

# THE FLORAL HEIGHTS INFORMER

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## Our Elders:

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(322 – 6374)

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## Deacons:

*Joe Cronin*

*Jim Hall*

*David Witherspoon*

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*John C. Robertson*

## Plowing with my Heifer

Judges 14:18

Samson is recognized as the 13<sup>th</sup> judge of Israel. His story is one of anger, revenge, passion, and great emotional swings. His emotional swings of life came at the providential hand of God. God providentially sanctified Samson from birth to be a savior to Israel. God's next act of providence was to provide Samson with a wife of the Philistines. Samson's marriage to the Philistine woman was divinely doomed from the beginning. Samson's father initially condemned the marriage. What Samson's father did not know was that, "*But his father and his mother knew not that it was of Jehovah; for he sought an occasion against the Philistines. Now at that time the Philistines had rule over Israel*" (Judges 14:4). Forty years had passed while Israel was subjected to these Philistines and God was not pleased (Judges 13:1). The occasion that God sought to alleviate Israel's servitude to the Philistines would come through His chosen vessel Samson along with his Philistine wife.

God's "*occasion against the Philistines*" would be found in Samson's anger brought on by a foolish wife. The book of Judges reveals Samson to be a man endowed by God with great strength. Samson's first display of strength occurred while on his way to a party for he and his wife among the Philistines. Samson runs into a young lion on the way and rips the animal apart with his bear hands. Later, Samson finds the animal with bees and honey. This incident gave way to a riddle that Samson puts before thirty Philistines men. Samson explained to the thirty Philistines that if they could guess the meaning of his riddle he would give them all clothing. The riddle is as follows: "*Out of the eater came forth food, and out of the strong came forth sweetness*" (Judges 14:14). There was absolutely no way that these men would have been able to figure out the meaning of this riddle without some help. Determined to solve Samson's riddle

## Local News:

### Welcome to all our visitors:

We pray that you will be edified by our service and come back at your every opportunity.

Last Sunday we rejoiced over the **baptisms of Crystal and Brandon Brewer and Gary McDonald**. We also greatly rejoiced over the restoration of **Cindy Gray**. Let us get to know and help our new members grow in spirit and truth!

### Please keep the following members in your prayers:

Keep **Nell Hulsey** in your prayers as she heals from her recent mastectomy.

**Nina Gray** saw the neuro-ophthalmologist this past Thursday but did not receive any better news. She will be visiting another eye doctor in Fort Worth March 24<sup>th</sup> for a final word on whether to have surgery or not. Right now she is leaning on not having it.

**Cindy Gray** continues to struggle with a damaged nerve in her shoulder. She is currently treating it with rest and medicines; however, she may be looking at future surgery.

**Pam Husak** has had a set back with the wound that she has battled for a lengthy amount of time. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

### Women's Bible Study:

The next Bible class will be Friday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM. The class meets at the church building with Kasey Robertson doing the teaching.

### Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

**Stella Davidson**  
696-1030 (Home)  
**Calvin York**  
692-0489 (Home).

the men go to Samson's wife and threaten her to find out the meaning and disclose it to them. Samson's wife, due to fear, came to her husband weeping and accusing him of not loving her because he had not told her the meaning of the riddle (Judges 14:16ff). After seven days of pressing Samson he finally gives in and tells her the meaning of the riddle. Samson's wife then secretly goes to the Philistine men and tells them the riddle. When the men disclose the riddle to Samson he immediately knows that his wife has violated their marital trust. Samson's memorable reply to the thirty Philistines was, "*If ye had not plowed with my heifer, Ye had not found out my riddle*" (Judges 14:18).

While we may look to the overall lesson of God providentially delivering his people from the Philistines there are side lessons in the area of marriage. Marriage between man and woman involves the greatest degree of trust among human relationships. Man and woman joined in the bond of marriage are no longer two but one flesh (Matt. 19:6). When that trust is violated damage is done to the marriage and it will take time to repair. Samson's wife committed two errors. First, she should have never permitted men outside of her marital relationship to engage her in subjects that were confidential with her husband. Secondly, she should have immediately told her husband of the situation and placed it into his hands hoping for the best. Husbands and wives ought to have such great love and trust with each other that they are ready to share all their troubles rather than doing so with those outside the marriage (Eph. 5:22-33).

Another issue in this story is the thirty men who came to the Philistine woman to pry information from her. These men had "*plowed with my (Samson's) heifer...*" When men (or women for that matter) begin engaging other married people in subjects and areas that they have no divinely approved right to participate in they have "*plowed*" in the wrong field with the wrong heifer. Adultery is not the issue of Samson's wife. Adultery; however, may become the issue in the lives of those who plow in the marital fields of others. These men had no right going to a married woman and asking her such questions and neither do men today have the right going to another married woman and engaging her in private conversations. The Christian today ought to respect their marital vows and the marital vows of others. Stay in your own field and plow with your own heifer!

# The Lord's Supper

## I Corinthians 11:17-34

### Introduction:

The church located in Corinth, during the days of the Apostles, had many problems. One such problem revolved around their partaking of the Lord's Supper. A separation of the brethren occurred in the first day of the week assembly. One set of brethren came early, ate food, and drank in pride for the Lord's Supper. Another set of brethren came later and had nothing. The Corinthian brethren were ultraliberal in their worship to Jehovah God. Paul set out to refocus their minds regarding the seriousness of partaking of the LS. When one partakes of the LS, he is "*remembering*" (I Cor. 11:24) and "*discerning*" the body and blood of Christ (I Cor. 11:29). One who partakes the LS without remembering and discerning the Lord's body and blood does so in an "*unworthy*" state (I Cor. 11:27) and is guilty of "*despising the church of God*" (I Cor. 11:22). Such a state of spiritual sickness leads to spiritual death (I Cor. 11:30). The remedy is repentance through study and understanding of the word of God ("*chasten*") (I Cor. 11:32). Paul concluded the chapter by reiterating that the nature of the assembly is spiritual and not social (I Cor. 11:34). Let us consider the Lord's teaching on our participation in the Lord's Supper.

### I. There must be unity in the Lord's Supper:

- A. Jesus demand's our unity in truth (Jn. 17:17ff).
- B. The Corinthians were not one (I Cor. 11:17-19).

### II. A Perversion of the Lord's Supper:

- A. The Corinthians were eating and drinking as though the Lord's Supper was a common meal.
- B. Such unauthorized deeds are defined as "despising the church of God."

### III. Partake of the Lord's Supper with a serious Mind:

- A. Jesus institution of the Lord's Supper (Matt. 26:26ff)
- B. The Lord's Supper is a memorial (a remembrance) of body and blood of Christ (I Cor. 11:24-25).
- C. The participants "proclaim the Lord's death till he comes" (I Cor. 11:26).

### IV. Warnings in relation to the Lord's Supper (I Cor. 11:27-34):

- A. There is an "unworthy" manner to partake of the Lord's Supper.
- B. Let the Lord's Supper be taken on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7), at the assembly (I Cor. 11:20), and let all other meals be partaken of at home (I Cor. 11:34).

### Conclusion:

Upon the first day of the week the saints of God assemble to participate in the five acts of worship. God authorized said worship and give specific instructions as to what he expects of his saints. Let the Christian understand that when we partake of the Lord's Supper we are remembering his death and making a public proclamation of our faith that he will come again to take us home to glory.

