



4050 80th Avenue North, Pinellas Park, Fl

SKYVIEW BULLETIN

Volume 9 Number 21

May 25, 2008

A MEMORIAL DAY TO REMEMBER



Tomorrow is observed as Memorial Day, a day set aside commemorating the fallen men and women who died protecting our country and our freedoms. We owe them a debt of gratitude. Many graves will be decorated on this memorial day and the monuments erected shout the message "REMEMBER ME!"

There is another memorial day that was established almost two thousand years ago, by the Son of God Himself. Paul reminds the Corinthian church how he received commandment from the Lord concerning the institution of the Lord's Supper. *"This do in remembrance of Me"* (1 Corinthians 11:24), Jesus instructed Paul.

While we would not want to minimize the sacrifice of the soldiers who died in combat, the sacrifice of Jesus far out-values any made by man. Christ gave up so much more. In fact He gave the very most to free mankind. Jesus gave up an equality with God and became a servant, coming in the likeness of man, becoming obedient to a death on a Roman cross (Philippians 2:5-8). He did this so that we might be free from the penalty of sin. The enormity of His sacrifice is summed up in the words of Paul: *"But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!"* (Romans 5:8-9).

We often fail to realize just how much Jesus suffered for us while we were undeserving and still in our sins. He was arrested, beaten, mocked, spit on and nailed to a cross. I cannot imagine the pain of spikes driven through His hands and feet as He was fastened to the cross. Peter said, *"He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed"* (1 Peter 2:24). What sacrifice! What love was demonstrated by Jesus for you and me. And what does He ask in return? That we remember Him and what He did for us. *"This do in remembrance of Me."*

We remember the body that was sacrificed on the cross when we partake of the memorial feast. *"Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me"* (1 Corinthians 11:24). We are to remember the blood that He shed on the cross by partaking of the cup at the Lord's Supper. *"This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me"* (1 Corinthians 11:25). When we partake of this memorial feast, it is a memorial day for *"the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world"* (John 1:29). *"This do in remembrance of Me!"* (continued on back)

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ELDERS

Ron Bastien
Don Greenlee
Charles Murray
David Roberts

DEACONS

Frank Edwards
Andy Murray
Don Shimp
Dennis Trask
Brad VanHaerents

PREACHER

Charles Murray

MEN WE SUPPORT

Frank Andre - Bartow, Fla.
William Stewart--Kingston, Canada
Matthew— S. Africa
Bob Owen — Trip to Europe
Mike Mendez —trip to Cuba
William John—Springfield, Mo

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAY

Worship.....9:30 A.M.
Classes.....10:50 A.M.
Worship.....6:00 P.M.

WORSHIP PLACE

4050 80th Ave N
PO Box 3118
Pinellas Park, Fla. 33780

WEB: skyviewchurch.org

FOR THE RECORD

May 11, 2008

ATTENDANCE

Sunday Morning	148
Sunday Evening	
Wednesday Evening	

As we partake of the memorial feast, we are called on to remember the sweat as blood shed in Garden of Gethsemane. We are asked to remember the loneliness He felt as He prayed in the garden. We need to remember how forsaken He must have felt when His disciples ran away in fear. We must remember the betrayal He experienced when Peter denied even knowing Him. We must remember the pain and suffering He endured on the cross. We must remember His cry of desertion: *"My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"* We must remember that He suffered all of this for you and me.

It matters
to
God how
often we
observe
the
Memorial feast
for
His Son.

But many people, even religious people, do not observe this Memorial Day correctly. Many churches do not follow the New Testament pattern of observing this memorial feast. Some churches teach, "It doesn't matter how often we observe the Lord's Supper." Some observe the Supper every month, some quarterly, some once a year, some only on special religious days.

We have an example of how often the early church observed this memorial feast. *"On the first day of the week we came together to break bread. Paul spoke to the people and, because he intended to leave the next day, kept on talking until midnight"* (Acts 20:7). Notice that the purpose of this first day of the week assembly was to break bread—observe the Lord's Supper. Many are quick to point out, "But it does not say every first day of the week!" Yes it does! If any first day of the week was meant, it would have said, *"On a first day of the week. The article "the" ("ho" in Greek) designates this as every first day of the week, not just "a" first day of the week. Consider God's command to Israel to observe the Sabbath. He said, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy"* (Exodus 20:8). Israel understood this to mean every Sabbath day. Every week had a Sabbath and they knew that God wanted them to keep the Sabbath observance every week. Had God said, "Remember a Sabbath, they could have observed it any time.

The same thing is true as to the frequency of the observance of the memorial feast today. Every week has a first day, consequently, the early disciples understood this and on the first day of every week they assembled to observe this memorial day for Christ.

I find it very interesting that those who argue that Acts 20:7 does not mean every first day of the week, have no problem understanding the exact same wording in another passage to mean every first day of the week. In 1 Corinthians 16: 2, where Paul gives order concerning a collection, he wrote: *"On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside..."* No one has a problem seeing this as a weekly collection on every first day of the week. Look at the wording which is the same in English and the original Greek. *"On the first day of the week, we came together to break bread..."* (Acts 20:7). *"On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside..."* (1 Corinthians 16:2). How can the phrase "on the first day of the week" in I Corinthians 16:2 mean every first day of the week and not mean the same thing in Acts 20:7?

To illustrate this even further, consider this scenario. You are hired to work on a job and your employer tells you, "Payday is on Friday." When would you expect to be paid? Every Friday! The employer does not have to say "Payday is every Friday—he only has to say you will be paid on Friday. Since every week has a Friday, you expect your pay every Friday. If the employer thought like some religious people do, he could say, "Since I did not say every Friday, you will be paid once a month, quarterly, yearly, or on some special occasion. As long as it is on Friday, it really doesn't matter." It does matter-especially to the person being paid.

It matters to God how often we observe the Memorial feast for His Son! He has given us instructions and left a pattern to follow in the New Testament. If you worship with a church or group that does not observe this memorial feast every first day of the week, you are not doing what Jesus commands us to do. You, also, are not doing what the early disciples did. Jesus gave up so much for us—He asks so little in return. May we all realize the importance of the greatest memorial day observance. May God help us to see the necessity of following His Word in this observance. *"This do in remembrance of Me."*



**Adult—auditorium
class
1 Corinthians
Taught by
Charles Murray
Room # 4
The Prophets
Taught by
Jarred Shaw**

GOSPEL MEETINGS

FALL 2008

With Bob Owen

CEM