

1 Cor 11:23

*For I
received
from the
Lord that
which I also
delivered to
you*



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

The proclamation is not posted on the wall or
loudly recited by one individual but is
reverently proclaimed by each member of
Christ's body as they partake of the bread and
the fruit of the vine.

The disciples of Jesus Christ come together on the first day of the week to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. Which first day of the week?

Denominations of men often take it on one Sunday a month or one Sunday a quarter or even twice a year at Easter and Christmas

*Acts 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.*

Every week has a first day and we often liken
this observance to God's command on the
Sabbath - Ex 20:8 "Remember the sabbath
day, to keep it holy.

Which Sabbath did they keep
holy?

Every one of them! But we also
need to recognize that Paul told
the Corinthian brethren that they
were coming together for the
wrong reason.

1 Cor 11:20 *Therefore when you
meet together, it is not to eat the
Lord's Supper,*

What was the right reason? To
eat the Lord's Supper!

They had come together to eat a common meal, and
they were not sharing.

*1 Cor 11:21 for in your eating each one takes his
own supper first; and one is hungry and another is
drunk.*

Paul tells them he is ashamed of them for making this
celebration into a common meal.

*1 Cor 11:22 What! Do you not have houses in which
to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of
God,*

Paul then tells them the way this memorial is to be observed.

1 Cor 11:23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; 24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Paul – speaking by direction of the Holy Spirit – says this is what is to be done.

that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread

Paul clearly tells them what kind of bread as he tells when Jesus instituted the supper.

It was Passover bread –
unleavened Ex 12:15 No
yeast requiring time for
the dough to rise.

After 1850, Passover
bread was made with as
little water as possible
so that no yeast might
grow. They learned then
that yeast would grow if
water was present.



1 Cor 5:6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough? 7 Clean out the old leaven , that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened.

Some have mistakenly thought
that since the Passover was a meal
that our communion is also to be a
meal.

Matt 26:26 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." 27 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; 28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins. 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."

The covenant that Jesus makes is not a part of the Passover but is at the end of the Passover and is a part of a marriage proposal, the acceptance by the bride of the price agreed upon by her father.

The cup was offered in a betrothal ceremony and the proposal was accepted by drinking the wine.

Some have said, we must use fermented juice – wine – at the table since they had no way to preserve juice until the spring of the year.

However at Mt 26:29 Jesus tells them, "*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.*"

fruit of the vine is correctly translated from the Greek and is literally the juice which comes from the grape and not the fermented juice *oinos*.

We know this wine was from the grape since that is the source of wine for the Jews in Canaan.

Thus, fermented or unfermented juice is not the question, but that the fruit of the vine be used.

This



Or this?

Some have said that there should be but one cup, since cup is always in the singular.

1Cor 11:25 In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

When Jesus spoke of the cup, he
used the word cup to mean the
contents of the cup – for that is
what we drink!

We do not drink (consume) the
cup but the contents.

*"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."*

At the Passover each attendee had their own cup
and thus would not have used only one cup.

Brethren fail to realize if the Lord used only one
cup, the 5000 men in Acts 4.4 would have needed a
20 gallon container!

The symbol is not the container, but the contents –
the fruit of the vine.

Jesus tells them first to share the fruit of the vine in
Lk 22 and after each has received a portion, he then
offers thanks, breaks the bread and offers thanks
and drinks from the cup.

Luke 22:17 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; 18 for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes. " 19 And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 20 And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.

While it is not wrong to use one cup, it is wrong to bind that on others – and it is certainly wrong to place the emphasis on the cup rather than the contents.

What about the prayers that were offered? At a wedding rehearsal, I was asked by an elderly lady in Mississippi who was concerned about the passing out of both bread and fruit of the vine with only one prayer. She questioned whether there should be one prayer for the bread, followed by taking the bread and then one for the wine, followed by taking the wine.

She said that among black churches in Mississippi, they had begun to use just one prayer and she thought it should be two.

We turned in my Bible and read 1Cor 11:24 *and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 25 In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood;*

I asked her what does it mean if Jesus did it in the same way. She immediately answered, “Why the same way as the bread.”

and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said

Very importantly, the communion is only for those who have acknowledged the Lord in their lives by doing his will in the past week

1Co 11:27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. 28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly. 30 For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep.

The manner of our taking of these emblems is quite important as the Holy Spirit guides Paul to give these special instructions on the Lord's Supper.

23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you

I trust that those of you who are faithful Christians will think on these things and those of you who are not will not eat and drink judgment to yourselves.

If you're not a Christian why not
become one now? You must be baptized
to be added to His church – Acts 2.47

Mark 16:16 *"He who has believed and
has been baptized shall be saved; but he
who has disbelieved shall be
condemned."*