

Eucharistic Homily

Nineteenth Lord's Day after Pentecost

October 20, 2019

When Jesus instituted the sacrament of the Lord's Supper on the night in which He was betrayed, He commanded His disciples, "Do this as my memorial." Most English Bible translations follow the traditional phrasing, "Do this in remembrance of me", which is technically correct but obscures the true meaning of Jesus' words.

"Doing this in remembrance of Jesus" suggests that this is purely a mental exercise for our devotional benefit. That approach often leads people to think of Jesus' horrific suffering and how terrible we are for putting Jesus through all that. In other words, remembering Jesus is strictly for us to do.

But the Old Testament shows us that memorials are very often to remind God of His covenant promises. When we memorialize the death of Jesus for us, we are calling on God to remember His covenant with us through Jesus. We are calling on God to bestow the covenant blessings upon us that Jesus secured for us. We are asking God to treat us as His beloved children and bestow His peace upon us for Jesus' sake.

If you've been baptized into Christ and are seeking to live faithfully and obediently for Him, you are invited to partake of this feast that our gracious Father has provided for us. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Pastor Jimmy Gill

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