

## Sermon Notes - "The Lord's Supper: Covenant and Testament in Jesus' Precious Blood"

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints. Psalm 116:15

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood." Luke 22:19-20

### I. The First Covenant with God

Exodus chapters 20-24 are the Book of the Covenant God made with the Israelites through Moses at Mt. Sinai. The Book of the Covenant was not only the 10 Commandments, but also other rules to follow to live as God's people. A covenant was a binding oath between people, or perhaps nations, often involving the killing of an animal to show that making the covenant cost blood and breaking the covenant would also cost blood.

4 And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel. 5 And he sent young men of the people of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the LORD. 6 And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he threw against the altar. 7 Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." 8 And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, 10 and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. 11 And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank. (Exodus 24)

- A. Animal blood; 1/2 on the Altar toward God and 1/2 on the people
- B. The people swore they would follow the covenant. They belonged to God.
- C. The leaders of the people ate a meal in the presence of God, seeing Him.

### II. The First Covenant Is Broken, God Must ReMake the Covenant. Jeremiah 31:31-34

- A. God will make the new covenant.
- B. The people broke the first covenant, even though God was faithful.
- C. God will write the new covenant on the people's hearts.  
"And I will be their God, and they shall be my people." Jer. 31:33

### III. "The New Covenant/Testament in My Blood"

- A. Jesus is the Lamb of God - God's Own Passover Lamb, God's Chosen Sacrifice  
John 1:29. The next day he (John the Baptizer) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
- B. διαθήκη = covenant *and* testament

The New Covenant that Jesus gives to His disciples is His doing and making as God promised.

Eating the Lord's Supper is to eat Jesus' meal in His, God's, presence.

This New Covenant is God's forgiveness for sins. The meal changes people from sinner to holy because of God's forgiveness. "Holy Communion"

The bread and wine of the New Covenant are the true presence of Christ's Body and Blood. Eating and drinking the Lord's Supper physically and spiritually connects us to Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. We are at Calvary.

The word διαθήκη also means "will and testament." Jesus' made His will and testament before He died, which cannot be changed or broken. His will and testament is that He gives the New Covenant in His Meal. That we receive Jesus' Body and Blood for forgiveness in the meal is Jesus' will and testament.

- C. The first Covenant which failed because the people sinned is covered by the forgiveness through the sacrifice of God's Son in the New Covenant. The grace, power and will of Jesus is to save and strengthen in His Holy Meal.