

Broken Bread

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BIG SANDY, Texas—On April 9, 2017, many people will be commemorating the suffering and death of our Lord and Savior on a date representing the night that He was betrayed.

Many among the Church of God will be using symbols that Jesus instituted in the New Testament. Those symbols are:

- Foot-washing
- Broken bread
- Small portion of wine

In this article, we will discuss the second symbol—broken bread.

Paul quoted Christ

Notice an instruction that Christ taught to His disciples during His last meal with them.

Luke 22:19—"And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' "

In 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, the apostle Paul repeated what Christ instituted at His last meal with His disciples. Let's read about the symbol of broken bread.

1 Corinthians 11:23-24—"For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' "

Broken body

Do you eat the broken bread in remembrance of Christ? About what does the broken bread remind you?

The symbol of the broken bread is intended to remind disciples about the broken body of Christ. Notice some verses.

Isaiah 52:14—Here is a prophecy about Christ's face being marred more than anyone.

Isaiah 53:3—Here is a prophecy about Christ being despised and rejected.

Isaiah 53:4—Here is a prophecy about Christ carrying the griefs and sorrows of mankind.

Isaiah 53:5—Here is a prophecy about Christ being wounded for transgressions and bruised for iniquities.

Luke 11:53-54—People regularly sought to accuse Christ.

Luke 20:20—People regularly pretended to be righteous in order to deliver Him to the authorities.

Luke 22:3-5—Satan entered Judas Iscariot, who met with the chief priest and captains to betray Christ to them.

Luke 22:60-62—Peter denied Christ three times.

Luke 22:63-64—People mocked and beat Christ.

Luke 23:1-2—The multitudes accused Christ before Pilate.

Luke 23:10—The chief priests and scribes vehemently accused Christ before Herod.

Luke 23:23-25—People demanded that Pilate release Barabbas and crucify Christ.

Luke 23:35-37—The spectators and the soldiers mocked Him.

1 Peter 2:19-21—“For this is commendable, if because of conscience toward God one endures grief, suffering wrongfully. For what credit is it if, when you are beaten for your faults, you take it patiently? But when you do good and suffer, if you take it patiently, this is commendable before God. For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps.”

1 Peter 2:23-24—“When He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously; who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.”