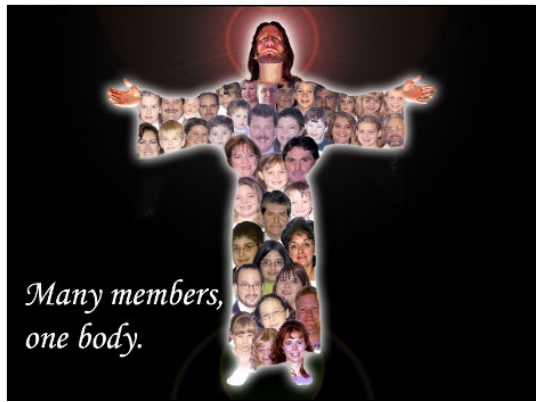


The Lord's Table

One Body—One Bread



Celebrating Each Other
The Lord's table is a celebration of the "Body of Christ" — His death burial and resurrection. However, celebrating the 'Body of Christ' is also celebrating each other.

A. Israel: One in the LORD

- 1. The 'all' in all:** Paul uses 'all' five times to emphasize that what Israel was going through—ALL of Israel was going through.
- 2. The Rock:** The source of Israel's spiritual strength was the Rock who was the Messiah Jesus.
- 3. The wilderness:** Why is there always a wilderness? The wilderness is usually a teaching moment from God. It is a time to trust in God and grow in faith.
- 4. The sacrifice:** [Lev 8] It was in the wilderness that the Law was given and the sacrificial system was established. Of importance is the relationship of the sacrifice to the priests. The blood of the sacrifice was applied to the altar, to the priests ear, foot and hand—and then the sacrifice was boiled and eaten by the priest. The priest was 'consecrated' [set apart] by the blood and eating of the sacrifice. He became 'one' with the sacrifice.

B. The Church: One in the Lord

[NOTE: The church includes all true believers, Jew and Gentile alike. The Church does NOT replace Israel in God's redemptive plan.]

- 1. Jesus Manna from heaven:** [John 6] Jesus was the true bread from God. The literal manna was a picture of the 'spiritual manna' that was provided by God. All ate from ONE source.
- 2. Jesus our sacrifice:** The Lamb of God, Jesus the Messiah fulfilled the sacrificial requirement established by God. When we receive Him as savior His blood is applied to us. As the OT priests ate the boiled sacrifice we symbolically eat the communion bread and so become one with Jesus through BOTH the bread and the cup.
 - a. Kingdom of priests:** 1 Pet 2:4-5 Peter uses language that stirs the mind and heart. We are 'living stones' that form the true temple of God and we are a 'kingdom of priests' that are offering 'spiritual sacrifices' in that temple. Here the temple is ALL the believers in the world today.
- 3. The Body of Christ:** 1 Cor 10:17 The Lord's table is the celebration of the 'oneness' that we have in Christ. Paul says we are ONE BREAD and ONE BODY.
- 4. Two tables:** 1 Cor 10:21
 - A. The Lord's table:** Brings us into communion with the Lord and with each other. It is a table NOT an altar.
 - B. The demons table:** Brings us into communion (partnership-fellowship) with things in the world that take the

Scripture (NKJV)

1 Cor 10:1-6 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that **all** our fathers were under the cloud, **all** passed through the sea, **2 all** were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, **3 all** ate the same spiritual food, **4** and **all** drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. **5** But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. **6** Now these things became our examples...

1 Cor 10:16-17 The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? **17 For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that one bread.**

1 Cor 10:21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons.

1 Peter 2:4-5 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, **5** you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.