

Sermon Series: Holy Communion

Sermon Text: Luke 22:20 This Cup That Is Poured Out

At the Lord's Supper you can drink the cup of God's grace because Jesus drank the cup of God's wrath.

1) "This cup" is a cup of grace.

- a) "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."
 - i) cf. Mark 14:24 "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many."
 - ii) cf. Matthew 26:28 "this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins"
 - iii) "The blood of the covenant" alludes to Exodus 24:8 "And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, 'Behold, the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.'"
 - (1) The allusion to Exodus 24 and the confirmation of the covenant that God made with Israel at Sinai shows the organic continuity between the Mosaic Covenant and the Covenant in Christ. The Mosaic Covenant is one of the "covenants of promise" (Eph. 2:12). The Covenant in Christ is the Promise.
 - (2) The insertion of the word "new" before covenant alludes to Jeremiah 31:31, "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel . . .," which shows the administrative discontinuity between the Mosaic Covenant and the administration of the Covenant under Christ. Jeremiah goes on to say, "not like the covenant that I made with their fathers . . . my covenant that they broke . . . I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. . . . I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more" (Jer. 31:32-34).
- b) The context of Passover connects Christ's death and the cup of the Lord's Supper with the blood of the lamb that was smeared on the door posts and lintel for deliverance from the Destroyer.
- c) The allusions to Exodus 24 and Jeremiah 31 connects Christ's death with the sacrifice associated with covenant ratification ceremonies.
- d) The language of "poured out" connects Christ's death with the blood poured out at the base of the altar for all the sacrifices of the Levitical blood sacrifices, which was for atonement.
- e) **Application:**
 - i) Christ's sacrificial blood made atonement for sin.
 - ii) Christ's sacrificial blood delivers from the wrath to come.
 - iii) Christ's sacrificial blood establishes God's covenant of grace.
 - iv) The blood of Christ and the cup of the Lord's Supper are intertwined in the words of institution to indicate that the benefits of Christ's sacrifice are received by faith through the sacrament.

2) "This cup" (v. 42) was a cup of wrath.

- a) Luke 22:42 "Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done."
 - i) Matt. 20:22 "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?"

- ii) John 18:11 “Put your sword into its sheath; shall I not drink the cup that the Father has given me?”
 - iii) Isaiah 51:17, 22 “you who have drunk from the hand of the LORD the cup of his wrath, who have drunk to the dregs the bowl, the cup of staggering . . . the cup of staggering; the bowl of my wrath”
 - iv) Jeremiah 25:15-16 “Take from my hand this cup of the wine of wrath, and make all the nations to whom I send you drink it. They shall drink and stagger and be crazed because of the sword that I am sending among them.”
 - v) Jeremiah 49:12 of Edom, “If those who did not deserve to drink the cup must drink it, will you go unpunished? You shall not go unpunished, but you must drink.”
 - vi) Jesus drank the cup of wrath and punishment so that we could drink the cup of grace.
- b) **Application:**
- i) Jesus is our example of love, but He does not save us by saying, “Follow my example.” Following His example is only possible when we are saved.
 - ii) Jesus’ love for others and obedience to the Father stirs our affections, but He does not save us by inspiring us to great acts of love and obedience. True love and obedience are the fruit of salvation, not the root.
 - iii) Jesus saves us by taking our punishment upon Himself. This is summarized as Penal Substitutionary Atonement or vicarious atonement.

3) “For you”

- a) For you who believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, and the Savior of sinners.
- b) For you who are weary of doing good and heavy laden with trouble to be nourished and strengthened by the life-giving blood of Christ.
- c) For you who are dirty and defiled with sin to be washed in the cleansing blood of Christ.
- d) For you who are encumbered by besetting sin to be delivered by the redeeming blood of Christ.
- e) For you who are lukewarm in affection for God or doubting God’s love for you to be sealed by the covenantal blood of Christ.
- f) **Application:** You are needy. God has provided for your needs in Christ Jesus. He delivers all the benefits of Christ’s saving work by the Spirit through His ordained means of grace—the Word, the Sacraments, prayer, and the communion of the saints.
 - i) Frequency of Observance: as often as I can hear the Word, receive the Lord’s Supper, pray, and have gospel-fellowship with the Church
 - ii) Frequency of Administration: as often as the Church gathers under the preaching of the Word

At the Lord’s Supper you can drink the cup of God’s grace because Jesus drank the cup of God’s wrath.

Doxology: I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I have set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let Your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in Your presence is fulness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. (Psalm 16:7-11)