

The Great Memorial Day

1 Cor. 11:24-25

Introduction:

- A. Americans have celebrated Memorial Day the last Monday in May since 1971.
 - 1. Before 1971, it was May 30.
 - 2. Called Decoration day from 1868-1882
 - 3. Honor soldiers who made ultimate sacrifice for our country and its freedom.
- B. Christians celebrate another memorial day, the Lord's Day, every Sunday.
 - 1. The day Jesus rose from the dead (Matt. 28:1; Mk. 16:1,2,9; Lk. 24:1; Jno. 20:1).
 - 2. The day the Lord's church was established (Pentecost)
 - 3. The day Christians perform two significant acts in which we remember the sacrifices of Christ.

Discussion:

I. The Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7)

- A. The two elements in the Lord's supper are designed to remind us of his supreme sacrifice for us.
 - 1. The bread to remind us of the sacrificed body (1 Cor. 11:24)
 - a. The body that was beaten and abused (Matt. 26:19-34; Isa. 53:5; 1 Pet. 2:24)
 - b. The body that was nailed to a Roman cross (Matt. 26:35-50; (Describe crucifixion)
 - 2. The fruit of the vine to remind us of his shed blood (1 Cor. 11:25)
 - a. The blood needed to remit/forgive our sins (Heb. 9:11-14, 22-26)
 - b. The blood that dedicated the New Testament (Heb. 9:15-20; Matt. 26:28)
 - c. The blood that purchased the church (Acts 20:28)
- B. The observance of the Lord's supper signifies our communion (fellowship) Christ (1 Cor. 10:14-21)
 - 1. "Communion" is not the name of the supper – it called the "Lord's Supper"
 - 2. "Communion" is what we do when we eat it – we commune or have fellowship with Him.

II. The Contribution (1 Cor. 16:2)

- A. There is more to scriptural giving than just putting money in the plate.
 - 1. It is a result of having planned to give (2 Cor. 9:7)
 - 2. It is a result of a total commitment to Christ (2 Cor. 8:4-5)
 - 3. It expresses fellowship with the gospel of Christ and brethren (Phil. 1:5; 4:16; Rom. 15:25)
- B. In giving we remember what Christ has done for us (2 Cor. 8:7-9)
 - 1. He left the riches of heaven (Phil. 2:4-11)
 - 2. He lived a life of poverty (Luke 9:58)
 - 3. He gave his all for us.

Conclusion:

- A. It is great to have a national memorial day to remember those who have sacrificed.
- B. It is greater to have this day, the first day of the week, to remember Him who sacrificed it all for us.