

The Christian Concept  
of Love

I. Revelation 2:4...

II. Isaiah 53:1-12 cf. II Corinthians 5:21...

III. I Cor 11:17-34

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## OUTLINE

### I. Our First Love to Christ, Rev 2:4

### II. The Love of God for us, cf. 1 Jn 4:19

- Isaiah 53 cf. II Corinthians 5:21 -

#### A. Christ as sinless/innocent

- a. "He had done no violence..."v9
- b. "Nor was any deceit in His mouth..."v9

#### B. Christ offered Himself freely

- a. "He poured out His soul..."v12
- b. "Surely He has born..."v4

#### C. God gives His Son

- a. "The Lord has laid on Him..."v6
- b. "It pleased the Lord to bruise Him..."v10
- c. "He hath put Him to grief..."v10
- d. "When You shall make His soul..."v10

#### D. Christ died for us

- a. "He was wounded for our transgressions..."v5
- b. "He shall bare their iniquities..."v12

### III. The Lord's Supper and our love one for another, cf, I Corinthians 11:17-34

## FIRST LOVE - Revelation 2:1-5

### I. Ephesus

- A. Labor, patience, and motive, cf. vv2,3 cf. the book of Ephesians
- B. What they lacked, (την αγαπην την πρωτην)  
(the love ,the FIRST!)
- C. The gravity of their sin

### II. What is first love

- B. Simon Peter, Lk 5:1ff
- C. The Gadarene demoniac, Lk 8:26ff  
note: Lk 14:26
- C. Mary, Lk 10:38ff
- D. Lepers, Lk 17:11ff
- E. Bartimaeus, Lk 18:35ff
- F. Zacchaeus, Lk 19:1ff

### I. Our Duty, Rev 2:5

- C. Remember - mainly the cross, cf. I Cor 2:2; 1 Pe 1:12
- D. Repent - cf. Ps 51, mainly ("against thee")
- E. Do - vs. pietism, cf. Col 3:5; Rom 8:13

## Christ knew no sin

- I. Peter puts it, "committed no sin," 1 Pe 2:22 cf 1:19
- II. John puts it, "in Him was no sin," 1 Jn 3:5
- III. Hebrews 4:14f, "apart from sin"
- IV. Such was his constitution, Heb 10:5, cf. Lk 1:35

### V. Such was His life

- 1. Example, 5<sup>th</sup> commandment, cf Lk 2:51, cf Jn 19:26f
- 2. Witness of God, Mt 3:17, "in Whom I am pleased"
- 3. Christ Himself, Jn 8:29,46, "I do always those....,"  
"which of you convicts me of sin."

### VI. External witness'

- 1. Trial, no witness found, Mt 26:59,60
- 2. Pilate, "just person," Mt 27:24
- 3. Pilate's wife, "just man," Mt 27:19
- 4. Judas, "innocent blood," Mt 27:4
- 5. Thief, "this man has done nothing amiss," Lk 23:41
- 6. Centurion, "a righteous man," Lk 23:47

### VII. Witness of God subsequent to death

- a. Receiving Christ, Lk 23:46
- b. Earthquake/veil, Mt 27:51ff
- c. Pierced, Jn 19:34-37
- d. Not a bone broken, Jn 19:36f
- e. Tomb, Mt 27:57ff
- f. Buried in garden, Jn 19:41
- g. Resurrection, Mt 27:52; 28:1,2



## Christ gave Himself freely

### I. Nature of Christ, Jn 10:17,18

#### ■ Immortal, physical

Birth, Lk 1:35; Life, infirmity but no illness; death, no corruption, Acts 13:33-35

■ Spiritual: Death is the wages of sin. Justice demands that Christ live. Garden (of Eden) demands glory from righteousness.

*THUS CHRIST MUST CHOOSE TO DIE. HE MUST CHOOSE TO LAY DOWN HIS LIFE FOR THE SHEEP*

(Jn 10:11,15,17)

**Therefore, His silence before Caiphas, Herod, and Pilate**

### II. The Transfiguration - Mt 17:1-9

A. Peter/James/John

B. Moses and Elijah, Mt 11:13; 22:40; Acts 28:23

C. the "decease," greek, ἐξοδος (exodos)

D. The New Covenant, Mt 17:5 cf. Ex 19:16-20:1ff

E. The Essence of the Transfiguration

- Background - Ezek 1:26-28; Is 6:1ff cf. Jn 12:39ff

- Mid-ground - Jn 17:5

- Post-ground - Acts 26:12f; Revelation 1:16

"as the sun," v2, cf. Mk 9:3; Lk 9:31

- the meaning, FREE WILL OFFERING, cf. Lk 24:25f -

### III. The Garden of Gethsemane

3. The offering and its origin - "began/amazed," Mk 14:33

4. The offering and its essence - the cup, cf. Is 51:17

5. The offering and its severity - "blood," "angel," Lk 23:43f

The offering and its triumph - "Rise," Mt 26:46

## God made Him to be sin

- I. God's cup/garden - He began, "great fear" Mk 14:33 - never was heaven so solicited
- II. God's evaluation of Christ, Mt 26:15 cf. Zech 11:12ff, yet Ex 30:15f
- III. Authority of darkness, Lk 22:53
- IV. Trial by Israel, Jn 11:49-52
- V. Trial by the Nations, Jn 19:6 cf 19:10:11
- VI. Choice of Barabbas, Jn 18:39f
- VII. Outside the Holy City, Mk 15:20, cf Heb 13:13
- VIII. Between two thieves, Mk 15:27f
- IX. Cross/Accursed, Gal 3:13, cf. Deut 21:21-23
- X. Hours of Darkness, Mk 15:33f
- XI. Death - Mt 27:50; Mk 15:37; Lk 23:46; Jn 19:30
- XII. Burial - "Life" and the book of John

### **YET:**

- God was establishing the innocence of Christ in the midst of His office as Priest

#### ■ God's witness in the midst -

- Trial, guilt yet innocent
- Cross, criminal/king | between criminals, yet conversion
- Garden, cup/angel
- Alabaster, Mt 26:7ff
- Sure witness of error - Mocking, Mt 26:68, 27:28f

## Christ gave Himself *for us*

I. Prominent theme, Gal 1:4;2:20; Eph 5:25; 1 Tim 2:6; Tit 2:14

### II. The Unsearchable nature of God's Love

A. God's willingness to commend, συνιστάω, His love, Rom 5:6ff, cf Gal 2:18; 2 Pet 3:5

B. God's willingness to demonstrate His righteousness, Rom 3:25; 1:13; Eph 1:9, προτιθεμαι

C. It is the "fullness of God!" - Eph 3:17-19

D. It is a "proverb" forever established, 1 Tim 1:15 cf. Jn 3:17 "NOT!"

E. This gospel is forever "to the Glory of God," Rom 15:7

Application - *This* is our security, cf Gal 2:20

## Communion - 1 Corinthians 11:17 - 34

### I. Introduction/Views of Communion - Catholic/Luther/Zwingli

### II. Today's practice of communion

1. Three types - why?
2. very individual
3. General outworking - "examine!" (v28)

### III. The Lord's supper is...

- A. Church ordinance (11:17,18,20,33,34)
- B. Supper (11:20,21,25)
- C. Fellowship (1 Cor 10:16,17)
- D. Passover/then Lord's supper - shared meals/shared redemption from bondage (v23ff)

### IV. The Corinthian Rebuke, "I praise you not!" (v17)

- A. "Come together for the worse," (v17)
- B. "Divisions," (v18,19)
- C. Taking, not giving; hungry (those who have too little)/drunken (too much, v21)
- D. "Despise the church," shame those who have not (v22)
- E. *They were not eating the Lord's Supper!* (20)

### V. The essence of their sin - unworthiness/guilt in partaking (v29), ["unworthiness is an adverb"]

### VI. Result

- one can eat and drink judgment to themselves
- some weak, some sleep (v30)



## VII. Remedy (and proof of subject)

A. Remember the Foundation (vv23-26)

- 1 Cor 10:16,17 cf. Luke 22:17-19 (divide!); Mt 26:26f

B. *Discern the Lord's Body!*

C. Examine/judge yourselves (v28,31) in relation to the brethren and unity/love, and thus, "outwV" (greek), partake (v28)

D. "Do you not have houses to eat and drink in!?"

E. Wait for one another (v33)!?

F. Eat at home (v34)!?

## VIII. Consider then...

1. In the Gospels == > one cup/loaf for all

2. One body, cf Jn 17:11,20-22 comp Acts 2:46;4:32

3. *Therefore the Lord's Supper is not an individual ordinance!!*

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*"It is not possible to eat the Lord's Supper where unity does not exist"*  
(JFB)