

John 6:53-56

53 Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.

54 "Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal (age-lasting) life, and I will raise him up at the last day.

55 "For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed.

56 "He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

1Corinthians 11:23-26

23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;

24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

25 In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death *until He comes*.

Let's keep in mind the context of Jesus' message. The partaking of His blood and His flesh has to do with having age-lasting life--something in connection with entrance into or exclusion from the Kingdom of the Heavens.

Why, as we eat the bread and drink the cup, do we proclaim the Lord's *death* until He comes?

Because Jesus is the Lamb of God, our paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us—

1Corinthians 5:7b

For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

Let's go back to the first generation of Israel, from the night of the first Passover, to find the order of dealing with the paschal lambs.

- The lambs were killed and the blood appropriated
- The lambs were then eaten –

Then, on their journey to the land of promise,

- Then they drank from the rock in the wilderness after they left Egypt
- They ate the manna, the bread from heaven.

We can see a picture of God's provision for bringing His people out of Egypt (concerning a lamb) and then sustaining them on their journey to the land of promise.

Likewise for us, we must partake of Jesus as our sustenance while on our journey-

- Jesus is the Rock who likened Himself to a well of living water –

John 4:14

“...but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting (age lasting) life.”

- Jesus is the bread from heaven—

John 6:47-51

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal (age-lasting) life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever (literally, “unto the age”); and the bread also which I shall give for the life of the world is My flesh."

- *And Jesus is the Word made flesh* (John 1:14).

Unless we eat His flesh, this Word, which is Spirit and is life, our spirit will have no sustenance and will not grow and become strong. In the same way that we cannot eat a hamburger by osmosis, we cannot eat His flesh unless we personally take in this Word and study it in the way God gave it to us.

We need to remember that the eating and drinking we saw in Exodus were in relation to entering the land of promise. As we take this into our own situation we realize that the eating of His flesh and the drinking of His blood still has to do with entering into the land of promise.

This is what we must remember as partake of this bread and drink, and what we must proclaim...until the Lord comes back.