

"If God be for us,
Who can be against us?"

(Rom 8:31)

Realities & Actualities
GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD

"Lord, to whom shall we Go?
You have the words of eternal life
And we believe and are sure that
You are that Christ, the Son
of the living God"

(John 6:68-69)

The Eucharist

is The viable not symbolic Remembrance
of Atonement, Propitiation, Forgiveness & Reconciliation

*"For as often as you eat this bread, and drink this cup,
you do show the Lord's death till he come"* (1Cor 11:26)...

*"What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?
I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord"* (Psa 116:12-13)...

"And all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and has given to us the ministry of reconciliation. To wit that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and has committed unto us the word of reconciliation" (2Cor 5:18-19).

"But why do you judge your brother/sister/neighbor? Or why do you despise your brother/sister/neighbor? Shall we not all stand before the judgment seat of Christ?" (Rom 14:10).

Have you ever wondered why the "Mass" in the mainstream Christian churches was instituted the way it is? Was it because Jesus said to do it in His remembrance or was it because there was a practical Christ-like theme to follow? The cited few verses herein will guide us to understand the backdrops, backgrounds and the intended settings. If we care to follow the last three days in Jesus life ending with Good Friday, we have to conclude that the many events were orchestrated in such where **1)** He prayed and prayed without ceasing with thanks to His Father to spare Him the cup of rejection, humiliation, sufferings, agony and death, while ending it with *"Let it be your will, Father"*; (Matt 26:40-42); **2)** He washed His apostles feet and asked them to imitate Him by humbling themselves (John 13:12-14), especially after they argued *"And there was also a strife among them, which of them should be accounted the greatest"* (Luk 22:24); **3)** He asked His Father *"to forgive us all because we do not know what we do"* (Luk 23:34), and asked us to forgive in the same manner should we ever hope *"to be forgiven"* (Matt 6:12); **4)** He assured us, *"And if any one hear my words, and believe not, I judge him/her not: for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world"* (John 12:47), with **5)** *"If you love me, keep my commandments"* (John 14:15); **6)** *"But I say unto you which hear, Love your enemies, do good to them who hate you. Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you. And unto him/her that smites you on the one cheek offer also the other; and him/her that takes away your cloak forbid not to take your coat also. Give to everyone that asks of you; and of him/her that takes away your goods ask them not again. And as you would that men should do to you, do you also to them likewise. For if you love them which love you, what thank have you? For sinners also love those that love them"* (Luk 6:27-32).

The "Mass" and the "Eucharist" are in no way, shape or form, a symbolic gesture on our part as Christians, it was and always shall be the real living in and celebration of God's one and only "Grace", where Jesus becomes real in the bread and wine we offer on the altar of reciprocating His unconditional love, mercy, forgiveness, righteousness and compassion towards one and all. It is not a play we go to watch or a social club for gossip and entertainment; it is a real feast for purification, sanctification and renewal we partake with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, breaking bread with Him, who said *"I am the Bread of Life"* (John 6:51-52) and *"I am the vine"* (John 15:1-5), and *"I tell you solemnly, If you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His Blood, you will not have life (love, mercy, forgiveness, compassion, tolerance and reconciliation) in you... He/she eats my flesh and drinks my blood, he/she lives in me and I in him/her... and will live forever"* (John 6:53)...

Let us not be Judas, of whom Jesus said: *"The hand of him that betrayed me is with me on the table... woe unto that man/woman by whom I am betrayed"* (Luk 22:19-24). Accordingly, this is how we betray Jesus when we do not repent and forgive: *"Whosoever shall eat this bread,*

and drink this *cup* of the Lord, **unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.** **But let a man/woman examine him/herself**, and so let him/her eat of that bread, and drink of that *cup*" (1Cor 11:26-28), based on the following warning: "Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother/sister/neighbor has ought against you. Leave there *your* gift before the altar, and go *your* way; first be reconciled to *your* brother/sister/neighbor, and then come and offer *your* gift" (Matt 5:23-24)

**"You cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils:
You cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils"** (1Cor 10:21)

In order to be Christ-like, we should approach the altar repeating with David: "For you, O God, desire neither sacrifice nor you delight in burnt offering, else would I give it. O God, you will not despise the sacrifices of righteousness from me while I offer them (reflecting and reciprocating your love, mercy, forgiveness, tolerance and reconciliation) with broken spirit and broken and contrite heart, doing according to your will" (Psa 50).

In the "**Act of Contrition**", we publicly but generically confess our sins in thoughts, words and deeds asking God, the saints and all the presents to grant us forgiveness. Have we ever paused and wondered: "What is it that I did or failed to do? Did I forget or neglected to forgive, love, extend a helping hand or say a kind word?" All "Mass" parts are geared to genuinely prepare our hearts, minds, souls and selves to receive our Savior King, including but not limited to **1)** The "**Our Father**" forgive us **as we already forgave**, seconded by our exchange of reconciliation **2)** "**Christ's Peace**" handshakes and hugs, then intoning **3)** "**Lamb of God...**". Finally, we close with: **4)** "**Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but say the word, and I shall be healed**" (Luk 7:6).

**Does not the Lord deserve our full participation in the Mass;
and to eat and drink from His table of salvation with the Saints?**

**"Herein is love, not that we loved God,
but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins"** (1Jo 4:10)

"Take heed to yourselves: If your brother/sister/neighbor trespass against you, rebuke him/her, and if he/she repent, forgive him/her. And if he/she trespass against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to you, saying, "I repent; you shall forgive him/her.

Let us say with the apostles who said unto the Lord, "**Increase our Faith**" (Luke 17:3-5)

**"NO PLACE IS OUT OF PLACE OR TIME,
WHEN YOU ARE IN GOD'S PLACE"** (saying).