

## A SCRIPTURAL PORTRAIT OF CHRIST

### 1COR.11;23-26

Ed Dye

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. Our text, 1Cor.11:23-26, presents a scriptural portrait of Christ.
2. The reason for the words of our text, vv.17-22: Paul's desire to correct their perversion of the Lord's Supper.
3. The text can be studied with profit emphasizing a variety of different things.
4. Our purpose in this study is to take note of the portrait of Christ which is verbally painted in vv.23-26.
5. In the words of our text:

#### II. DISCUSSION

##### A. HE IS PORTRAYED AS THE INCARNATE WORD, GOD INCARNATE, V.24.

1. When Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, he said, as Paul here repeated:
  - a. "This is my body which is broken for you," v.24.
  - b. "This is my blood of the N.T. which is shed for you," Mt.26:28.
2. V.24 of our text reaffirms that Jesus is God "in the flesh," that which all men must believe to be of God and to be saved, 1Jno.4:2,3; 2Jno.7.
3. The Word was God and was "made" flesh, Jno.1:1,14; Cf. Mt.1:21,23.
  - a. In being made flesh he did not retain the "form of God"; he "made himself of no reputation (or he emptied himself)...was found in fashion as a man" during his humiliation, Phil.2:6-8; Cf. Jno.5:37.
  - b. He became like us, Heb.2:11-17.
  - c. However, while in the flesh, he was both God and man; so, he is still God and man, but man in the glorified state, Jno.17:5; Ac.2:36; Phil.2:9-11; 3:20,21; 1Jno.3:2; 1Tim.2:5; Heb.7:4,24; 8:3; 10:12.
4. Jesus is the perfect example of humanity.
  - a. Sinless, 1Pet.2:21,22; Rom.8:3.
  - b. Perfected, Heb.5:8,9; 4:15,16.

##### B. HE IS PORTRAYED AS THE SUFFERING SAVIOR, V.23.

1. V.23 speaks of "the night in which he was betrayed." Other passages elaborate upon it.
  - a. Lk.22:21-23 records Jesus' prediction of his betrayal at the Passover.
  - b. Mt.26:37,38 record the sorrow he felt in the Garden of Gethsemane.
  - c. It was a time when his own disciples fled, Mk.14:50.
  - d. It was a time when they beat and mocked him, Mk.15:15-20.
  - e. Jno.19:17 says he was "led away bearing his cross to Golgotha."

2. “The Lord’s Death” was inflicted by a cruel, extremely painful form at the hands of the Romans, but demanded by the unbelieving Jews.
  - a. Lk.23:33 says: “...there they crucified him...”
  - b. Mt.27:26-50, with v.26 saying, “...he delivered him to crucified...” and v.36 saying, “...and sitting down they watched him there.”
3. Truly, he was the suffering savior, both before and during his death on the cross.

**C. HE IS PORTRAYED AS THE DIEING LAMB.**

1. It pictures the Lord’s body “which is broken for you,” v.24.
  - a. Meaning his life was given for us, Lk.22:19,20.
  - b. Cf. Jno.1:29; 1Cor.15:3; Heb.9:26b.
2. It pictures “the Lord’s death till he comes again,” v.26.
  - a. He is “the lamb that takes away the sin of the world,” Jno.1:29; 1Pet.1:18,19; Heb.9:11-14.
  - b. Jesus’ death was an atonement for our sins, 2Cor.5:21.
  - c. He died in our place, Isa.53:4-7.
  - d. He gave his life a ransom for our sins, Mt.20:28; cf. Heb.9:26-28.

**D. IT PICTURES HIM AS THE MEDIATOR OF THE NEW TESTAMENT, V.25.**

1. “This cup is the New Testament in my blood,” v.25.
  - a. Lk.22:20 says, “In my blood which is shed for you.”
  - b. The death of Christ was necessary to effect a N.T., Heb.9:14-17; 7:11,12.
  - c. His death was the only way God could be just and the justifier of the believer, Rom.3:19-28.
  - d. Through the blood God cleanses those who enter covenant with him, Heb.9:14,18-22.
2. “There is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,” 1Tim.2:5,6.
  - a. He is our advocate (intercessor, the one who pleads for us) with the Father...the propitiation (the expiation, the atoning sacrifice) for our sins, 1Jno.2:1,2.
  - b. He “makes intercession for us,” Rom.8:34; Cf. Heb.4:16; 10:18-22.

**E. HE IS PICTURED AS THE GLORIFIED LORD AND JUDGE OF ALL, V.26.**

1. Our text says, “For as often as ye eat this bread and drink this cup, ye do show (proclaim) the Lord’s death till he come, v.26.
  - a. When he comes again he will raise the dead and judge all men, Jno.5:22-29; 1Cor.15; Ac.17:30,31; 2Tim.4:1.

- b. V.26 is a direct reference to Christ's 2<sup>nd</sup> Coming, Heb.9:26-28; 1Th.4:13-18; 1Cor.15:20-26.
- c. This promise was made at the ascension, Ac.1:11.
- d. Christ is now at the Father's right hand, Heb.1:3.
- e. Jesus is now glorified in heaven, Ac.2:31-36; Phil.2:9-11; Heb.1:1-3; Cf. Jno.17:5; Rom.8:16-18.

### **III. CONCLUSION**

- 1. How Christ is portrayed in 1Cor.11:23-26. AS:
  - a. The Incarnate Word.
  - b. The Suffering Savior.
  - c. The Dieing Lamb.
  - d. Our Mediator.
  - e. The Glorified Lord.
- 2. This should help us to always have proper regard for Christ in our observance of the Lord's Supper – no irreverence should ever be manifested in the assembly of the saints. For our own hope of glorification is dependent upon our discerning the Lord's body and blood. Cf. 1Cor.11:27-29.
- 3. May we ever be reminded that in eating the Lord's Supper we are communing with him, 1Cor.10:16.