

Communion is...

Communion is proclamation... thankfully proclaiming the Lord's death, not my own, over every and any situation I may face in this life.

Read Matthew 27:50-66

The death of Christ is powerful beyond what we understand! We often focus on the resurrection of Jesus and well we should, and we will... but today let's pause and consider His death.

As we read in verse 51, in the moments following Jesus' death incredible signs of LIFE began...

- ***"The veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom"***
- ***"The earth shook"***
- ***"The rocks were split"***
- ***"The tombs were opened"***
- ***"Many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised"***
- ***"The centurion and those with him proclaimed that Jesus was God's Son"***

Since the fall of man in the Garden of Eden, the earth had been under a curse of death. There had been no freedom as death pressed upon the earth in every way. But now, Jesus, Lord over death, has taken on the weight of death in our place, and has borne its curse. He was the only One strong enough to carry it, and when He did, immediately the first fruits of LIFE began to powerfully spring forth!

In the coming days in our communion experience, we will come back to these amazing happenings and look at them closer. But for now, looking at them as a whole, consider the words of Paul in I Corinthians 11:26 as he instructed about communion. He said, ***"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes."***

We must realize that proclaiming the Lord's death is powerful! See according to Paul, every time we take communion, we are affirming that Christ's death powerfully took on the weight of death in any way that it would try to express itself in our lives.

You and I have never experienced the weight of death in the world without the effect of Christ's sacrifice, and we should be grateful. Oh yes, we still live in world that is broken and fallen. But just as there were powerful immediate signs of LIFE once Jesus died, those signs of LIFE have continued to spring forth day after day. In fact, I believe, that you and I as believers in Jesus are some of them.

And every time we take communion, we are proclaiming that to ourselves, proclaiming it to the world and even proclaiming it in the spiritual realm... that death has been dealt with... **Jesus' death has powerfully released LIFE to spring forth in us!**

Some will be threatened by that LIFE... just as the religious rulers were. Hence, we read of their efforts to secure His tomb. But no amount of man's manipulation can keep Jesus in the grave. **As we take communion today, proclaim Jesus' death...** keeping your eyes open for powerful signs of LIFE within you and all around you. And humbly thanking Him for bearing a weight that we could never carry.

Prayer Conversation Starter...

Jesus, Your death is powerful. I am so grateful. I proclaim it today as I eat of Your body and blood...

