

## Communion In Its Fullness 4089

### I. Prelude To The Lord's Supper

#### A. Genesis 14:17–24

Encounter of Abram with Melchizedek and the king of Sodom; kings of two cities with opposite destinies. Both kings offered gifts to Abram. Abram refused the king of Sodom and received the gift of Melchizedek. Melchizedek gave bread and wine to Abram and received tithes from him.

#### B. Hebrews 7:1–7

Describes the priesthood of Melchizedek and compares it to the son of God—a continuing priesthood; contrasted to the Levitical priesthood which was only temporary

### II. Institution Of The Lord's Supper

#### A. Matthew 26:26–29—Description of the Lord's Supper

#### B. The same emblems offered as those offered by Melchizedek to Abram, thereby reinstating the Eternal Priesthood and instituting the New Covenant

### III. Seven Aspects Of The Lord's Table

#### A. In relation to Christ

##### 1. Proclamation

1 Cor. 11:26—Partaking in Communion proclaims to the world—both the seen and the unseen—the Lord's death until He comes.

##### 2. Remembrance

a. 1 Cor. 11:25—Communion looks back to the death of Jesus and establishment of the New Covenant

b. Rom. 8:32—Continuing reminder that Christ died for our sins, the guarantee of our total inheritance

##### 3. Anticipation

1 Cor. 11:26—Look forward to the coming of Christ again. “No past but the cross; no future but the coming.”

#### B. In relation To Christ's body

##### 1. Recognition

a. 1 Cor. 11:29—Looking below the surface to the reality of the Communion: the bread is the Body of the Lord—the people are the *Living* Body of the Lord.

b. As such we are to discern them rightly and treat them as fellow members of Christ's Body.

##### 2. Participation

a. 1 Cor. 10:17—We are partakers of the only source of Life: the body and the blood of the Lord.

b. John 6:53–58—Unless we partake of this flesh and blood there is no life in us. The result of partaking rightly is eternal life. God is the life source of the Son; the Son is the life source of the believer. When we partake of these emblems, we partake of the source of life.

##### 3. Sharing

a. 1 Cor. 10:16—One bread, one body. The wine and the bread are a sharing

with all believers who are part of the Body of Christ.

- b. Sharing Communion unites all believers from all ages in the death and resurrection of Christ.

**C. In relation to the World**

**1. Separation**

- a. 1 Cor. 10:20–21—Believers are set apart. No fellowship with demons nor the things offered to demons.
- b. Deut. 7:26—You cannot share the things of Satan and the things of the Lord. Such things as the horoscope, the signs of the zodiac, etc. are to have no place in a believer’s home or life
- c. Ezra 4:1–3—Those who did not worship the true God had nothing in common with those who did.

**D. We—Ourselves—Together**

- 1. We—God’s people
- 2. Ourselves—*Only* God’s people
- 3. Together—Unity of God’s People