

# 1 CORINTHIANS

SEEING EVERY PART OF LIFE THROUGH THE GOSPEL

13 June 2021

Chapter 11:17-34

### Verse of the Day:

*Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. 1 Corinthians 11:27*

**Review:** Who, What, When, Where, Why?

### What's Going On Here?

From here to the end of chapter 14, Paul deals with good order that should prevail in public worship. Paul rebukes the Corinthians for improper conduct shown at their services. The particular abuses referred to are improper dress and unbecoming behavior of women, as well as abuses in the administration of the Lord's Supper.<sup>1</sup>

#### The Lord's Supper

<sup>17</sup> But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. <sup>18</sup> For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you. And I believe it in part, <sup>19</sup> for there must be factions among you in order that those who are genuine among you may be recognized. <sup>20</sup> When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat. <sup>21</sup> For in eating, each one goes ahead with his own meal. One goes hungry, another gets drunk. <sup>22</sup> What! Do you not have houses to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I commend you in this? No, I will not.

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, <sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

<sup>25</sup> In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as

v18: c.f. 1 Cor 1:10-12 & 1 Corinthians 10:16-17

v20: By my own research, this is the only place in the Bible with the title "Lord's Supper." Other titles are, the "Lord's Table" (1 Cor 10:21), "Communion" (1 Cor 10:16-17), and "breaking of bread" (Acts 2:42). Outside of these the title is only referenced by analogies assuming the audience is already familiar with it.

v21: "the Roman host invited his friends and those whom he wished to honor to dine in [the dining] room and share the best food. Others were forced to eat elsewhere, likely in the atrium. In this way, social distinctions were wrongly observed in the congregation."<sup>2</sup>

v23: c.f. 1 Cor 15:3 (or 15:1-11)

v23: Heterodoxy is NOT tolerated: "It is inconceivable that Paul might say, "Think what you like about these issues. Disagree with me and still come to the Lord's Supper." Hardly. The apostle himself shows that his spiritual children are to follow in and confess his teaching ..."<sup>3</sup>

v24: thanks – *eucharisteo*;

#### The Words of Institution

(1 Cor 11:23-25; Mt 26:26-29; Mk 14:22-25; Lk 22:19-20)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

<sup>1</sup> Engfehr, Lois M. (1997). *God's Word for Today: 1 Corinthians* (p. 55). St. Louis: Concordia Pub. House. Reproducible by purchaser only. © 2009 Concordia Publishing House.

<sup>2</sup> Engelbrecht, E. A. (2009). *The Lutheran Study Bible* (p. 1963). St. Louis, MO: Concordia Publishing House.

<sup>3</sup> Lockwood, G. J. (2000). *1 Corinthians* (p. 405). Saint Louis: Concordia Pub. House.

