

# ① Communion

This sacrament was instituted by our Lord on Passover. In the O.T. Passover was celebrated to commemorate the night of the Exodus when the blood was drained from a blemish-free lamb - the door posts were smeared with it (to protect from angel) and the lamb was eaten. In the time of Jesus the lamb was ritually slaughtered in the temple, its blood drained + poured on the altar + the lamb taken home to be eaten by a family, or a community of people bound together - e.g. Jesus + his disciples

2) On Yom Kippur the most holy day of the year. Jews the he-goat was not eaten, but the blood was drained & taken into the Holy of Holies by the H. P. to atone for the people's sins. Then the carcass was burned

God had made an irrevocable rule that no blood from an animal was to be drunk but rather the animal was to be drained of its blood & then eaten. God did this because blood was to be the symbol of atonement for sins since blood is the life Lev. 12<sup>1/4</sup>

Then along came Jesus & gave a long discourse in J. 6 saying it was absolutely necessary for anyone who

3) wanted eternal life to <sup>drink</sup> of his blood + eat of his flesh.

This command of Jesus counter-manded the centuries-old law which God had established first in Noah + then in Moses. Why did he?

Furthermore, when Jesus chose the Passover feast, not Yom Kippur - the Day of Atonement - Why?

① Jo. 6 - "because Jesus is eternal life - the life is in the blood (Lev. 17:11). His blood was going to be shed for all our sins - + presented to the Father in the Holy of Holies in Heaven as atonement for sins

4) So in a very real way when we believe in Jesus His life courses through our veins - Jesus is the only way we can live eternally. In the O.T. the people were forbidden to drink the blood because it was a type - a shadow to pre-picture <sup>God's life</sup> eternal life Jesus came to give us after he'd poured out his own blood for our sins. Now we are to drink His blood. i.e. invite Jesus to come into our hearts. (Heb. 9:22-28)

② Jesus chose the Passover instead of Yom Kippur because it's the only feast where all the people ate the lamb, & ate it all together in family units. The picture is lamb - Jesus, becoming flesh of His flesh - members of the



5) Body of Christ - as well as members of one another. All partaking together of one loaf of Christ - one loaf, our Savior, whose body was broken for us.  
Let me read (Mk 14:22 & Lu. 22:14)

(I Cor. 10:16-17) "Do not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing a koininia in the blood of Christ. Do not the loaf which we break a sharing - a koininia in the Body of Christ."

Since there is one loaf we who are many are one Body for we all partake of the one loaf.

[2] Secondly, we proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. It is a very dramatic way of shouting out that we are believers - non-believers should not partake.

6) In the early church at their  
love feasts their communion  
unmasked the heretics -  
they were often turned in to  
the Jewish persecutors because  
they proclaimed their Lord's  
death & their participation  
in His Body in this manner.

I Let us drink the wine -  
it is the New Covenant - Christ's  
blood shed for our sins  
now we can contain <sup>God's very</sup> LIFE

II And tear off a piece of  
the loaf - the Body of Christ,  
broken for us - we are  
members of His Body & of  
one another.