

## I. Places of Lord's Table

### *Scripture Reading*

*Acts 2:46* And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts.

In the early days, believers broke bread in one another's homes. As their numbers grew, gathering all together in a single place became inconvenient in both location and time, so they naturally met separately in various households. This shows us that when there are many believers in one locality, they may gather in different homes to observe the communion.

### *Scripture Reading*

*1 Corinthians 11:20* When you come together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat.

It is permissible for numerous believers in one locality to hold communion separately in different homes. Yet gathering together in one place to break bread as one is far more suitable and spiritually enriching. Hence early believers also assembled as a whole to partake of the Lord's Supper together. Today we may choose to gather unitedly or meet separately according to actual circumstances.

## II. After Communion

### *Scripture Reading*

*1 Corinthians 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

Those who break bread in remembrance of the Lord ought to long for Him and await His coming. Therefore after communion, we should earnestly desire His appearing, wait patiently for Him, and live a life of watching and waiting. If we merely observe the Lord's Supper regularly yet lack longing for His return and fail to walk in watchfulness, our conduct will not match the true meaning of this sacred ordinance.

### *Scripture Reading*

*1 Corinthians 10:21 You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.*

It states that we cannot partake of the Lord's table and the table of demons, nor drink the Lord's cup and the cup of demons. From the preceding context, the table and cup of demons refer to things offered to idols. This means after breaking bread, we must not eat food sacrificed to idols. Communion unites us with the Lord, while idol worship unites unbelievers with demons. Having fellowship with the Lord, we must not partake of things linked to demons.

Undoubtedly, the table and cup of demons stand for idol offerings, yet worldly pleasures are also the table of demons, and worldly blessings are likewise the cup of demons. Having enjoyed the Lord Himself and all His riches at His table, how can we crave worldly comforts and temporal benefits? Having been fully satisfied in the

presence of the Lord, we ought not seek anything from Satan, nor chase after the pleasures and blessings offered by this fallen world. Therefore, after observing the Lord's Supper, we must not love the world nor its fleeting delights.

### ***Scripture Reading***

*1 Corinthians 5:7–8 Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

In the Old Testament, after the Israelites kept the Passover, they immediately observed the Feast of Unleavened Bread, removing all leaven from their lives. Since the New Testament communion replaces the Old Testament Passover, we ought to follow their example after breaking bread and cast away all leaven in every aspect of our lives. Here leaven stands for all sins and corruptible things. Hence after communion, we must forsake all sins and harmful influences, abandon our old sinful ways and former evil deeds. We shall live a holy and blameless life by the Lord's pure and sinless life, which is the sincere and true unleavened bread. By living out the truth of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, we keep our lives consistent with the meaning of the Lord's Supper.