

COMMUNION AND FELLOWSHIP

HOW WE ARE JOINED TOGETHER

*"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you...
For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now"*

~ *Philippians 1:3,5*

1. Our Communion is not...

- a. Communion is not that we eat, it is why we eat.
- b. The Table of Devils
 - i. Flee from idolatry (false gods) - 1 Cor 10:14
 - ii. Ye cannot be partaker of the Lord's table and of devils – 1 Cor 10:19-23
- c. Jewish Passover
 - i. Only circumcised ate - Exodus 12:43, 48
 - ii. Required annual holy day according to the law - Exo 13:10
 - iii. This Passover was a shadow – Col 2:16-17
- d. Jesus' Passover
 - i. He kept the Jewish Passover under the law - Gal 4:4, Luke 22:1, 7-13
 - ii. Jesus the better sacrifice for Israel - Hebrews 9:8-18
 - iii. They did not know the preaching of the cross – John 20:1-2, Mark 9:30-32
 - iv. It was not the last supper - Mark 14:25 (Luke 24:42, John 21:13-15)
 - v. It was not the Lord's Supper: they were ignorant of the one body.
- e. Catholic Mass - Eucharist
 - i. It is not the magic cracker and blood drinking - John 6:35, 51-56
 - ii. Jesus' metaphor was the spirit and the words, not cannibalism – John 6:63
 - iii. Grace is not transferred through the meat – 1 Cor 8:8
- f. Protestant Ordinances
 - i. Baptism and the Lord's Supper? No. – Col 2:14
 - ii. Baptism was required – Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38, Acts 22:16
 - iii. It is not a "Sacramental grace" / "Means of grace" – Titus 2:11; Eph 1:7
- g. "breaking bread" = eating together – Lam 4:4, Lk 24:29,35; Acts 2:46; 20:7,11;27:35
 - i. Eating together a common show of fellowship: family, reunion, memorial, party

2. Our Communion / Our Fellowship

- a. Communion is a doctrine, not a dinner. Dinner can be a display of doctrine.
- b. *Fellowship* is not what we do (verb), it is what we have with God – Eph 3:9-10
- c. Fellowship, communion, concord, partaking – 2 Cor 6:14
- d. Fellowship ~ *def.* n. Partnership, joint interest, communion, companionship
- e. When we believe the gospel we are joined together in one body – Eph 1:13; 1Co 12:13
- f. Paul calls this a fellowship – gospel Phil 1:5; Spirit Phil 2:1; Jesus Christ 1Co 1:9
- g. It is a fellowship of the mystery of Christ – Eph 3:9
- h. There is one body; we are members of one body, one fellowship – Eph 4:4-6, 1Co 10:17
- i. Communion is partaking together, not a piecemeal. We partake of Christ and his cross.
- j. We are joined together by the Spirit in the same mind and judgment – 1 Cor 1:10
- k. What we eat does not change, it is why we eat and with whom that matters.