ~ What they were doing was not eating the Lord’s Supper
 - What they were doing was so bad it wasn’t even recognizable
 - One “hungry” / Another “drunk” ~ What!

vss 23-26 ~ **Correction c/Manner & Purpose of Lord’s Table**

- **v23** ~ Lord’s Supper instituted the very night of great betrayal
 - The supper is all about selflessness and sacrifice
- **v23, 25** ~ “bread”, “wine” Simple and honorable elements of life
- **v27, 29** ~ “unworthy”, “guilty”, “judgment”, “discernment”
- **v30** ~ “weak”, “sick”, “dead”
- **v28, 31** ~ “examine ourselves”, “judge ourselves”

v33 ~ “**But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat ..**”

- What does this self-examination imply?
 - Am I harboring sin in my life? Am I living selflessly, sacrificially?
- This is a spiritual meal with spiritual implications
- But our dual natures influence and affect one another
 - Spiritual obedience can result in material blessings (**3 John 2**)
 - Material obedience can result in spiritual blessings (buffet my body)
 - The same is true of disobedience
- The self-examination doesn’t result in a decision by the man to eat or not eat
 - The self-examination is an opportunity God gives to judge ourselves

**At the Lord’s Table we either eat worthily or unworthily / But we do eat
There are other principles present in these 18 verses – more to come**