

The Lord's Supper

– 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

1 Corinthians 11:23-25 [NIV] *“For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body, which is for you; **do this in remembrance of me.**’ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, **in remembrance of me.**’”*

When we read in God’s Word to “remember” it involves far more than agreement in our mind, it demands action.

We are to remember by way of action, this will then follow the example that God Himself has given us.

Genesis 9:12-17 [NIV] *“And God said, ‘This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, **I will remember my covenant between me and you** and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it **and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth.**’ So God said to Noah, ‘This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth.’”*

God created the rainbow as a sign for us to know that never again would God destroy all humanity by a universal flood.

Exodus 2:23-25 [NIV] *“During that long period, the king of Egypt died. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. **God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob.** So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them.”*

God remembered the Covenant He made with Abraham.

Exodus 3:7-8 [NIV] *“The LORD said, ‘I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey, the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them.’”*

The resulting action by God was to bring His people out of Egypt.

1 Samuel 1:1-2, 6, 10-11, 19-20 [NIV] *“There was a certain man from Ramathaim, a Zuphite from the hill country of Ephraim, whose name was Elkanah son of Jeroham, the son of Elihu, the son of Tohu, the son of Zuph, an Ephraimite. He had two wives; one was called Hannah and the other Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah had none.” ... “And because the LORD had closed her womb, her rival kept provoking her in order to irritate her.” ... “In bitterness of soul Hannah wept much and prayed to the LORD. And she made a vow, saying, ‘O LORD Almighty, if you will only look upon your servant’s misery **and remember me, and not forget your servant but give her a son,** then I will give him to the LORD for all the days of his life, and no razor will ever be used on his head.’” ... “Early the next morning they arose and worshipped before the LORD and then went back to their home at Ramah. Elkanah lay with Hannah his wife, **and the LORD remembered her.** So in the course*

of time Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, 'Because I asked the LORD for him.'"

God remembered the earnest prayer of Hannah by giving her a child, who became Samuel, a prophet of God.

Leviticus 26:21, 40-45 [NIV] *"If you remain hostile towards me and refuse to listen to me, I will multiply your afflictions seven times over, as your sins deserve." ... "if they will confess their sins and the sins of their fathers, their treachery against me and their hostility towards me, which made me hostile towards them so that I sent them into the land of their enemies, then when their uncircumcised hearts are humbled and they pay for their sin, **I will remember my covenant with Jacob and my covenant with Isaac and my covenant with Abraham, and I will remember the land. For the land will be deserted by them and will enjoy its sabbaths while it lies desolate without them. They will pay for their sins because they rejected my laws and abhorred my decrees. Yet in spite of this, when they are in the land of their enemies, I will not reject them or abhor them so as to destroy them completely, breaking my covenant with them. I am the LORD their God. But for their sake I will remember the covenant with their ancestors whom I brought out of Egypt in the sight of the nations to be their God. I am the LORD.**"*

God remembers the sins of His people by punishing them but He will remember their confession of their sins and their humbling of themselves before Him and forgive them.

God wants our remembering to also involve action on our part.

Remembering Jesus Christ means to trust Him to meet all our needs.

Remembering the Law of Christ means loving our neighbour as much as we do ourselves.

James 2:14-17 [NIV] *"What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."*

Remember the poor means helping them in a practical way.

In a very special way we must remember what Jesus Christ did for us, and respond by action in our own lives.

Romans 12:1-2 [NIV] *"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will."*

When we remember the Loving Sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Saviour, the only response we can make to such love is to reflect it in our lives by laying down our lives for other human beings.