**Sermon Title: The Danger in Desecrating the Lord’s Supper**

**Sermon Text: 1 Corinthians 11:27-34**

**Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to avoid the results of desecrating the Lord’s Supper**

**Sermon Proposition: There are 4 aspects related to desecrating the Lord’s Supper**

**Introduction:** Jonathan Edwards controversy over the Lord’s Supper. Many of God’s choice servants and people have committed grievous sins. But we must intentionally strive to not disgrace the Lord’s Supper, our testimony, and the Lord Himself. The Lord’s Supper is a congregational testimony and proclamation of the saving work of Christ!

**I. The condemnation related to the Lord’s Supper. V.27**

**II. The counsel related to the Lord’s Supper. Vv.28-29**

**III. The consequences related to the Lord’s Supper. Vv.30-32**

**IV. The conclusion related to the Lord’s Supper. Vv.33-34**

**I. The condemnation related to the Lord’s Supper. V.27**

 A. Don’t partake in an **unworthy** manner. V.27a

 What is an unworthy manner? Ritualistically, indifferently, with an unrepentant heart, in a spirit of bitterness, in unbelief, or any other ungodly attitude.

 B. The result is being **guilty** of a crime. V.27b

 **Hebrews 10:29** Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?

 **John 6:51** "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world."

 **Isaiah 53:4-6** Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. **5** But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed. **6** All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to his own way; And the LORD has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

 The charge of guilt is a result of treating lightly the gracious sacrifice of Christ for His people. We must set all sin before God, then partake.

**II. The counsel related to the Lord’s Supper. Vv.28-29**

 A. The counsel to **examine** ourselves. V.28

 The word examine (dokimazeto) means to test to approve something or someone. If they had done this they would have seen they lack God’s approval in their behavior.

 A person must examine themselves with respect to Christ’s sacrifice for believers and the relationship each believer has within the corporate body.

 1. Self-examination vs. selfish ambition

 2. Self-discipline vs. selfish promotion

 3. Selfishness that divides vs. service that unifies

 **1 Corinthians 5:11** But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner-- not even to eat with such a person.

 **2 Corinthians 13:5** Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?-- unless indeed you are disqualified.

 B. The counsel to avoid **judgment**. V.29a

 C. The counsel to have **discernment**. V.29b

 They are failing to really think about what they are doing. Therefore, they are opening themselves up to God’s judgment, demonic attack, and discipline.

 **Lamentations 3:40** Let us search out and examine our ways, And turn back to the LORD; **Galatians 6:4** But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

 **Acts 7:52** "Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers,

 **Hebrews 6:6** if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put *Him* to an open shame.

 **Hebrews 10:20-22** by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, **21** and *having* a High Priest over the house of God, **22** let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

 “A person can usually look at a situation tell what to do – if he will think and be honest. But both thinking and honesty are necessary. The great tragedy is that not too many people think through issues of life and even fewer are honest when they do think.”

 [**The Preacher’s Outline & Sermon Bible I & II Corinthians, p.142**]

**III. The consequences related to the Lord’s Supper. Vv.30-32**

 A. God does discipline His children. (**2 Corinthians 12; 1 Corinthians 10:5-11**)

 **Hebrews 12:5-8** And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; **6** For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." **7** If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? **8** But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons.

 B. God does discipline His children to prevent destruction of the person and the damaging of others through serious sins. V.29, 31

 References: Eli & his son, (**1 Samuel 2:22-25; Joshua 7:10-13**)

 C. God knows exactly what type of discipline will be effective for confession and repentance.

 D. God knows what extent of discipline is required.

 **Acts 8:5** Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them.

 **Psalm 94:12** Blessed *is* the man whom You instruct, O LORD, And teach out of Your law,

 **Proverbs 3:11** My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, Nor detest His correction; **Jeremiah 10:5** They *are* upright, like a palm tree, And they cannot speak; They must be carried, Because they cannot go *by themselves*. Do not be afraid of them, For they cannot do evil, Nor can they do any good."

 “This resembles the modern day theory of psychometric illness but points to the spiritual rather than emotional roots of diseases.” [**The Jewish Study Bible, p. 1645**] (**James 5:13-16**)

 **Proverbs 3:7-8** Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and depart from evil. **8** It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones.

 **Proverbs 9:11** For by me your days will be multiplied, And years of life will be added to you.

**IV. The conclusion related to the Lord’s Supper. Vv.33-34**

 A. The conclusion is to **wait** for one another. V.33

 Pres imp – calls for habitual action. Demonstrate some self-control, which would prevent unnecessary divisions within the corporate body.

 B. The conclusion is to **eat** at home. V.34a

 C. The conclusion is to avoid **judgment**. V.34b

 D. The conclusion is to look forward to further **instruction**. V.34c