"THIS DO IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME..." (2)

By Keith Greer

Do you think about the life-giving blood that flowed for you and me? Do you think about the crown of thorns on Jesus' head and how roughly it must have been placed there? Do you think about the blood that flowed from His nail-wounded body? Do you think about the spear that pierced His side, and the blood and water that flowed from His body? His life-giving blood: so powerful and so precious. Yet, it was given so willingly because of His love for mankind and to do His Father's will. Do you think about it?

"But when they came to Jesus and saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out." {John 19:33,34}

To "discern" means to "look in the mind's eye"-to remember back to what it must have been like. What does it mean to "discern the Lord's body"?

When Jesus hung on the cross He suffered as a man. "And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:8) In our "mind's eye" we can see His hands and feet being nailed to the cross, and the spear piercing His side. We had better not ever forget it!

Since we are human beings with human frailties, God knew that we sometimes forget. Jesus instituted this memorial so we can always remember the sacrifice that has been made for us.

"For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." {1 Corinthians 11:26}

"He is despised and rejected by men, A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him; He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. 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." {Isaiah 53:3-5}

"He was taken from prison and from judgment, and who will declare His generation? For He was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgressions of My people He was stricken. And they made His grave with the wicked-But with the rich at His death, because He had done no violence, Nor was any deceit in His mouth." {Isaiah 53:8,9}

"Then the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was torn in two. And when Jesus had cried out with a loud voice, He said, "Father, 'into Your hands I commit My spirit." Having said this, He breathed His last. So when the centurion saw what had happened, he glorified God, saying, "Certainly this was a righteous Man!" {Luke 23:45-47}

"And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" Then they spat on Him, and took the reed and struck Him on the head. And when they had mocked Him, they took the robe off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him away to be crucified." {Matthew 27:28-31}

The Lord's Supper is not the "most important" part of our worship to God, but let us not ever forget the supreme sacrifice that has been made for us. How could one think of His death too often? In Jesus we have our hope of eternal life — that is very important! ***