

Scripture Reference: 1 Cor. 11:23-26

August 5, 2012

"Declaring Jesus"

Focus: Jesus in the central and essential focus of the Lord's Supper.

The Meal Needs to be Appreciated from Israel's Perspective First

- For Israel, central to the Passover meal was remembering the passing over of the death angel ushering in their deliverance from Egyptian captivity. - Ex 12:24-27;

- This meal was laden with meaning for them as a nation.

- It reminded them of:

Their relationship to YHWH - They exist as a nation because of Him

His great work in delivering them. - Their freedom is the direct result of His actions

- In observing the meal Israel and YHWH were kept close to one another.

The meal provided the opportunity for them to be brought into communion.

On this evening Jesus infused Himself into the elements

- He personally gave meaning to the bread and wine, telling them it is "*His body*" and "*His blood*."

- What the meal provided for Israel, Jesus offers those who place their faith in Him.

He is the meaning for a disciple's existence. - Colossians 2:6-7 / Colossians 3:4

Jesus is the instrument of deliverance and relationship.

Participation in the meal is the opportunity to come into community with God.

Participation in the Meal has a Social Element.

- Because Jesus is central to the meal, there is opportunity for others to have Him revealed to them.

- That is one of the reasons Paul addresses their abuse of the Love Feast.