

Worship of the Church – Lord’s Supper Mt. 26:26-29

Thesis: To examine the purpose of the Lord’s Supper by looking at the death of Jesus.

Introduction:

- A. Most of us know that purpose of the Lord’s Supper.
 - 1. We know that the bread represents the body of Christ.
 - 2. We know that the cup represents the blood of Jesus.
- B. Most of us also know when we should partake of the Lord’s Supper (“the first day of the week” – Acts 20:7).
- C. Sometimes, however, when we think of the Lord’s Supper, we do not think in detail about the sacrifice and suffering of Jesus.
 - 1. There are at least 26 different ways in which Jesus suffered before and during the crucifixion.
 - 2. Today, we will notice that suffering, paying special attention to the five different periods in the last few hours of the life of Jesus.

I. The purpose of the Lord’s Supper is to remember the suffering and death of Jesus.

- A. The bread represents the body of Jesus that was broken on the cross.
- B. The fruit of the vine represents His blood “which is shed for many for the remission of sins.”
- C. This is exactly what the Bible teaches.
 - 1. The bread represents the body of Christ.
 - a. Mt. 26:26 - And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.”
 - b. I Cor. 11:23-24 - For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; {24} and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.”
 - 2. The cup represents the blood of Jesus.
 - a. Mt. 26:27-28 - Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. {28} For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.
 - b. I Cor. 11:25-26 - In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” {26} For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.

II. Notice the ways in which Jesus suffered on the cross.

A. Jesus suffered in the events leading up to the betrayal of Jesus (26:1-56).

1. 26:3-5 – The chief priests, scribes, and elders of the people “plotted to take Jesus by trickery and kill Him” (26:4).
2. 26:36-46 – Jesus prays in the garden.
 - a. “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will” (26:39).
 - b. Lk. 22:44 - And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.
3. 26:47-56 – Jesus is betrayed by Judas.
4. 26:56b - “Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.”

B. Jesus suffered as He faced Caiaphas, the high priest (26:59-75).

1. 26:59-61 – False testimony against Jesus
2. 26:67 – Spit upon
3. 26:67 – Beaten
4. 26:67-68 – Mocked by saying, “Who is the one who struck You?”
 - a. Mk. 14:65 – Mark adds that He was blindfolded while this happened.
5. 26:69-75 – Peter denies knowing Jesus

C. Jesus suffered as He faced Pilate (27:1-26).

1. 27:1-2 – They bind Jesus and deliver Him to Pilate.
 - a. Lk. 23:6-12 – Pilate sends Jesus to Herod.
 - b. Lk. 23:11-12 - Then Herod, with his men of war, treated Him with contempt and mocked Him, arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe, and sent Him back to Pilate. { 12 } That very day Pilate and Herod became friends with each other, for previously they had been at enmity with each other.
2. 27:11-14 – Jesus is questioned by Pilate.
 - a. Jesus “answered him not one word” (27:12, 14).
 - b. Is. 53:7 - He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; he was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth.
 - c. I Pet. 2:23 - who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;
3. 27:15-24 – Pilate is going to release one of the prisoners to the people.
 - a. The people beg for Barabbas, who was a murderer (Mk. 15:7).
 - b. 27:18 – Even Pilate realized that they arrested Jesus because of envy.
 - c. 27:22-23 – They cry out that they want Jesus crucified.
4. 27:26 – Jesus is scourged, then delivered to be crucified.

D. Jesus suffered while on the way to the cross (27:27-31).

1. 27:28 – After the scourging, Jesus had a scarlet robe put on Him.
2. 27:29 – Crown of thorns and a reed in His hand.
 - a. They used these things to mock Him.

- b. They bowed their knee to Him and said, “Hail, King of the Jews!”
- 3. 27:30a – They spat on Jesus
- 4. 27:30b – They took the reed from Him and beat Him on the head (with the crown of thorns still on His head)
- 5. 27:31 – They mocked Him again, tore the robe off of Him and put His clothes back on Him, then led Him away to be crucified.

E. Jesus suffered while on the cross (27:32-50).

- 1. 27:33-34 – Sour wine
- 2. 27:35 – They crucified Him and divided His garments.
 - a. Mk. 15:25 says that this was in the third hour of the day.
 - b. Ps. 22:18 - They divide My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots.
- 3. 27:37 – “THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS”
- 4. 27:38 – Two robbers were crucified with Him.
- 5. 27:39-43 – Those who passed by blasphemed Him
 - a. Mt. 27:40 - and saying, “You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross.”
 - b. Mt. 27:41-43 - Likewise the chief priests also, mocking with the scribes and elders, said, {42} “He saved others; Himself He cannot save. If He is the King of Israel, let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe Him. {43} He trusted in God; let Him deliver Him now if He will have Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God.’”
- 6. 27:44 – Even the robbers reviled Him.
 - a. Lk. 23:39 - Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, “If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us.”
- 7. 27:46 – Jesus cries, “Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?” which means, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?”
- 8. 27:49 – when one tried to give Jesus something to drink, the others said, “Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to save Him.”

F. 27:50 – It was not until Jesus had suffered these things that He died.

- 1. Even after His death, Jesus was persecuted by the soldiers.
- 2. Jn. 19:31-37 - Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. {32} Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and of the other who was crucified with Him. {33} But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. {34} But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. {35} And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe. {36} For these things were done that the Scripture should be fulfilled, “Not one

of His bones shall be broken.” {37} And again another Scripture says, “They shall look on Him whom they pierced.”

III. The purpose of the Lord’s Supper is to remember the suffering and death of Jesus.

- A. We are to remember His death and the suffering that went along with it.
- B. **Is. 53:1-12** - Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? {2} For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him. {3} He is despised and rejected by men, a Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; he was despised, and we did not esteem Him. {4} Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. {5} But He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. {6} All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. {7} He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; he was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth. {8} He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people He was stricken. {9} And they made His grave with the wicked-- but with the rich at His death, because He had done no violence, nor was any deceit in His mouth. {10} Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; he has put Him to grief. When You make His soul an offering for sin, he shall see His seed, He shall prolong His days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand. {11} He shall see the labor of His soul, and be satisfied. By His knowledge My righteous Servant shall justify many, for He shall bear their iniquities. {12} Therefore I will divide Him a portion with the great, and He shall divide the spoil with the strong, because He poured out His soul unto death, and He was numbered with the transgressors, and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Conclusion:

- A. The death of Jesus was not the end of Jesus.
 - 1. **Mt. 28** – Jesus was raised from the dead.
- B. **Rom. 10:9** - that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.
- C. **Rom. 6:4** - Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.