INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: 1Corinthians 11:17-34.
- B. This lesson is not intended to be a doctrinal lesson to cover all of the aspects of the Supper. Rather, to refresh our memories we have six points to review.
- C. Many times the LS becomes very ritualistic and commonplace. We take for granted the true, full meaning behind it. I also know of people who get so tied up in the details about the Supper they miss the main point.

THREE THINGS FOR A NEW KINGDOM.

A. <u>First</u>, it is a new practice known only to the NT church (Mt. 26:29).

"But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

- 1. The LS was not observed in the OT.
- 2. Those who lived under the Law did not have the *great blessing* of looking back to remember the death of the Messiah.
- B **Second, it is a commemoration of a new deliverance** (1Cor. 11:26; Heb. 2:14-15).

(1Cor. 11:26) For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes

(Heb. 2:14-15) Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil; and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

- The feasts of the Passover and Unleavened Bread were symbolic of the deliverance of the children of Israel from the Egyptian bondage of slavery.
- 2. But the LS is a remembrance of a far greater deliverance--deliverance from the bondage of sin.
- C Third, it is taken on a new day (Rev. 1:10; Mt. 28:1; Ac. 20:7).

(Rev. 1:10) I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day,...

(Mt. 28:1) Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave.

(Ac. 20:7) And on the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul began talking to them, intending to depart the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.

- 1. The Sabbath Day (or Saturday) is unique to the OT.
- 2. Likewise, the first day of the week is unique to the NT. Sunday was the day Jesus was resurrected.

II. A THREE-FOLD SIGNIFICANCE.

A. First, the LS is a proclamation (1Cor. 11:26).

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

- 1. We are telling the world that Jesus died. By taking the LS we tell the world of the atoning death of X and His ultimate sacrifice for sin.
- This proclamation is to be done until He comes again.
- B. Second, the LS is a commemoration or memorial (2Cor. 4:7-10).

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not from ourselves; we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.

- 1. We must always keep the crucified X foremost in our hearts and minds.
- 2. Without His great love we have no hope of eternal life.
- C. <u>Third</u>, the LS is an examination (1Cor. 11:28-29; 10:21-22).

(1Cor 11:28-29) But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly.

(1Cor 10:21-22) You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? We are not stronger than He, are we?

We are to take an honest look at our life and be sure we are serving X and not demons.

III. THE ELEMENTS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER.

A. First, the bread of the Passover (Mt. 26:26-29).

And while they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. "But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

- 1. Deut. 16:1-8 required only unleavened bread to be in the house of those eating the Passover.
- 2. Since the Lord instituted the Supper at the Passover feast, the bread He used was unleavened.

B. Second, the fruit of the vine.

- 1. The cup which He gave the disciples to drink, that is, *the contents* of the *cup*, is "fruit of the vine." It is not the fruit of the lemon, or juice of an apple.
- As the bread represents (spiritual significance) His body, the scarlet juice of the grape represents (spiritual significance) His blood.
- C. If can keep the above six things in mind as well as the spiritual significance of the bread and cup, it will keep the LS from becoming ritualistic, common place, and void of meaning.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. One of the reasons that the LS is so important is because it is tied to the death of X. This is the core of the gospel.
- B. Responding to the death, burial and resurrection is an appropriate way will add one to the church. From that point on they may eat the Supper to further their appreciation of their salvation.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.