

You Are Eagerly Invited
By Ron Brackin

The Lord's Supper: 30-Day Devotional

DAY ONE

The beginning

“After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). Then Melchizedek king of Salem *brought out bread and wine . . .*”

Genesis 14:17-18

Only 14 chapters into creation, Lord, and you've already had to destroy the world and start over, and in no time at all, we're fighting with one another again.

Yet, you didn't seem discouraged.

In fact, after the war of the kings, you dropped a hint about an incredible secret. I don't suppose anybody caught it. It was on the table and gobbled up before they had finished telling war stories.

And what about Melchizedek? You know, I can see a little of you in him. Not an exact representation. He had no parents. You did. He had no genealogy. Yours spans forty-two generations. He was “without beginning of days or end of life.”¹ You went from a Jewish stable to a Roman cross.

But he was King of Salem (Shalom), and you are the Prince of Peace.

My troubled heart finds peace when we're alone like this. As we share our meal together, I try to picture you on the other side of the table, looking back at me. I can't see your face, but I guess by the smile on mine that you're smiling, too.

I ache to look into your eyes and hear your voice. Some say it would be like thunder, but I think it would sound so sweet that my heart would burst.

For now, though, I'll just take a deep breath and enjoy the peace of being with you.

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DAY TWO

Intimacy of Covenant

“When Moses had proclaimed every commandment of the law to all the people, he took the blood of calves, together with water, scarlet wool and branches of hyssop, and sprinkled the scroll and all the people. He said, ‘This is the

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blood of the covenant, which God has commanded you to keep.’ ”

Hebrews 9:19-20

“I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.”

John 6:53

Under the old covenant, the blood was *on* the people. Under the new, it's *in* us.

I can't grasp that kind of intimacy, Lord. You told John that, just before you were arrested, you prayed that your people would be one, exactly as you and our Father are one.

That's too far for my imagination to stretch. The closest I can get is what I learned in biology, about the body processing what I eat to feed my cells. Would you reveal more to me? You paid so much for this covenant, and I don't want to miss out on anything for lack of understanding.

Frankly, I'd be satisfied just to be able to hug you and hang out with you like Peter and the others. I know you said we're supposed to be better off with the Holy Spirit. But I'm still trying to process that.

For now, it'll have to be enough to sit with you and talk to you like this.

And now, I think I'll just be still for the rest of our time today and listen.

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DAY THREE

Intoxicated with Christ

The Lord said to Moses, “Give this command to the Israelites and say to them: ‘See that you present to me at the appointed time the food for my offerings made by fire, as an aroma pleasing to me.’ . . . The accompanying drink offering is to be a quarter of a hin of *fermented* drink with each lamb.’ ”

Numbers 28:1-2,7

I lift my cup to you today, Jesus, as a drink offering.

Wow, a lot of images come along with that.

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You must have gotten a kick out of watching all your friends after the Holy Spirit was finished with them at Pentecost. Everybody thought they were drunk. But they were just intoxicated with you.

I remember how the Shulamite seemed intoxicated by the king whose lips, she cooed, “are like lilies dripping with myrrh.”¹ It’s kind of embarrassing to read Solomon’s love song. I almost feel as though I’m intruding – and a maybe a little jealous.

Leonard Ravenhill² used to tell a story about A.W. Tozer³, about how he walked into his office once when Tozer was worshipping you. The intimacy was palpable, causing Leonard to blush, as though he had stumbled into the privacy of someone’s bedroom.

Will you lead me into a relationship like that with you? It’s really hard for me to relate to, because it’s not part of my culture. But I need you so much. I’ve never needed or wanted anyone or anything like this before. Take me into your Holy of holies. Please.

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DAY FOUR

Life in the Blood

“For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.”

Leviticus 17:11

Lord, I need a transfusion.

You said, “unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.”¹

As I drink the cup today, would you let the life in your blood flow into me?

I can just see us side by side, lying on a couple of couches. The nurse gently slides an IV needle into my arm and gradually replaces every drop of my 5.3 quarts of blood with yours.

What would it be like to feel my heart pumping your blood through my body? Your life feeding every cell.

Even better, what would it be like to have your heart?

In *The Heart's Code*, Dr. Paul Pearsall claims that heart transplant recipients receive characteristics from their donors.

“Everything that exists has energy,” he writes, “energy is full of information, and stored info-energy is what makes up cellular memories.”²

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What he calls the “heart’s code is recorded and remembered in every cell in the body as an informational template of the soul, constantly resonating within and from us, sent forth from our heart.”³

If I had your heart, would I begin to think your thoughts and have your feelings?
Would I experience your oneness with our Father?

“Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.”⁴