

**Hebrews 9:12, 15-22** — The Old Covenant (Old Testament) was ratified

by the blood of \_\_\_\_\_ and of \_\_\_\_\_. The blood

of these animals is referred to in verse 20 as the blood of the \_\_\_\_\_.

Just as the Old Covenant (Testament) was ratified by animal blood, so the New Covenant was ratified by the blood of Christ. Both the blood of Christ and the new covenant were necessary to bring about our salvation. We gratefully commemorate the New Covenant (represented by the cup) and the blood of Christ which ratified it (represented by the grape juice) each time we partake of the cup.

### **“THIS IS MY BLOOD”**

*(The fruit of the vine)*

**Matthew 26:28,29**— In verse 28, Jesus said “\_\_\_\_\_ is my blood of the New Covenant.” Then in verse 29, He stated that from the moment He

spoke these words He would no longer drink of “**this** \_\_\_\_\_ of the vine” again till He drank it “new” with his disciples in His Father’s kingdom.

Did Jesus drink “fruit of the grapevine” with His disciples? \_\_\_\_ Today, must we use grape juice in the Lord’s supper as Jesus did? \_\_\_\_ Would God be pleased if we used water or fermented wine or grape Cola? \_\_\_\_

**Summary:** The following three statements were made by the inspired writers to designate the three symbols involved in the Lord’s supper:

“**This [bread] is my body which is given for you**” (Luke 22:19).

“**This [fruit of the vine] is my blood of the New Testament** (Mk. 14:24)

“**This cup is the New Testament in my blood**” (Lk. 22:20; 1 Cor.11:25).

In order to be pleasing to God, we must observe the Lord’s supper each week by breaking one loaf and drinking grape juice from one cup. Jesus left us an example and pattern with precise instructions, and now it is up to us to follow that pattern. Are you gathering with the church to eat and drink of this supper each first day of the week in memory of the body which Jesus laid down for you and His saving blood which ratified the New Covenant ? \_\_\_\_ If you are a member of His church, He requires your attendance each first day of the week to commemorate his death by breaking the bread (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor.11:26).

In our next Bible lesson, we will study how the Christians living during the time of the apostles gathered together to sing hymns in praise to God.

## **OPEN BIBLE STUDIES**

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**THE LORD’S SUPPER**  
Lesson 10



Name \_\_\_\_\_

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**Directions:** Please locate in your Bible the following references and read each verse carefully before answering each question.

As we learned in our last lesson, in apostolic times, the church of Christ gathered on the first day of the week to “break bread” in memory of Jesus (Acts 20:7). Each Sunday, the members of the church would assemble together to commemorate His crucified body and His blood which ratified the New Covenant making possible the forgiveness of our sins.

**1 Corinthians 11:23**— The apostle Paul received the instructions concerning how to observe the Lord’s supper from the \_\_\_\_\_. Are we required to observe the Lord’s supper **exactly** as the apostle delivered it? \_\_\_\_

### **THE BREAD WHICH WE BREAK**

**1 Corinthians 10:17**— In each congregation, the local body of Christians assembled for worship are many, yet they all partake of \_\_\_\_\_ bread.

The word “bread” in this verse is from the Greek word “*artos*” which refers to “a loaf, a single unit of bread.” The Greek scholar Alexander Campbell made the following observation on the meaning of “one bread” in this verse: “The Greek word *artos*, especially when joined with words of number, says Dr. Macknight, always signifies a loaf, and is so translated in our Bibles, ‘Do you not remember the five loaves?’ (Matt.16:9). There are many instances of the same sort. In the plural number it ought always to be rendered loaves; but when there is a numeral before it, it indispensably must be rendered a loaf or loaves. Thus we say one loaf, seven loaves; not one bread, seven breads” (*The*

*Christian System*, pg.305). “One bread” in 1 Corinthians 10:17 refers to **one loaf of bread**. The highly respected *Emphatic Diaglott* (a Greek-English interlinear) translates 1 Corinthians 10:17 like this: “Because there is one loaf, we the MANY are one body; for we ALL partake of the ONE loaf.” There must be but ONE LOAF, because it represents the **ONE PHYSICAL BODY** of Jesus (Mt.26:26), and is shared by **ONE SPIRITUAL BODY** (one church made up of many members). Therefore, would it be a violation of 1 Corinthians 10:17 for a church to use multiple loaves or wafers in its observance of the Lord’s supper? \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Corinthians 10:16**— Here he talks about the loaf of bread which \_\_\_\_\_ break. Does each Christian in the assembly break off a piece of the bread? \_\_\_\_\_ If the man in front of the congregation were to break the bread in pieces and then pass around the broken fragments, would “we” (the many) be breaking the bread? \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 22:19**— Jesus took bread, gave thanks and \_\_\_\_\_ it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; this \_\_\_\_\_ in remembrance of Me.”

Did Jesus command His disciples to “do this,” to mirror the actions they had just witnessed Him do? \_\_\_\_\_ Did they just see Jesus break the loaf? \_\_\_\_\_ If Jesus had broken the loaf in half or into 12 pieces, would it have been possible for the disciples to do what Jesus had just done? \_\_\_\_\_ If Jesus broke off a piece of the bread, could the disciples have emulated His actions? \_\_\_\_\_

*Vine’s Expository Dictionary of N.T. Words* says it means “to **break, to break off pieces**”. *Green’s Greek lexicon* defines the Greek word translated “break” as “to **break off**.” Therefore, Jesus broke off a piece of the bread.

Rabbi Mayer Winkler, a native Jew, says “*Para lechem* means to break the bread, but it involves the idea **to break and eat**, because according to the Jewish law, if you pronounce a benediction over bread, you must eat. Otherwise, you were not allowed to pronounce the benediction.” Just as Jesus drank of the fruit of the vine (Matthew 26:29), it is only logical that He also ate the piece of the bread which He broke.

**Mark 14:12,22** — It was during the Passover, here referred to as “the first day of \_\_\_\_\_ bread,” when Jesus took bread and instituted the Lord’s supper. Were the Jews forbidden to have leaven in their houses during the Passover and the week after the Passover? \_\_\_\_\_ (Exodus 12:15, 19; 13:7). Since Jesus used unleavened bread in instituting the Lord’s supper, should we? \_\_\_\_\_

## HE TOOK THE CUP

**Matthew 26:27** — Jesus took the \_\_\_\_\_ and gave thanks and gave \_\_\_\_\_ to them, saying “Drink from it all of you.” All reputable and respected Greek dictionaries define the word “cup” as a “drinking vessel” (i.e. H. Thayer; Arndt & Gingrich). Did the disciples pass around the cup and they all drink FROM (out of) the same cup (Mark 14:23) for which Jesus had given thanks? \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Corinthians 11:25, 26**— As \_\_\_\_\_ as you eat this bread and \_\_\_\_\_ this cup, you do proclaim the Lord’s death till he comes. Can we drink a literal cup? \_\_\_\_\_ Do we “drink this cup” by drinking the contents of a literal cup? \_\_\_\_\_ Can we “drink this cup” by drinking liquid from a bottle or bowl or canteen? \_\_\_\_\_ As you can plainly see, the only way to drink this cup is by drinking from a single cup. If God had wanted us to drink from individual cups, would he have said “drink these cups”? \_\_\_\_\_

Does Jesus want each congregation that makes up His church to follow His example of using one cup until His return? \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 22:17**— Jesus told his disciples to take the cup and \_\_\_\_\_ it among themselves. How did they obey the command to divide the cup? The answer as to how they were to divide the cup is found in Matthew 26:27. They divided the cup among themselves by all drinking from it.

The disciples did not divide the cup by pouring the grape juice from Jesus’ cup into their own. They simply all drank from the cup for which He had given thanks. Would it be a violation of the pattern Jesus left us if the church today chose to use a tray full of small cups and each person drink from his own cup? \_\_\_\_\_ Does Jesus want us all to drink from the same cup? \_\_\_\_\_

## “THIS CUP IS THE NEW COVENANT IN MY BLOOD”

A covenant is an agreement, a pact, a contract, a testament which in ancient times was ratified and made valid by the shedding of blood.

**1 Corinthians 11:25** — The literal cup containing fruit of the vine represents the New \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus.

**Mark 14:24** — The fruit of the vine contained in a literal cup represents the \_\_\_\_\_ of the New \_\_\_\_\_ which is shed for many.

Just as a cup contains grape juice, and the grape juice is contained in the cup, so the covenant is ratified by the blood of Christ and the blood ratifies the covenant.