

# This Do In Remembrance of Me

William P Goff  
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*Scriptures from the KJV*

In Easton's Bible Dictionary (concerning sacrifices) we read the following: *"The offering up of sacrifices is to be regarded as a divine institution. It did not originate with man. God himself appointed it as the mode in which acceptable worship was to be offered to him by guilty man. The language and the idea of sacrifice pervade the whole Bible."*

(End of quote.)

Now the offering of sacrifices goes all the way back to Able when he offered a sacrifice *"of the firstlings of his flock."* (And even that offering may have been preceded by our Creator, when He clothed Adam & Eve with the skins of animals after they had sinned back in the Garden of Eden.)

One thing is for sure, the people of God were always quite involved with the practice of "offerings" or "sacrificing." Even though there were "many" and they were "often," God's people on the most part were obedient, by *"doing"* what they were instructed to *"do"*.

Paul tells us that "sacrifices" were part of the law, and were *"a shadow of good things to come."* And, as we read from Easton's, they were appointed by God Himself for His people to be "doing".

Some say that God had His people performing "sacrifices" because it was the way He chose to teach physical human beings.

But one day, approximately 2,000 years ago, the "ultimate" sacrifice was made, when our Heavenly Father sacrificed His Only Begotten Son, our Lord & savior Jesus the Christ.

After all those years and all those prophecies and all those symbolic offerings, the type and shadow became reality, as our Lord & Savior was crucified and put to death for the remission of our sins.

Now, there was going to come a change to the "Sacrificial" system. A new way of offerings & worshiping, a new way of teaching & learning was going to be initiated, because His people were not quite the same anymore. O they were still physical, but their level of learning, was now going to be advancing to a much deeper depth of understanding. (It was now time for them to learn, comprehend, and practice the "spirit" of the law.)

And soon after, on the day of Pentecost, a small group of believers who were all of one accord, were gathered together, when suddenly there came a sound from heaven as a rushing mighty wind, and all of them that were there, were filled with the Holy Spirit. It was the "dawn" the "birth" of the New Testament church.

The church that would be the "Pillar and Ground of The Truth." "The church of the Living God." The church that our Lord had spoke of back at "Caesarea Philippi" when He stated that He was going to *"Build His church"* His Ecclesia, His "Called out ones" by writing His Fathers laws upon their hearts & upon their minds.

The divine institution of sacrificing of animals was ending now, as the “blood” (His blood) of the “New Testament” was about to be shed for many, for the remission of sins.

On the night when Jesus’ ministry was concluding, As He sat down with His disciples for one last supper, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them, saying: “Take, Eat” . “This is my body which is given for you: **this do in remembrance of me**”.

In a similar manner he took the cup of wine, and said a blessing of thanks for it, and passed it to those gathered about him, saying: “This cup is the new testament in my blood,” “which is shed ... for the remission of sins.” “**This do in remembrance of me.**” “For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come”.

Since that last supper on the eve of Gethsemane and Golgotha, His disciples have been under covenant to remember Christ’s sacrifice in a new & sobering way, and to make “proclamation” concerning His death until His return.

Now all of us are well acquainted with the “breaking of bread” and the “partaking of the cup” After all, we do it every Passover.

But is that “as often as” we are instructed to do it, once a year, on the Passover? Or have we the church of God been led astray by corrupt & ungodly men, causing us to “err” and to become “disobedient” to the plain, clear and simple instructions of our Lord and Savior?

I want to address this issue in my message today, and I hope to show that this “ritual” this “communion” which involves not only the “breaking of bread” and the “partaking of the cup” but also the all important “self examination” of our walk, is something that our Lord “intended” and “instructed” His people “us” to do often.

The breaking of bread is a long lost “tradition” that was originally appointed by our Lord Himself, and frequently practiced & kept by the New Testament church from the get go.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter and the other Apostles stood up and addressed the crowd with a bold tongue. We read in the book of Acts that on that day those that gladly received the Word were baptized: and the same day were added to the church about three thousand souls.

But notice in Acts 2:42 what those three thousand souls began doing straightway. (And we are told here that they did these things “steadfastly” meaning: to be consistently diligent, or to attend diligently & continually all the exercises.

*Acts 2:42 “And they continued steadfastly in the Apostles doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayer.”*

In this verse, the Greek scholars tell us that “doctrine”, “fellowship”, “breaking of bread”, and “prayer” (the four things they continued steadfastly in doing) are totally separate acts from one another. Notice that “breaking of bread” is situated between “fellowship” & “prayers.” This “breaking of bread” is more than just filling ones bellie in a common meal.

“Breaking of Bread” in the Scriptures has much significance. Our Lord not only introduced it on the night in which He was betrayed, but also demonstrated it (and its power) very soon after His resurrection.

Luke tells us a story about two disciples who were on their way to a village called Emmaus. It was soon after Christ's crucifixion & resurrection, and as they talked together and reasoned about all that had happened, Jesus drew near to them and went with them.

But their eyes were kept from knowing Him. (There was reason for this, there was a lesson to be taught here, and it pertained to the "breaking of bread.")

As they walked, beginning with Moses and the prophets, Jesus expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself. And as they reached the village, Jesus was going to depart from them, but they insisted He stay and spend the night.

And it came to pass as He sat at meat with them, He took bread and blessed it and broke it, and gave to them. (And notice what happened when He "broke that bread") And their eyes were opened, and they now knew Him; and He vanished out of their sight.

The "breaking of bread" has much significance. Notice what the two disciples immediately did after their eyes were opened, and "particularly" the comment they make about the "breaking of bread."

Luke 24:33 *"And they rose up that same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, (They had left Jerusalem confused & puzzled, but there was no confusion now) and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, saying the Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon."* (The elevation of their faith & belief had just risen to the top floor. Why?)

Notice the comment they make in verse 35 *"And they told what things were done in the way, and how He was known to them in the "breaking of bread."*

Brethren, "breaking of bread" is an important act that we have been instructed by our Creator to do. It not only effects the "opening of our eyes" but also unites us with our Creator and with His Body, the brethren. And it's spoken of often in the Scriptures.

In Paul's 1st letter to the Corinthians he states: *"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the Body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread."*

Brethren the word "communion" is not a bad word just because other churches may abuse it. It has to do with "intimacy" the state of being intimate (having a close personal relationship) with our Heavenly Father and His beloved Son. And it's something to indulge in or partake of "often."

We have been incorrectly taught from the pulpits of the cog, that 1 Corinthians 11 verses 17 – 34 is speaking specifically of the spring Passover, but that teaching is false. In 1 Corinthians chapter 5, Paul does address the passover where he states that: *"A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump, and that we are to purge out the old leaven, and keep the feast with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."*

(Paul is addressing the Passover there.)

But in Chapter 11 he is addressing the improper behavior of the believers at Corinth when "coming together" in the church to eat the "Lord's Supper." Chapter 11 is addressing The "Agape" or "Love Feasts" that the church back then so often partook of.

Paul mentions "come together" (five) times in this short passage.) And it pertains to the "coming together" of the church to break bread and drink of the cup; the very procedure which He instituted on the night in which He was betrayed, and instructed us to do, and to do "often."

Brethren, the church tradition of “*breaking bread*” those Love Feasts, were removed from the church so long ago, that there not even remembered. Jude tells us they were first attacked from within, by certain ungodly men who crept into the church unawares, who were unholy men, having not the Spirit of God. Then later, at the Council of Laodicea they were formally removed and prohibited in the church.

(Lets take a look at that.) (Jude 1:4 please)

Jude starts out by “exhorting” us here, to get back to the faith once delivered to the saints. And he uses powerfull words to emphasise the importance of this by telling us to “earnestly contend” (meaning to struggle & fight for that faith once delivered.)

In fact I remember from studying this verse in the past that this particular Greek word Jude uses here is a word that elsewhere is only used when referring to the “fight” of the Roman & Greek Athletes as they struggle with all their might for the victory.

But the majority of the pulpits in the cog “preach” & “teach” that we have already gotten back to the faith once delivered, and that all we need to do now is “hold on” to it. But that is not correct, we have not yet gotten back to that “faith once delivered” and one cannot hold on to something that he has not yet grasped on to.

After Jude exhorts us to get back to the original failh, he says the following: Jude 1:4 *“There are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turnimng the grace of God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

(Dropping down to V 12:)

*These men are spots in your feasts of charity (or love feasts) feeding themselves without fear.”*

Remember a big part of partaking of the bread & cup, is to examine one self first, and not take in in an unworthy manner, but fearing damnation to self, if not discerning the Lord’s Body. But these ungodly men had no fear, had no respect for this divine ordained act.

Its a serious thing, as Paul states, neglecting to partake of this “bread & cup” properly was the cause for many in the church back then to be “weak” “sick” and even “dead.”

Well how about us in God’s church today, totally neglecting participation in this important tradition that was implemented by our Lord & Savior Hismesl?

Does this not touch on and address why the church is lacking in maracoulous and instantanious healings? Why we are so week in “spiritual” strength?

Verse 29 of 1 Corinthians 11 says: *“For he that eateth and drinketh unworthly, eateth and drinketh damntion to himself, not discerning the Lords body. For this cause many are weak & sickly among you, and many sleep.”*

(The Greek word here for “weak” roots back to “spiritual” weakness, a lack in “spiritual” power.) (The Greek for “sickly” pertains to physical infirity & sickness.) (and “sleep” here in this verse means “death.”)

Now if these conditions existed amongst “some” in the Corinthian church due to “some” “Not discerning the lord’s body” when partaking of the bread & cup. What condition do you think the church would be in today, if the church as a whole totally neglected to partake of the bread & the cup?

If you want to know the answer to that, just open your eyes, and you will see a disunified, splintered group of “Saturday” keepers. Brethren who seem to have forgotten the importance of “obedience” over “sacrifice.”

I’ve been in God’s church for many years, as passover approaches I see people clean up their acts, improve their behavior, sometimes 10 fold, and its a good thing.

But there’s a Huge problem with it, its short lived. Soon after Passover each year many drift right back to their previous improper behavior. That’s why our lord & Savior instructs us to break this bread and drink this cup “often.” (after examining ourselves of course.)

This important biblical church “tradition” (And remember, we are to keep “biblical traditions” not “man made traditions”) This important biblical tradition was first attacked from within the church by ungodly men that had crept it unawares, and then totally removed by a coucil of clerics to where its not even remembered.

The **Council of Laodicea** was a regional synod (an Ecclesiastical council) of approximately thirty clerics from Asis Minor that assembled about 363–364 AD in Laodicea. The major concerns of the Council involved regulating the conduct of church members.

The Council expressed its decrees in the form of written rules or **canons**. Among the sixty canons decreed, several aimed at: Maintaining order among Bishops, Clerics and Laypeople. Other “canons” were made outlawing the keeping of the saturday Sabbath, and encouraging rest on "Lord’s Day" Sunday. And another Canon forbade the churches from celebrating the Agape or love feast.

Lets read two of these Cannons word for word as they are. (You can find all 60 Canons listed in order on the Interned.)

Now I think many of us are familiar with Cannon # 29, we’ll read it first:

### **CANON XXIX. (29)**

CHRISTIANS must not judaize by resting on the Sabbath, but must work on that day, rather honouring the Lord's Day; and, if they can, resting then as Christians. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be anathema (an ath a ma) from Christ. (Meaning: excommunicated, banned & cursed.) Most of us are familiar with that #29 Cannon with that ruling.

But how many are aware of Cannon # 28, the Cannon that caused the *Agape Feast* to end. The cannon that put an end to the very church tradition that not only opened the eyes of the disciples to better know Christ, but also increases the flow of God's Spirit amongst them.

### **CANON # 28. (Word for Word)**

"It is not permitted to hold love feasts, as they are called, in the Lord's Houses, or Churches, nor to eat and to spread couches in the house of God."

Couches were mentioned here along with the Love Feasts, Why? Because these “love feasts” had a relaxed atmosphere (just like it was at that “last supper” where John was lying there with his head resting of Christ bossom.)

(An atmosphere totally opposite to how WWC conducted there service, where no one was allowed to talk or even shake hands with one another, or smile.)

The new testament church back then, was “vibrant” at these ‘love feasts” sharing stories with one another about how there spiritual gifts were flowing with good works that they had been doing which “Glorified” God.

Brethren, the banning of those “Agape Love Feasts” was a sad day for the church of God. The Love Feast was intended to strengthen the church.

In 1st Corinthians 11, Paul started out his scolding and critising of the Corinthian church conerning there abusing these love feasts by stating that there “coming together” was not for the better, but for the worse. (1 Corinthian 11:17)

Thay word “better” here has to do with “strength” & “power” spiritual strength & power that is. Coming together and partaking of the Lord’s body has to do with “life” Spiritual life, eternal “life.”

The Lord Himself says in the book of John: **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”**

**For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your father did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live forever.”**

Brethren, the way we partake of eating the Lord flesh & drinking His blood, is by partake of the “bread” and the “cup.” “This Do” our Lord commands us.

(The Apostle Peter also mentions these “Love Feasts” and how ungodly men came in and corrupted them in 2 Peter 2:13.)

### **How often should we partake of the Lords Supper?**

The commentaries have little controversy over how often we should get together and participate in this act, Why? Because the meaning of the Greek word used in the Scripture for “often” is quite clear. The Greek words used in 1 Cor 11:25 & 26 translated “as often as” in the KJ, has the simple meaning of: “often”

When I say, “I will come as often as I can”, it means, “I will come whenever I can.

“The Greek word used here, sets no specific time of occurrence, but its meaning does mean frequently or often, and not yearly.

This can easily be seen with its use in Rev 11:6 where the same exact word is used.

(Lets go there please Rv 11:6) Speaking of God’s two witnesses, we read this:

*Rv:11:6: These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, **as often as** they will.*

It’s up to their discretion brethren, surely there not going to call these plagues down in one-year intervals.

While studying this Greek word, I found this:

The Greek word **HOSAKIS** translated "as often as" was a very common word, and used by many writers, including The Greek author Homer, the writings of Lysias (5<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> century BC) Plato (4<sup>th</sup> century BC) and Josephus (1<sup>st</sup> century AD) as well as other various inscriptions, **with the uncontested meaning to be: "As often As" denoting an event of variable yet frequent occurrences.**

Brethren, Jude's exhortation for us to get back to the faith once delivered to the saints, is vital! Prophets and false teachers not only entered into the church in times past, but still remain amongst us today, deceiving and being deceived. These imposters have done so much damage, and have gotten the church far off the track.

We are to be "Growing" in Faith & Knowledge. Look at many (if not all) of the large cog groups, as a whole, they seem to have the same exact beliefs they had 10 – 20 or more years ago... Where's the growth?

We need to get back to the faith once delivered to the saints. We need to get back to the Scriptural tradition of keeping those "Agape Love Feasts" and partaking of the Bread & the Cup more often that just once a year at Passover time. But instead, As often As we can.

Our Lord instituted this, and He said: This Do In Remembrance of Me. For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you Do show the Lord's death till He comes.