

Jesus is Our Memorial Feast!

October 6, 2013

Sermon Outline

Notes:

I. Introduction

A. Children’s Sermon: Superstition/Faith in God’s Promises (Supernatural Power)

B. We Gather for The Lord’s Service

1. To receive the Lord’s service
2. In response... To serve the Lord

C. The Three Gifts of God (To Draw Near)

“...these three types of sacrifices are always offered in the same order: Purification Offering (cleansing), Ascension Offering (consecration), and Peace Offering (communion meal). Worshipers are purified, ascend into God’s presence, whereupon they eat and drink with the Lord.”¹

Key Idea

Like Israel, we are commanded to draw near to God that we might feast on the sacrificial meal He has provided enjoying union and communion with Him.

II. Peace with God

A. The Grain Offering

Leviticus 2:9 (NASB – 2:2, 16; 5:12; 6:15)

‘The priest then shall take up from the grain offering its **memorial portion**, and shall offer it up in smoke on the altar as an offering by fire of a *soothing [pleasing] aroma to the Lord*.

1. When God Remembers...

Genesis 8:1

But God **remembered** Noah...

Exodus 2:24

...God **remembered** his covenant with **Abraham**...

¹ **Meyers, Jeffrey J.** (2011-06-30). *The Lord's Service: The Grace of Covenant Renewal Worship* (p. 81). Canon Press. Kindle Edition.

2. Food for Priests...

Leviticus 2:10 (NASB)

‘The remainder of the grain offering *belongs to Aaron and his sons*: a thing most holy of the offerings to the Lord by fire.

1 Corinthians 10:18

Consider the people of Israel: are not **those who eat the sacrifices** *participants in the altar*?

B. The Peace Offering

Peace/Fellowship Offering

Emphasis – Fellowship over a meal with God as the honored party. This offering pictures the culmination of the whole offering system. Through the substitutes (the offerings) and the priests the worshiper can draw near to God to receive His favor (i.e. peace/fellowship with God). **NT Reality** – Jesus is the true peace offering that allows his people to truly draw near to God!

1. A Meal (Sacrifice; Bread/Food)

Leviticus 3:11, 16 (NASB)

¹¹ ‘Then the priest shall *offer it up in smoke on the altar as food*, an offering by fire **to the Lord**. ...

¹⁶ ‘The priest shall *offer them up in smoke on the altar as food*, an offering by fire for a soothing aroma; **all fat is the Lord’s**.

2. God is the Honored Party

3. Receiving God’s Favor (Not His Curse)

4. Community Feast (Leviticus 7:15–16)

1 Kings 3:15b

...Then [Solomon] came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and **peace offerings**, and *made a feast* for all his servants.

C. The Passover (A Memorial Peace Offering)

Exodus 12:14 (Passover)

“This day shall be for you a *memorial* day, and you shall keep it as a feast **to the LORD**; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.”

III. Jesus is the Real Memorial Sacrifice

“Biblical sacrifice is not a technique invented by man in order to secure something from God or to draw down his favor. Rather, God has graciously provided man with a way of entering into His presence in His Son by His Spirit, and that way is the way of sacrifice.”²

A. Asking God to Remember (Dramatic Prayer)

1 Corinthians 11:23–32

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when 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 also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the **new covenant** in my blood. ***Do this,*** as often as you drink it, ***in remembrance of me.***”²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, *you proclaim the Lord’s death* until he comes. . . .

“The Lord’s Supper is the New Covenant memorial rite. It is the fulfillment of all these older ways that the Lord instituted as the means whereby His people would call upon His Name and dramatically ask Him to remember His covenant. All the memorials of the Old Order are now fulfilled and completed (compact) into one simple covenantal memorial meal. Jesus says, ‘Do this as my memorial.’”³

1. The memorial offering is a prayer of faith
2. The memorial offering is a feast for the whole community

² Ibid. (p. 76).

³ Ibid. (p. 221).

3. God has given this memorial offering as a way to draw near to Him

1 Corinthians 10:16–18

¹⁶ The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a *participation in the blood of Christ*? The bread that we break, is it not a *participation in the body of Christ*? ¹⁷ Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. ¹⁸ Consider the people of Israel: are not those who eat the sacrifices *participants in the altar*?

“This ... quotation is from [John] Calvin’s Petit Traicte (“Little Tract,” 1541), ‘We must confess with one mouth, that on receiving the sacrament in faith, according to the ordinance of the Lord, we are truly made partakers in the proper substance of the body and blood of Jesus Christ. How that is done some may deduce better, and explain more clearly than the others. . . we must hold that it is made effectual by the secret and miraculous power of God, and that the Spirit of God is the bond of this participation, for which reason it is called Spiritual.’”⁴

B. The Effect of this Union/Communion

2 Corinthians 2:14–16 15

¹⁴ But thanks be to God, who in Christ always leads us in *triumphal procession*, and through us spreads the fragrance of the knowledge of him everywhere. ¹⁵ For *we are the aroma of Christ to God* among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing...

Key Idea

We with trusting obedience draw near to God through the memorial feast He has provided in order to receive His life-giving presence, uniting us to the eternal fellowship of the triune God!

⁴ Ibid. (p. 225).