



Mary Craig Ministries, Inc.

"Until He Comes: The Hope of Communion"

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For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)

Communion is a remembrance. It reminds us of our union with Christ, and our common unity among the brethren, the Body of Christ. It encourages us to love one another. It is a sacrament. We are to discern the Lord's Body. We are to honor the Blood of the Covenant. The sacrament of communion is a seal that certifies and confirms. We are not as those who have no hope.

"proclaim"-2605. katangelo {kat-ang-gel"-lo}; from 2596 and the base of 32; to proclaim, promulgate: -declare, preach, shew, speak of, teach.

-"you are heralding" (Knox); "re-telling the message" (Tay).

We show the Lord's death and proclaim it. This exhortation gives direction to declare that Christ died for the sins of His people. We are not to shrink back, but proclaim Christ as crucified. We set forth that Christ suffered and died, His body wounded, bruised, and bleeding; His Blood shed for the forgiveness/remittance of sins.

Likewise, we express the blessings and benefits which come by Christ's death. Those for whom Christ died have an interest in what happened and our faith is to awaken and grow. We are to be grateful and thankful. This ordinance is to continue just as the proclamation of the Gospel is to continue. Communion and our partaking of it assures us of the certainty of Christ's coming again. We remember what happened. We partake in the present with Christ being really and spiritually present. **We look forward expectantly in faith that Jesus will come again and we will come into the full possession of all that God has for us in Jesus, the fullness of our inheritance as we are co-heirs with Christ, the consummation of the Covenant. When Jesus comes, all will cease and God will be all in all.**

John Gill comments that Jews in the night of the Passover were to show forth the reason of their practice, and that institution to their children; when either

"the son asked the father, or if the son had not understanding (enough to ask), then the father taught him, saying, how different is this night from all other nights? for in all other nights we eat leavened and unleavened bread, but in this night only unleavened; in all other nights we eat the rest of herbs, but in this night bitter herbs; in all other nights we eat flesh roasted, broiled, and boiled, in this night only roasted; in all other nights we wash once, in this night twice; and as elsewhere it is added, in all other nights we eat sitting or lying, in this night all of us lie; and according to the capacity of the child, the father teaches him. (from Exodus 12)

“Particularly he was to inform him what these several things showed forth, or declared; as that

"the passover מגיד, "declared", or "showed forth", that the Lord passed over the houses of our fathers in Egypt; the bitter herbs "showed forth", that the Egyptians made the lives of our fathers bitter in Egypt; and the unleavened bread "declared" that they were redeemed; and all these things are called הגדה, "the declaration", or showing forth.” (John Gill Commentary)

<https://www.studylight.org/commentary/1-corinthians/11-26.html>

And there is a treatise called הגדה של פסח, "the showing forth of the passover"; in which, besides the things mentioned, and many others, it is observed, that it was commanded the Jews לטפר, "to declare" the going out of Egypt, and that everyone that diligently declares the going out of Egypt, is praiseworthy. (Ibid.)

“Until He comes” means we also proclaim the Resurrection and Christ’s ascension into Glory, that Jesus sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, King of kings and Lord of lords, Ruler over the kings of this earth.

When Jesus comes, there will no longer be the need for symbols inasmuch as the body itself will be manifested. The Greek (#302 and #2064) expresses the certainty of Jesus’ coming. Many maintain that inasmuch as the showbread, literally bread of the presence, was in the sanctuary but not in the Holy of Holies (Hebrews 9:1-8), the Lord’s Supper will be superseded in heaven by Christ’s own bodily presence. At that time, the fruit of the vine shall be drunk “anew” in the Father’s kingdom by Christ and His people together. The Lord’s Supper is a spiritual foretaste of this heavenly Banquet. (Matthew 26:29; Revelation 19:9). Likewise, inasmuch as the showbread was placed anew every Sabbath on the table before the Lord (Leviticus 24:5-8), so also the Lord’s death, according to many, was shown forth, announced and proclaimed, at the Lord’s table before the Lord in the Communion as a remembrance weekly.

“Christ our High Priest alone in the flesh as yet has entered the Heavenly Holiest (Hebrews 9:6-7; Hebrews 12:24); at his coming, believers too shall enter (Revelation 7:15; Revelation 21:22).” (Critical Commentary) <https://www.studylight.org/commentary/1-corinthians/11-26.html#egt>

Christians believe Jesus Christ is coming again. First the Kingdom comes in grace; then the Kingdom comes in power and great glory.

At that time Jesus Christ will judge the world, for the Father has left all judgment to the Son. This Supper when partaken of, also declares to us the hope of resurrection because as Jesus was raised from the dead so also are we raised from the dead.

(Col 2:15) And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

(1 Cor 15:24) Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

At His coming Jesus will consume with the breath of His mouth and will annul by His appearing/brightness the workings of Satan. (See the pattern in 2 Thessalonians 2.) As I say, Jesus will show up, shine forth, shoot down His enemies, and strengthen our faith.

We have hope. Our hope is in Jesus, not in ourselves and not in our government. This hope is not just for after we physically die. We are to “die daily,” put down our selfish ambitions, (1

Corinthians 15:31; 1 Peter 2:24, 1 Peter 4:1-11, e.g.) We are to walk in the resurrection power of Jesus Christ now. This hope is about the good news changing who we are and allowing us to make a difference in our world now, being salt and light. This hope takes believing Jesus and the Word of God with a confidence that God's power is enough, that what Jesus did is both necessary and sufficient, and that as Jesus overcame, so also we will overcome as God gives grace.

“In every generation, therefore, and in every place where there are Christians, it is to be observed, until the Son of God shall return; and the necessity of its observance shall cease only when the whole body of the redeemed shall be permitted to see their Lord, and there shall be no need of those emblems to remind them of him, for all shall see him as he is.” (Barnes' Notes)

Whenever we partake of this Communion, let us do so with hope, trusting the Living and True God will grant the grace and supply our needs according to the abundance of His riches in glory. God is faithful; He also will do it. God's Name will be glorified. God's will is being done on earth as it is in heaven. Jesus will come.



Just the Messenger,

Mary Craig

Mary Craig, D. Min.

And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever. And he said unto me, These sayings are faithful and true: and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angel to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. Revelation 22:4-6 KJV

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