

The Lord's Supper and Feet Washing

September 2009

The History of the Lord's Supper

Melchisedec, the Priest of the Most High god, gave the first Communion to our Father Abraham consisting of bread and wine (Genesis 14:18). Melchisedec is the King of Salem or the King of Righteousness.

Christ is a king after the order of Melchisedec (Hebrews 6:20). Shared characteristics by Melchisedec and Jesus

- Position was not an appointment of mother and father but by the Most High
- Position was not inherited via succession but by the gift and the arm of the Mighty King
- Priesthood is not transmissible
- Greater than Abraham and Levitical priests

Scriptural Terms used for Lord's Supper:

- 1) In Acts 20:7 – It is referred to as the *breaking of bread*.
- 2) In I Corinthians 10:16 it is referred to as the *cup of blessing and the breaking of bread*
- 3) I Corinthians 10:21 refers to it as the *table of the Lord*

The Purpose of the Lord's Supper:

1. The Lord's Supper represents the fellowship in the blood and body of Christ. I Corinthians 10:15-21
2. The Lord's Supper is a commemoration of the Sacrifices of Christ on the cross. I Corinthians 11:23
3. The Lord's Supper proclaims the death of Christ. I Corinthians 11:26
4. The Lord's Supper proclaims the fact that Jesus is coming again. I Corinthians 11:26

The Elements of the Lord's Supper

1. The Unleavened Bread
2. The Fruit of the Vine
3. Transubstantiation vs. Consubstantiation: Consubstantiation is the view that the bread and wine of Communion (the Lord's Supper) are spiritually the flesh and blood of Jesus, but yet the bread and wine are still actually only bread and wine. In this way, it is different from transubstantiation where the bread and the wine are believed to actually become the body and blood of Jesus

The Meaning of Unworthiness spoken of in I Corinthians 11:27, 28

Footwashing

The History of Footwashing

1. Practice of hospitality performed by the household servants
2. It was a great act of humility taught by Jesus (John 13:4-17)
3. Practiced by early church fathers and religious bodies:
 - a. Terullian
 - b. Augustine
 - c. The Albigeneses
 - d. The Meenonites
 - e. The Hussites
 - f. The Anabaptist

The Observance of Footwashing

When we apply the lessons of this unique and instructive ritual in our lives, it gives us a better understanding of why some people struggle to find happiness yet never fully achieve it, and why others are brimful and running over with joy. Finally, we must notice John 13:17, where Jesus concludes His comments on footwashing: "If you know these things, happy are you if you do them." Observe that His emphasis is on their appreciation, not on whether we know about them or even understand them.

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