

THE DISCIPLESHIP SERIES

By Brother Johnny

THE LORD'S SUPPER



THE CELEBRATION OF VICTORY



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INTRODUCTION

Sometimes, things that we do become common, and we lose sight of their importance. Jesus knows where everyone stands before God, but there was a need for Him to institute a way of fellowship that we might remember God's LOVE for humanity. More importantly, it is for us to remember the cost of HIS AGAPE LOVE.

The second most important point is how believers have fellowship, i.e., communion with one another, because we all have fellowship with Him.

Let's review how Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper in several passages.

Mark 14:22-26 (NKJV/JDRV) ²² And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to them and said, ***"Take, eat; this is My body."*** (*Matthew stops here as well*) ²³ Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks, He gave *it* to them, and they all drank from it. (*Matthew adds, drink you all of it*) ²⁴ And He said to them, ***"This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many. (Matthew adds for the remission of sins)*** ²⁵ ***Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."*** (*Matthew says, in my Father's kingdom*) ²⁶ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the **Mount of Olives**. *Emphasis mine*

Note: If there is no pressing of the olives, there is no oil supply. It is a teaching process for us before the Cross.

I love that Luke captures the fact that Jesus' body is given for us.

Luke 22:19 (ESV) ¹⁹ And He took bread, and when He had 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."*** *Emphasis mine*

The gospels portraying Jesus: As the King of kings in *Matthew*, as the perfect Servant of God in *Mark*, and the perfect Son of Man in *Luke*. John gives us the only begotten Son of God, and Jesus of Nazareth as the perfect Lamb of God that is supplying the BODY. John also reveals that Jesus of Nazareth is the VINE supplying the fruit or the juice for The Lord's Supper.

John 6:53-58 (NKJV) ⁵³ Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁵⁵ For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. ⁵⁶ He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread which came down from heaven--not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever."

If you wanted the Jews to kill you, these sayings were the way to do it.

Apostle Paul also places great emphasis on why we celebrate the Communion.

Paul gave divine instructions to the carnal Christians in Corinth about the Lord's Supper and literally summarized what the gospel writers had stated. Paul declares that this observance should be done until Jesus comes again.

1 Corinthians 11:26 (NKJV) ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, *you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. Emphasis mine*

The Lord's death is the Lord's victory; what we proclaim each time we observe the Lord's Supper is His victory.

Paul states this fact in **Philippians**.

Philippians 2:8-11 (NKJV) ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of death*, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, ¹¹ and *that every tongue should confess that **JESUS CHRIST IS LORD, TO THE GLORY OF GOD THE FATHER.** Emphasis mine*

Most believers are aware of the intimate details of the Lord's Supper, even though many do not walk in the victory of the Lord's LIFE. The Triune GOD knew we needed a constant reminder of this spiritual truth.

Even with Paul's warning, it still does not deter or encourage us enough to highly exalt the extreme sacrifice required to give us the right to eat from the Tree of Life.

Our vision or discernment is not always attuned to the fact that it is a cause of remembrance and our celebration of our victory as well. It is because we have the free gift of eternal life.

Apostle Paul adds these truths to the observance for our admonition.

1 Corinthians 11:29-30 (NKJV/JDRV) ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks in an (unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, *(What is the issue?)* not discerning the Lord's body *(Reckoning it as something common)*. ³⁰ For this reason, many *are weak* and *sick* among you, and many *sleep*. *Emphasis mine*

Having said all that, how do we return to our "BEST LOVE?" For me, it is a return to the experience in **Genesis**.

THE LORD'S SUPPER – The Celebration of Victory

Oswald Chambers used as his goal to encourage and equip men of God for ministry service. A daily devotional was given to us by his devoted wife. It is entitled *My Utmost For His Highest*. He captures the purpose of the bread and the wine.

Chambers desire was that men of God would live the life of the Lord's Supper.

He states what a "called" man of God is to the Body of Christ.

"God makes us broken bread and poured-out wine to please Himself."

He also warns us not to faint or grow weary.

Jesus said to Peter, "Feed My sheep," but He gave him nothing to feed them with.

The process of being made broken bread and poured out wine means that you have to be the nourishment for other souls until they learn to feed on God. They must drain you to the dregs.

Be careful that you get your supply, or before long, you will be utterly exhausted. Before other souls learn to draw on the life of the Lord Jesus directly, they have to draw on it through you; you have to be literally “sucked,” until they learn to take their nourishment from God. We owe it to God to be our best for His lambs and His sheep as well as for Himself.

*The only aim of “the life” is that the Son of God may be manifested, and all dictation (that is, telling God what to do) vanishes. Our Lord never dictated to His Father, and we are not here to dictate to God; we are here to submit to His will so that He may work through us what He wants. When we realize this, **He will make us broken bread and poured out wine to feed and nourish others.** Emphasis mine*

The question is why go back to Genesis?

Well, I suggest pressing the easy button. Before the Law, regulations, ordinances, and observances, we can view the shadow of things to come.

Romans 15:4 (KJV) ⁴For whatsoever things were written aforetime *were written for our learning*, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. *Emphasis mine*

1 Corinthians 10:11 (KJV) ¹¹Now *all these things happened unto them for ensamples*: and they are written for our **admonition**, upon whom the ends of the world are come. *Emphasis mine*

1 Corinthians 10:11b (NLT) They were written down **to warn us who live at the end of the age**. *Emphasis mine*

Theme Verses – Genesis 14:17-20

Note: I used the HCSB because I liked the way it begins verse 17, rather than the KJV or NKJV.

Genesis 14:17-20 (HCSB) ¹⁷ After *Abram* returned from defeating Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the *king of Sodom* went out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸ Then *Melchizedek, king of Salem*, brought out *bread and wine*; he was *a priest to God Most High*. ¹⁹ He blessed him and said: *Abram is blessed* by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth, ²⁰ and [I] give praise to God Most High who has handed over your enemies to you. And Abram gave him a tenth of everything. *Emphasis mine*

Why are the Bread and Wine given to Abram? It is to celebrate his victory.

Who do we see in this narrative that is reflective in the Lord's Supper?

Abram

Abram is the one God calls out. Abram is called "the Hebrew," the river crosser. Abram came from where he was born to the place of God's calling.

Abram is the "high father" who later becomes Abraham, the "father of the multitude." In Abram, there is "*The Seed*" by whom all the nations will be blessed. Abraham is considered the father of faith and the friend of God.

Abram appears to be trained for war, but we find no evidence that God directly told him to go and rescue "the righteous Lot."

Yeah, I know, why did you say the righteous Lot? Well, the Bible said so.

2 Peter 2:7-8 (KJV) ⁷ And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked: ⁸ (For that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed *his* righteous soul from day to day with *their* unlawful deeds;)

Lot learnings: Life does have its temptations, but we have a victorious Savior interceding on our behalf. However, Paul says it is not an excuse to stumble.

1 Corinthians 10:13 (HCSB) ¹³ No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to humanity. *God is faithful*, and He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation *He will also provide a way of escape* so that you are able to bear it. *Emphasis mine*

After your victories, who is the first entity that somehow manages to get in your face? Specifically, if we did a *Divine work*. Yep, Satan.

As Brother Lane taught, God is still allowing Satan to go through his “*Appeal Trial*.” Okay, for everybody else, please read Brother Lane’s study series on *Spiritual Warfare*.

King of Sodom

Whatever was vile and contemptible in Sodom, the king was the leader of it. I’d better let Paul give us a rated G version of Sodom.

Romans 1:26-27 (NKJV) ²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise, the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due.

It appears that this king of Sodom probably had a chance to join with the favor of Abram if he would have listened and turned from their wickedness. Okay, only God knows, but I had to bring this up because of what Jesus said.

Matthew 11:23-24 (NKJV) ²³ And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, *it would have remained until this day.* ²⁴ But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you.” *Emphasis mine*

Lastly, Jude gives us the gospel before the coming of the King of kings as the Righteous Judge.

Jude 1:7-8 (KJV) ⁷ Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire. ⁸ *Likewise, these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities. Emphasis mine – Sounds like our days and time.*

Now we shall see the shadow of the ONE who institutes our Lord's Supper. To Abram, it is a refreshing nourishment, but it is the implied vision Abram sees that makes his response to Melchizedek revealing.

Melchizedek

Notice the order in which he is presented to us.

Melchizedek, king of Salem

He is the King of Salem, of what is now known as Jerusalem, the city interpreted as the foundation of peace.

Melchizedek, a priest to God Most High

A priest is in charge of worship to God and as an intercessor for the people before God.

Here we see the righteousness of God as He describes the character of Melchizedek. He is best described in the gospel of Hebrews.

Hebrews 7:1-2 (HCSB) ¹For this Melchizedek— King of Salem, priest of the Most-High God, who met Abraham and blessed him as he returned from defeating the kings, ²and Abraham gave him a tenth of everything; first, his name means *king of righteousness*, then also, king of Salem, meaning *king of peace*; *Emphasis mine*

Now, in the third verse, the Hebrew writer begins to really shadow Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 7:3 ³*without father, mother, or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God— remains a priest forever.* *Emphasis mine*

Melchizedek bore two titles, king and high priest. Our New Testament Covenant, like Genesis, begins with Jesus essentially with two titles.

Matthew 1:1 (NKJV) ¹The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:

Okay, we have dealt with the persons for now; let's now take a look at what Melchizedek brings to Abram.

Bread and Wine

Melchizedek, of whom we know that Christ Jesus is after his priestly order, but not after the priesthood of Aaron. The Levitical priesthood is still in the lions of Abram; **therefore, the Law, nor ordinances have no way to mess this up.**

The priestly order of Melchizedek is not offering sacrifices for sin. Still, to minister to Abram (*and to us by faith*), the very God who came through incarnation, human living, crucifixion, and resurrection, signified by the bread and the wine, as our life supply that we may be saved to the uttermost.

Why?

Abram is victorious over his enemies and the rescue of the "righteous Lot." It was at first difficult to see why Abram did not hesitate to go and rescue his nephew. It then became obvious that **"The Seed" in Abram knew it was necessary.**

Why?

According to the Bible, the Moabites originated from **Moab, who is the son born to Lot by incest with his eldest daughter following the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah.** Remember Lot's wife did a backward glance when warned not to, so she was turned to a pillar of salt. *Another learning: forgetting those things that are behind.*

Check Jesus Christ's record in the King of kings' genealogy and you will see it.

Matthew 1:5 (NKJV) ⁵ Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, **Boaz begot Obed by Ruth**, Obed begot Jesse.

Ruth 1:3-4 (HCSB) ³ Naomi's husband, Elimelech, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴ Her sons took **Moabite** women as their wives: one was named Orpah and the second was named **Ruth**. After they lived in Moab *for* about 10 years, *Emphasis mine*

Ruth was a Moabite. Therefore, if we have no Ruth, we have no Obed, or a Jesse. If we have no Jesse, there is no King David.

Jesus is King for everyone, no matter if we are Jews or Gentiles. **VICTORY!**

Before we fellowship with other believers, it is a good idea to partake of the spiritual food God gives us in the Bible.

1 Corinthians 10:16-17 (NKJV) ¹⁶The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? ¹⁷For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.

That ONE BREAD is CHRIST.

How do we become steadfast and unmovable to come boldly to the throne of grace?

We learn and heed each gospel writer as they reveal the fellowship of the Lord's Supper.

Apostle Paul dealt with the carnality in the church at Corinth because of the danger of not observing the Lord's Supper as they should. ***Let there be no schisms.***

1 Corinthians 11:27-30 (KJV) ²⁷Wherefore *whosoever* shall eat this bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, *unworthily*, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. ²⁸But let a man examine *himself*, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup. ²⁹For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation *to himself*, not discerning the Lord's body. ³⁰For this cause, many *are weak* and *sickly* among you, and many *sleep*. *Emphasis mine*

As we can plainly see, Baptism the Crucible is not working as it should back then, nor even today. It is no wonder that when Jesus came and instituted the Communion, Jesus said, ***"This do in remembrance of Me."***

The Victory of the Called Ignores the Reward from Satan

Genesis 14:21 (NKJV) ²¹ Now the king of Sodom said to Abram, “Give me the persons(*souls*), and take the goods (*the material riches*) for yourself.” *Emphasis mine*

In our age, we know what this reminds us of. Many, for the sake of filthy lucre, preach the victory obtained in Christ and the promises of earthly reward. *The key is that they demand your allegiance to them, and with that allegiance, the person will have riches as well.*

1 Timothy 6:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ For the love of *money* (*covetousness, wealth, or mammon*) is a root of all *kinds of evil*, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. *Emphasis mine*

2 Timothy 4:3-4 (NKJV) ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, *because* they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn *their* ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

What was Abram’s response to the sodomite king?

Genesis 14:22 (NKJV) ²² But Abram said to the king of Sodom, “I have raised my hand to the LORD, God Most High, the Possessor of heaven and earth, ²³ that I *will take* nothing, from a thread to a sandal strap, and that I will not take anything that *is yours*, lest you should say, ‘I have made Abram rich’ –

Can’t you hear Jesus speaking inside of Abram. “Get thee behind me, Satan.” These are the words Jesus would later teach us?

Matthew 6:24 (NKJV) ²⁴ “No one can serve two masters; for either *he will hate the one* and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

We can see plainly that Abram did not like this man.

Lastly, Abram gave godly-inspired advice for those who aided him in the battle.

Genesis 14:24 (NKJV) ²⁴ except only what the young men have eaten, and the portion of the men who went with me: Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their portion.”

Apostle John said, Amen, Abram.

3 John 1:7-8 (NLT) ⁷ For they are traveling for the Lord, and they accept nothing from people who are not believers. ⁸ So we ourselves should support them so that we can be their partners as they teach the truth.

Abram was the victor; therefore, he can reward those who are blessed with him.

It was a great victory, but sometimes our boldness against the enemy might trouble us later. We can see that in Abram later. It is always God who steps in to help us keep our eyes on the vision and the purpose.

Genesis 15:1 (NKJV) ¹ After these things, the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, *“Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your exceedingly great reward.”* *Emphasis mine*

Jesus teaches us as well.

Matthew 10:28 (NKJV) ²⁸ *And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

It is always His strength, His Word, His Joy, and His LOVE and mercy that takes us through all things. The Celebration is His Victory, and we should see it each time we partake of the Lord’s Supper.

Abram, what did God show you?

Genesis 15:5 (NKJV) ⁵ Then He brought him outside and said, “Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.” And He said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶ *And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.*

Okay, let's go ahead and address the elephant in the room regarding Abram immediately after this incident. Sister Sarah convinces Abram to sleep with her maidservant Hagar. Now we get the Ishmael, but God reveals the purpose to us.

Galatians 4:22-26 (NKJV/JDRV) ²² For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. ²³ But he *who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh*, and *he of the freewoman through promise*, ²⁴ which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage (*the Law*), which is Hagar-- ²⁵ for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children-- ²⁶ ***but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all.***

Fix it, Jesus.

Genesis 21:10 (NKJV) ¹⁰ Therefore she (*Sister Sarah*) said to Abraham, "Cast out this bondwoman and her son; for the son of this bondwoman shall not be heir with my son, *namely with Isaac.*"

Abraham still needed God's help to obey.

Genesis 21:11-13 (NKJV) ¹¹ And the matter was very displeasing in Abraham's sight because of his son (*Ishmael*). ¹² But God said to Abraham, "Do not let it be displeasing in your sight because of the lad or because of your bondwoman. Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice, for in Isaac your seed shall be called. ¹³ Yet I will also make a nation of the son of the bondwoman, because *he is your seed.*" *Emphasis mine*

Bottom line, God is always in charge.

Revelation 2:17 (NLT) ***" Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the Spirit and understand what He is saying to the churches. To everyone who is VICTORIOUS, I will give some of the manna that has been hidden away in heaven. And I will give to each one a white stone, and on the stone will be engraved a new name that no one understands except the one who receives it."*** *Emphasis mine*

THE LORD'S SUPPER, WHAT IS IT? LOVE

When we are consciously aware of being used as broken bread and poured-out wine, there is another stage to reach, where all consciousness of ourselves and of what God is doing through us is eliminated.

A saint is never consciously a saint; a saint is consciously dependent on God.

The writing of these individuals mirrors that expression.

Oswald Chambers

Watchman Nee

Jessie Penn-Lewis/

Simon "The Spark" Harper – P.S. He could neither read nor write. Born in slavery, but when he preached, most said, this is the first time they hear the true gospel.