

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### The Subject: Eat Flesh & Drink Blood

Matthew 26:26-28 – <sup>26</sup>...*Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it-- and said, Take, eat, this is my body.* <sup>27</sup>*And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, Drink ye all of it;* <sup>28</sup>*For this is the blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*

body - Greek: soma - the body (as a sound whole); from sozo the word saved; Jesus will save his body the church (bride); .

cup - Greek: poterion; figuratively a lot or fate.

II Corinthians 4:10,11 -- *Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be manifest in our body. For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh.*

John 6:54-- *Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life.*

To "eat flesh and drink blood" was a Jewish idiom that meant to be satiated (satisfy with more than enough; to glut, saturated with suffering) with a slaughter. The blade of the sword was called "the mouth" that did "eat flesh and drink blood" as one army would slaughter another. To "drink of a cup (of blood)" had a related meaning in that it meant to undergo violent death or to "taste death." To drink "all" of a cup (drink ye all of it) meant to completely finish the ordeal. "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved (the body) (Mat. 24:13)". Endure is the word hupomeno meaning to stay under trials or tribulations. Paul said that suffering persecution is a daily requirement of the believer (Acts 14:22; Philippians 1:29; II Tim. 3:12; 1 Thes. 1:6). Jesus Christ performs this work in us making full proof of our salvation. (Phil. 1:6). We drink all of the cup, dying to self. We are delivered unto death daily (I Cor. 15:31) as Christ is resurrected in our mortal flesh. Believing that Jesus was raised from the dead 2000 years ago is not enough for salvation. Christ must be resurrected in us, if we are to have eternal life. Jesus said, "Whosoever doth not bear his cross (dying to the flesh) and come after me, cannot be my disciple" (Luke 14:27). He said again, "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. (John 6:53)". What Jesus is saying is unless you take your cross and die with him, participating in his death, daily, you have no eternal life and you are not following him. Paul said it best: "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection (in me) and the fellowship of his suffering (death to self), being made conformable unto his death" (Philippians 3:10). Fellowship and communion are the same Greek word koinonia meaning to partake or communicate (have in common.) Our spiritual communion is in his' body (the church) (Col. 1:24), the true spiritual bread. "For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread (I Cor. 10:17)." We partake in the death of Christ "eating his flesh" and "drinking his blood" when we "die to self" living for Christ in fellowship with his church, which is his body (the true flesh and spiritual bread).

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