*The Significance of the Lord’s Supper*

1 Cor. 11:17-34 Harlan Betz

**1A. INTRODUCTION**

 It is remarkable for its simplicity. It is notable for its centrality. It is like a magnet drawing believers together. It is like a spotlight focusing all eyes on Christ. It is a celebration and a time for rejoicing. It is a commemoration and a time for remembering.

 What is this event? The Lord’s Supper. Until you can think Biblically about this event you will not be able to realize its significance, nor understand its purpose, nor experience its depth.

**2A. INSTRUCTION**

 **1B. The Importance of the Lord’s Supper**

 1C. It is important because \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_valued it (Luke 22:15)

 2C. It is important because the early church \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ it (Acts 2:46)

 3C. It is important because it is an act of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 22:19)

 4C. It is important because it is a cause of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(1 Cor. 11:24-25)

#  5C. It is important because it is a time of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(1 John 4:19)

 **2B. The Circumstances of the Lord’s Supper**

 1C. The timing…first daily (Acts 2:46); then weekly (Acts 20:7); then randomly (1 Cor. 11:26).

 2C. The setting… usually with a meal (Acts 2:46); usually informal and intimate, usually in the evening (supper) (Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 11:23-25).

 **3B. The Significance of the Lord’s Supper**

 1. It is an ordinance … (1 Cor. 11:23)

 2. It is a thanksgiving … (1 Cor. 11:24)

 3. It is symbolical … (1 Cor. 11:24)

 4. It is a remembrance… (1 Cor. 11:24-25)

 5. It is a covenant … (1 Cor. 11:25)

 6. It is a proclamation … (1 Cor. 11:26)

 7. It is an anticipation … (1 Cor. 11:26)

 **4B. The Participation in the Lord’s Supper**

 1C. It is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ table.

 2C. It is for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 3C. It is for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ believers (1 Cor. 11:27-30).

**3A INVITATION**

 1B. The emphasis is not on abstention but rather on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 2B. The examination is not to produce condemnation but rather to promote \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 3B. The condition of participation in the Lord’s Supper is not perfection but \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

 4B. The basis for fellowship is a personal relationship with Christ not based on work but rather on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

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