Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 CoF 35 (1)
Singing: 292:1-2, 5 – 51:1-3 – 163:1-3 – 384:1, 5

The Lord's Supper
The Lord's Means to Strengthen Faith in His People

A. Believers in Jesus Christ remain 'poor and needy' in themselves (Ps. 40:17)

B. Both sacraments have a similar purpose for believers (Cat q. 69, 75)

C. All regenerated souls are called to make use of the Lord's Table (1 Cor 11:28)
1. How do we know we are regenerated? (1 John 5:1; 2 Cor. 4:3-6)

2. Saving faith in Jesus Christ is never a solitary grace
   a. godly sorrow (2 Cor. 7:10)

   b. godliness (1 Tim 4:7)

3. Saving faith may exist without personal assurance of faith (1 Peter 2:2)

D. Spiritual life needs feeding the same as our physical life
1. God created food to be used for us to live (Deut. 8:3)

2. Jesus instituted Lord's Supper to nourish spiritual life (Matt. 26:26-30)
   a. His promise: *you become partaker of Me and My benefits through a Spirit worked faith in Me* (John 1:12-13)

   b. His command: *Do this in remembrance of Me* (1 Cor. 11:24-25)

E. How God strengthens faith remains *an incomprehensible work of Holy Spirit*

1. To experience a strengthening in faith, focus your faith on Jesus Christ (Eccl 11:5; John 3:8)

G. The results of participating in the Lord's Supper without saving faith:

1. Will be *spiritually unprofitable* if done in ignorance

2. Will be *spiritually damaging* if done in sin (1 Cor 11:27-34)

Teachings on the Lord's Supper

On the purpose:

The Lord's Supper is commemorative, and so it has the nature and use of a pledge or token of love, left by a dying friend to a surviving friend. It is like a ring plucked off from Christ's finger, or a bracelet from His arm, or rather His picture, delivered to us with such words as these, "As often as you look on this, remember ME; let this help to keep Me alive in your remembrance when I am gone and out of sight. (John Flavel)

If it is a token of Divine goodness to appoint it, it is no sign of our estimation of Divine goodness to neglect it. (Stephen Charnock)

Participants

This sacrament is a sacrament of nourishment, unrenewed men therefore are not fit for it. They are dead (Eph. 2:1) and what has a dead man to do with a feast. (Stephen Charnock)

We must not only examine whether we have a wedding garment, but also whether it be well kept and brushed. Graces are to be purified, as well as sins purged out. Grace, as well as metal, for lack of rubbing and exercise, will gather rust. (Stephen Charnock)