

The Gospel Unashamed

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."

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~ All articles written by Terry Carter unless otherwise stated ~

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Terry Carter, Editor

Is It I? (A Communion Meditation)



"But **let a man examine himself**, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup." I **Corinthians 11:28 (NKJV)**

In the passage above, Paul tells us that we are to examine ourselves before partaking of the Lord's Supper. The night that Jesus instituted this feast, we have a wonderful example of that very thing.

"20 When evening had come, He sat down with the twelve. 21 Now as they were eating, He said, 'Assuredly, I say to you, **one of you will betray Me.**' 22 And they were exceedingly sorrowful, and each of them began to say to Him, '**Lord, is it I?**'" **Matthew 26:20-22 (NKJV)**

The twelve disciples of Jesus were always arguing about who would be the greatest among them. Even on

this night, they debated that topic. Yet, at this moment, they each looked inward and asked whether they were the one who would betray their Lord.

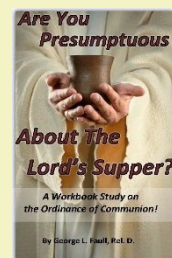
What is surprising is that nobody pointed their finger at one of the others. Judas seems like the obvious one for them to suspect, but nobody asked if it was him. Peter was always impetuous, but nobody wondered if it might be him. James and John wanted to call down fire on a village of the Samaritans. They had also prompted their mother to ask that they could sit on the right and left hand of Jesus in His kingdom, but no one suggested that it might be one of them. Nobody said, "Thomas is always doubting, it is probably him". Even Simon the Zealot was not singled out by the others. Instead, they each asked, "Lord, is it I?".

This is the attitude that each of us needs to have as we approach the Lord's table. Instead of pointing fingers at others or worrying about somebody else, we should be examining ourselves. We should not be considering the faults and weaknesses of the person sitting beside us, across the aisle, or even across town. We should be asking whether we are the one who has

betrayed, or will betray, the Lord. If we are honest with ourselves, we will realize that it is us, we are guilty, we have betrayed our Lord. There is no need to examine everyone else, we are responsible for ourselves.

Thanks be to God that Jesus shed His blood for our sins despite the fact that we do not deserve it.

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that **while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**" **Romans 5:8 (NKJV)**



Interested in learning more about the Lord's Supper? Check out George L. Faull's workbook *Are You Presumptuous About the Lord's Supper.*

This study includes six lessons each looking at different passages of Scripture that discuss the Lord's Supper. Each lesson includes questions to promote thought and discussion. There is a special emphasis on the power of the blood of Christ.