

March 2, 2007,

The Lords' Table

1 Corinthians 11:17-32

It is possible to participate in an unworthy manner.

11:17, "...for your meetings do more harm than good."

11:20, "When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat"

11:27, "...whoever eats the bread and drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord."

11:29, "...anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body [of the Lord] eats and drinks judgment on himself."

11:30, "That is why many of you are weak and sick, and a number of you have fallen asleep."

What is necessary for the service to be profitable?

Personal examination

11:28: A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.

Profitable focus

Christ's presence with his church symbolized in part by the bread, 11:24

Revelation 1:13 shows Christ present in his church

To evaluate, to examine

To discipline when necessary

To encourage

To enable

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life."

Christ's propitiation offering for his church, symbolized by the cup, 11:25

An offering that reconciles two parties and brings them together as one.

Christ's promised return for his church, symbolized by the service itself, 11:26

See also Matthew 26:29