October 30, 2016 “The Lord’s Supper” John 6: 51-58; I Corinthians 11: 23-34

As you can see from the items placed on the table in front, we will be celebrating the Lord’s Supper today. It is my hope that when the study of God’s Word is completed today, you and I will have a more complete understanding of what is to be “remembered” when we celebrate the Lord’s Supper. It, this celebration, is designed to be a very solemn occasion, to be taken in reverence and yet to be taken with great joy and hope in in Christ. So let’s get right into our study today so that we may celebrate that which far more than a symbolic gesture or ritual.

1. John 6: 51-54
   1. “came out of heaven”
      1. Here Jesus is saying……
         1. I literally as the Son of God
            1. Took unto Myself a human body
            2. Took unto Myself a human nature
      2. We call this the “incarnation”
         1. God Himself took on human flesh and bone
   2. Of course the Jews had to do what they did best…..argue with Him
      1. They reacted physically or took what He said literally and not figuratively
   3. Jesus goes on to explain in greater detail
      1. Vs 53
         1. Two things
            1. Accept the incarnation of Christ
            2. Accept His blood as the atoning sacrifice for your sins
   4. Vs 54
      1. Just as you eat bread and drink fluids to satisfy your stomachs
      2. Appropriate Me into your soul
         1. That you may receive satisfaction within
2. Number of things we have learned so far
   1. Early Church made a habit of celebrating the Lord’s Supper frequently
      1. Why?
         1. Memorial of Him who bled and died for them
      2. Why is it called “Communion?”
         1. We commune with one another, we learn from God’s Word and commune with Him
      3. We also proclaim to the world
         1. We believe that
            1. Jesus lived and He died and rose again
            2. We believe there is One God, One Lord, One Messiah and Christ and His name is Jesus
      4. We are looking for His returning
         1. He is coming back on a silver cloud of glory
3. I Corinthians 11: 23-24
   1. For I received from the Lord
      1. This is not just my opinion
         1. Most scholars feel this was written before the Gospels
         2. This very well could be the first mention of this to the Church
      2. This is not some tradition or some human opinion
   2. I have received this right from Jesus Himself
      1. Vs 24 and 25
         1. Paul directly quotes Jesus
4. One the night He was betrayed
   1. Note the setting
      1. Jesus washes the disciples feet
         1. Tells them one of them is going to betray Him
   2. Why had they gathered together?
      1. To eat the Passover
      2. Celebrated God as their deliverer….their Savior
5. Passover and how it progressed
   1. Father or leader of the extended family
      1. Pronounce the Kiddush…..or blessing
      2. Four cups of wine to be consumed during the celebration
      3. First cup was called the “cup of blessing
      4. Red wine to symbolize the blood of the Lamb
         1. Patriarch would drink first….then pass it to all in attendance….they too would drink
   2. “haroseth”…..passing of bitter herbs dipped in a type of fruit sauce
   3. Lecture on the meaning Passover
      1. Bitter herbs represented the bitter years of slavery in Egypt
      2. Unleavened bread because they were in a hurry to leave
   4. Sing a hymn….called the “hallel”……usually Psalm 113 and 114
   5. Drink the second cup…..pass it around
      1. Bless the bread……break the bread…..pass it around
   6. The meal was eaten
   7. Then the third cup was drunk from and passed around
   8. Finish the “hallel”…..sing a hymn Psalm 115-118
   9. Fourth cup…was drunk from and passed around to celebrate the coming kingdom
6. This is my body
   1. He did not give them His literal body
      1. Used the bread as symbol of His body
         1. Jew understood the body was to mean the entire life
         2. Jesus here is saying to the disciples and to us
            1. Remember My entire life
            2. Incarnation
            3. Miracles
            4. Sufferings
            5. Dying
   2. All…….for you
   3. Remembrance
      1. Turn you mind to all I have done for you…..mediate on it
7. This is my blood
   1. New covenant
      1. Not with the blood of animals
      2. Ratified or placed into effect by My blood
         1. Signed, sealed, verified and authorized
   2. New promise
      1. “I will forgive all your sins for all time”
8. Proclaim
   1. Where?
      1. In your heart, in your mind
      2. Before this congregation
      3. Before the world
   2. I am a disciple of Christ…….until He comes or calls me home.