









ACTS 2:42-47

"THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO."

That to which you are devoted consumes your attention, your energy, your time, and even your finances. "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."

"breaking of bread" is an allusion to the fact that during the institution of the Lord's Supper, "Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it" (Matt 26:26; Mk 14:22; Lk 22:19).

THEY WERE DEVOTED TO THE LORD'S SUPPER!

THE LORD'S SUPPER WAS A CONSISTENT PART OF THEIR WEEKLY WORSHIP ASSEMBLY.

"on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread"

"But in the following instructions I do not commend you, because when you come together it is not for the better but for the worse. For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that there are divisions among you."

"on the first day of every week, each of you is to put something aside and store it up." THE LORD'S SUPPER WAS NEVER TREATED AS MUNDANE, INSIGNIFICANT OR AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT.

"On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread."

The Lord's Supper was not something they observed accidentally or spontaneously

THE LORD'S **SUPPER IS OBSERVED WITH** THE RIGHT ATTITUDE.

Paul criticized the divisiveness caused by "loyalty to different teachers" in 1 Cor. 1:10-15.

He then criticized divisiveness caused by "class-consciousness" in *Vs. 17-22*.

THE PROBLEM:

They were making the Lord's Supper a common meal.

THE PROBLEM:

They would "proclaim the oneness of the Lord and His people" by taking the Lord's Supper, but then "divide themselves along socioeconomic lines during what was supposed to be a fellowship meal."

THE PROBLEM:

Not the activity, but the attitude!

"Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself."

The first century church's devotion to the Lord's Supper is evidenced in three ways...

- 1. REMEMBERANCE (vv.24-25)
 - 2. PROCLAMATION (v.26)
 - 3. EXAMINATION (v.28)

WE LOOK BACKWARD (to remember Christ!), INWARD (to examine self!), WE LOOK FORWARD (to anticipate Jesus' coming!), and OUTWARD (to proclaim Christ's death!).

WE DEVOTE OURSELVES BECAUSE... "as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."