

Communion Meditation – Table Manners

1 Cor 10.16-17

“One Bread One Cup”

Mar 26th, 2017

Biblical Texts

- **1 Cor 10.16-17** ~ “cup of blessing” / “partake of that one bread”
- **Read Mat 26.26-27** ~ “blessed and broke it” / “drink from it”
- Appears that all ate from same loaf and drank from same cup
- The question arises, “Was this prescriptive or illustrative?”
 - Must we do it in the same way?
 - Or are deviations acceptable? (*practical, logistical, hygienic*)

One Cup / One Bread

- Churches and denominations have disputed one cup / one bread
- Church of Christ detailed paper
 - one cup (*true church*), small cups came in about 100 years ago
 - one loaf (break or pinch), subdividing or pieces from loaf
 - Sunday school / divorce / fellowshiping w/others
- Conscience issues arise / People become very passionate
 - CoC ~ Switched to grape juice fairly easily (*cultural pressure*)
 - Ironic ~ people nitpicky dividing over greatest symbol of unity

!!!: Thought Experiment ~ Church Growth

- 20 people ~ Begin w/one cup, one bread loaf
- 50 people ~ Bigger bottle of wine & bigger loaf of bread
- 100, 200, 300 ~ Two services

Metaphor and Symbolism

- Scripture is filled with metaphor and symbolism / beautiful & helpful
- But we mustn't allow symbolism to take on greater meaning than reality
- One cup and one loaf symbolize Christ / But one loaf symbolizes Church
 - There's symbolism in one loaf / But also in smaller loaves (families)
- **Read Luke 22.14-18** ~ “When the hour had come .. kingdom of God comes.”

Jesus “took the cup” and instructed His disciples to “divide it among yourselves”

How could they do that but by pouring it into their own cups?

We at Dominion strive to be Biblical

But the spiritual principle is most important (not pursuit of consistency)