

Keeping Our Minds on the Lord During His Supper

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

- A. What do you think about during the Lord's Supper?
 - 1. Your children's behavior?
 - 2. Problems at work?
 - 3. The Buccaneer's or the Ray's prospects for the coming season?
 - 4. Whether Cracker Barrel will run out of home style meatloaf and fried apples before you get there?
 - 5. Some member here who has irritated you recently?
 - 6. Or are you thinking about the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ?
- B. Of all the memorials ever enacted, the Lord's Supper is the one with the deepest meaning and most solemn purpose of all time.
 - 1. Because of the One who instituted it. Others are for ordinary men and mundane purposes.
 - 2. Because of its simplicity. It requires no special religious language and nothing hidden or shadowed. Everything is easy to understand and perform. The items are universally easy to obtain.
 - 3. Because it requires our focused, devout attention and prayerful thought.
- C. Why do some have difficulty keeping their minds on the Lord during this most meaningful of services?
 - 1. Perhaps they don't plan ahead to keep their minds on Him.
 - 2. Perhaps they haven't cultivated the mental discipline for it.
- D. This lesson consists of one means by which one can keep his mind on the Lord at His table y remembering these things:
 - 1. One Lord
 - 2. Two thieves
 - 3. Three crosses
 - 4. Four parts to His garments
 - 5. Five wounds
 - 6. Six hours of suffering
 - 7. Seven sayings

I. ONE LORD

- A. He is the one with all authority in heaven and earth - Matt. 28:18
- B. He is the one we must believe - John 8:24.
- C. He is the only way to the Father - John 14:6
- D. He died for us - Rom. 5:8-10
- E. We can only be saved in His name - Acts 4:12
- F. He proved His Godhood - Matt. 27:54

II. TWO THIEVES

- A. He was numbered with the transgressors - Isa. 53:12
- B. Christ was convicted and counted as a criminal by His accusers.
 - 1. Matt. 26:66; John 18:30; Luke 23:33

C. Though numbered with sinners, He was sinless - Heb. 4:15; 1Peter 2:22

III. THREE CROSSES

- A. There is more in the Old Testament about the crucifixion than there is in the New Testament.
- B. Psalm 22; Zech. 12:10; Isa. 53:4-5

IV. FOUR PARTS OF HIS GARMENTS

- A. As a convicted criminal, His garments belonged to the executioners who viewed them as spoils - Psalm 22:18; John 19:23-24

V. FIVE WOUNDS

- A. The wounds in His hands and feet and in His side were shown as proof to Thomas - John 20:25-28; Isa. 53:5
- B. He shed His blood - John 19:34
- C. His blood was shed for the remission of sins - Matt. 26:28
- D. We are justified by His blood - Rom. 5:9
- E. Redemption is by His blood - Eph. 1:7
- F. Communion is with the body and blood - 1Cor. 10:16

VI. SIX HOURS OF SUFFERING

- A. Was from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM - Mark 15:25; Matt. 27:46
- B. And was voluntary - Matt. 26:53, 27:50

VII. SEVEN SAYINGS

- A. Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do - Luke 23:34,
- B. Verily I say unto thee, to day shalt thou be with me in Paradise - Luke 23:43
- C. Woman, behold thy son. Behold thy mother - John 19:26
- D. Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani - Matt. 27:46; Mark 15:34
- E. I thirst - John 19:28
- F. It is finished - John 19:30
- G. Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit - Luke 23:46

Conclusion:

- A. Our minds can be trained; our thoughts can be controlled.
 - 1. Phil. 4:8; 2Cor. 10:4-5
- B. We who have been saved from our sins owe the Savior that much every first day of the week as we come together at His table.
 - 1. For us! - Isa. 53:5