

## The serious celebration of the cross

1 Corinthians 11:17-34, p. 930

- I. REBUKE: IF WE GATHER TO WORSHIP CHRIST, BUT HAVE A SUPERIOR ATTITUDE, IT'S NOT WORSHIP AT ALL (1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-22).
  - A. A proud, divisive spirit was ruining any claim to honor Christ when they gathered, though not all were guilty (11:17-19).
  - B. Some wealthy Christians indulged in a large meal before the poorer members came (11:20-22).
  
- II. REMEMBER: WE MUST HUMBLY FOCUS ON CHRIST'S SACRIFICIAL DEATH THROUGH COMMUNION UNTIL HE RETURNS (1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26).
  - A. The bread represents Christ dying as a substitute for our sin (11:23).
  - B. The cup represents Christ's death which established a new relationship with God based on grace (11:24-26).
  
- III. WARNING: COMMUNION IS A TIME TO SERIOUSLY EXAMINE OUR HEARTS (1 CORINTHIANS 11:27-34).
  - A. We must examine our attitude toward other Christians when we are with them remembering Christ's death (11:27-28).
  - B. God severely disciplined some of the Corinthians for their arrogant attitude during communion (11:29-32).
  - C. When they gathered to worship, they were to wait for all to eat, or else God might discipline them (11:33-34).