



11 We believe that all who have truly repented and believe in Christ as Lord and Saviour should regularly participate in Breaking of Bread.

When Jesus came to the earth we read in scripture that he completed the law. That doesn't mean we can now sin freely but instead it means that all of the rituals, sacrifices and offerings were completed in Christ because they were all shadows of who He was and what He would do here on the earth. Because of this Jesus is our eternal sacrifice meaning as it says in Hebrews Christ was our once and for all sacrifice. This means we no longer need the blood of animals or the sacrifices to bind us to the Lord because He dwells within our hearts. We therefore, no longer need to offer a burnt offering, a sin offering, a peace offering or keep the feast of Passover and tabernacles as well as the others.

Yet having completed these rituals Jesus then introduced two new ones for the church to embrace and follow. The breaking of bread or communion is one of the rituals which Jesus instituted before His ascension in to Heaven. The purpose of this ritual, which we are advised to do whenever we meet, is so that we remember that we made a commitment of repentance when we accepted Jesus as saviour.

What I mean by this is that we do not do something wrong and like a child before their parent's and apologise after a lengthy period of interrogation. Rather the commitment of repentance was that we are forgiven for our sins past, present and future and that we must attempt to sin no more. This may seem open to abuse but we must always remember that the Lord sees into our hearts and our motives. There is a difference between doing something because you think no one is looking and doing something because you were either unaware it was sin or had honestly forgotten.

Therefore, the purpose of the ritual of Breaking of Bread is to remind us weekly that our sin had a cost and that this cost must dissuade us from sinning again. This is entirely appropriate for the communion, which the early church called love feasts. Breaking of bread teaches us to remember that we are living under the doctrine of don't sin or be punished. Rather, don't sin, because of the law of love, the love of God, and your relationship with Him. therefore, communion is exactly that, an intimate communion with Christ, a reminder of His love for us, and our love towards Him, and that corporately, this is the one thing we all share in common. The scriptures teach us to, 'be Holy for I am Holy' and the name Christian means to be Christ like. These are not just words they are goals that as a Christian we should strive towards and statements to make true of ourselves, this is only done through following Jesus commandment of John 13:34-35, to love one another as Christ loved us. As we fellowship together in the breaking of bread, we remember all of this, wrapped up in a piece of bread representing a body broken for each of us, and a little cup of juice, reminding us that Jesus will return.