

The Last Supper

Mark 14:12-26

“Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it cost God the life of his Son: ‘Ye were bought at a price’, and what has cost God much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon his Son too dear a price to pay for our life but delivered him up for us. Costly grace is the Incarnation of God.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- I. Following Jesus means that we have obligated ourselves to be nonconformists to the ways of this world and its system of belief. Therefore, we must live according to Jesus’ standard and not the standard of the world. Many churches have bought into Satan’s deception by compromising themselves to the ways of this evil world system. They have emptied the cross of its power by following human wisdom over the Spirit’s wisdom. Deception is evil and many fall under its spell, but praise God we have an anointing to know the truth. Our challenge in the days we are living in is to keep ourselves hypervigilant toward living God’s truth as the world becomes progressively more and more godless.

1 Cor. 1:17-18

1 Jn. 2:20

hypervigilant: extremely or excessively vigilant : highly or abnormally alert to potential danger or threat

1 Timothy 4:1 *The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.*

Rom. 12:1-2 *Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

- II. Communion is meant for true believers alone. When we partake of the ordinance of communion, we in essence are participating in Christ's gospel of love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness to those who are truly saved by him. To take of his body means that we look to him daily for our spiritual sustenance as we live his holiness, and to drink of his blood means that we keep our consciences cleansed through repentance as we embrace his forgiveness. We must make sure we never lose our gratitude and appreciation for what Christ has done for us. Otherwise, Communion becomes just another meaningless religious thing to do (2 Tim. 3:5).

Mark 14:12-24

1 Cor. 5:7

Prov. 19:21

Luke 22:15-16

John 1:29

Ex. 6:6-7

Isa. 53:5

Heb. 10:10

Heb. 9:14-15

Ps. 41:10

Isa. 53:5

Lev. 17:11

Heb. 9:22

- III. We ready ourselves for the marriage supper of the Lamb each time we take communion. He has personally invited us to sup with him in heaven as a celebration of our salvation. It is not an invitation to be taken lightly. Instead, as we wait for the rapture, communion helps us to prepare our hearts for the glorious day when we sit down with him with joy, laughter, reverence, and thanksgiving for what our salvation means for us.

Mark 14:25-26

Jesus has not yet celebrated a Passover in heaven. He still waits for all His people to be gathered to Him and then there will be a great supper – the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:9). This is the fulfillment in the kingdom of God Jesus longed for.
Guzik

Rev. 19:9 *And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God."*