

THE LORD'S SUPPER

How long has it been since you have studied the subject of the Lord's Supper? Now is a good time!

In 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, we learn that the purpose of the Lord's Supper is to remember the death of Jesus. By identifying this purpose, He ruled out other purposes for this supper. This is not to fill our stomachs, visit with each other, or celebrate marriage.

The unleavened bread and grape juice are the two elements used in this remembrance (Matt. 26:26-29). Though God did not say "Do not use fish and water," by identifying bread and juice, He ruled out fish, water, and all other items.

In Acts 20:7, we read of disciples assembling on the first day of the week to eat this supper. Here, God has revealed the day to "break bread" in memory of Jesus' death. By

identifying this day, He ruled out all other days (Monday-Saturday).

The fact that most churches take a collection of money every Sunday but do not eat the Lord's supper every Sunday reveals that human tradition has become more influential than the Bible in some churches today. The Bible ties both of those to the first day of the week (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:2). If you worship anywhere regularly, is this their practice? You must be a doer of the word (James 1:22). If you do not worship anywhere regularly then please read the next article (below). God seeks and deserves true worship (Jn. 4:23).

In This Issue:

- **The Lord's Supper**
- **Why Should I Go To Church?**
- **Questions Atheists Ask: Did Man Invent God?**
- **Faith That Saves**

Author & Editor: David Halbrook

WHY SHOULD I GO TO CHURCH?

Many people today claim to believe in Jesus and the Bible but view "going to church" as optional. Do you? The word "church" means "an assembly." It typically refers to people saved by Jesus (Romans 10:9; Acts 2:38, 47). It also refers to the occasion where those people assemble "as a church" to worship God (1 Cor. 11:18). Thus, "Going to church" means "Going to worship God with other Christians."

So, whose idea was it that Christians would offer God worship together? God directed Luke and Paul to write about Christians being together every first day of the week to offer worship to Him (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2). Sometimes the church assembled on other occasions, but Christians were always together on the Lord's Day (Rev. 1:10).

Now that you understand what it means to "go to church," what will you do? The assembly of Christians as a church to worship God is not a human tradition—it is God's will (Jn. 4:23). The Holy Spirit rebukes those of you who choose not to assemble (Hebrews 10:24-25). Pleasing God is the #1 reason why you should go to church.

QUESTIONS ATHEISTS ASK: DID MAN INVENT GOD?

Did God create man or did man create the idea of “God” in his imagination?

Most atheists view God, and thus all moral teachings, to be the product of society (culture), like Santa. They think that man imagined God, instead of believing that God made man.

The issue is answered by first admitting that the universe could not create itself and secondly by learning that “the prophetic word” could not have been written without supernatural help (Heb. 3:4; 2 Pet. 1:19, 21). Evidence abounds for both of those conclusions.

In the beginning of human history, everyone on earth believed in the same God. Contradictory teachings concerning God and gods exist today because of the corruption of the original truth. Ephesians 4:17-19 describes the process of corruption. It begins with a hardened heart, which ignores and suppresses some knowable truth. The natural result of this is ignorance. Those who are ignorant are easily confused (“their understanding darkened”). Those who are morally confused take the next step into perversion (“past feeling”), since they have no “moral compass.”

Romans 1:18-32 shows this process with the subject of “God.” In ancient times, men ignored and eventually perverted the original revelation of God. This explains ancient idolatry and modern Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Wicca, etc.

God made man before any culture existed. Ignoring the facts proving that truth begins the ancient process of corruption which no man can stop.

*For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus... took bread...
(1 Cor. 11:23)*

You are invited to:
Sunday AM
Bible classes: 10:00AM
Sunday AM Worship:
10:45AM
Sunday PM Worship:
5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible
Classes & Worship:
7:00 PM

FAITH THAT SAVES

Faith cannot exist without hearing God’s word (Rom. 10:17; 1 Thess. 2:13). Of those who hear and have faith-- who has *saving* faith?

James 2:19 says that the demons have faith—clearly not a saving faith.

In John 12:42, some believed in Jesus but would not confess Him—clearly not saving faith.

James 2:26 says those who have faith alone (“faith only”) have a dead faith—clearly not saving faith.

James 2:26 implies that faith with works is alive—a saving faith! Jesus taught this when He said to labor (work) “for the food which endures to everlasting life” (Jn. 6:27). An active faith does not earn salvation, but obeys God’s instructions to accept the gift. “What instructions?” you might ask. Visit our website today to read next month’s articles on this subject

Questions from this month’s articles:

1. Identify the purpose, elements, and day involved with the Lord’s Supper.
2. Who began the practice of Christians meeting together each first day of the week to worship God?
3. According to Ephesians 4:18, people were ignorant because of the _____.
4. What did Jesus teach men to do in order to receive *the food which endures to everlasting life*?

* Mail your answers to church of Christ—Quail Valley 4104 East Harrison St, Batesville, AR 72501

* OR, e-mail your answers to **TruthAndReason@suddenlink.net**

* Do you have other Bible questions we can help you with? Write or call us (870 793-6700; 569-4491)

* Visit our website **WWW.QVCOC.COM** for further study of these and other Bible subjects.