

Our current situation reminds me of a true story. A little over a hundred years ago a man was born in the great city of London, England. He grew up loving the city. He loved every aspect of it. He loved the history. He loved the architecture. He loved the legends and stories that were obscure and esoteric. He devoted his time to wandering the city and absorbing it all in. As he grew he determined that he would devote his life to the streets of London and become a City Bus driver.

When he was eligible he applied to be a bus driver. The City Bus Officials were amazed at his aptitude and already vast knowledge of the city. He whizzed through the classes and passed every test given. He was a prized student. Soon he was in the probationary driving stage. He was at the wheel of the bus with a City Bus Official at his side monitoring his moves and actions. The constant drone was to remember the schedule and hold to it. He did everything right and was graduated to Official Bus driver.

He headed his bus from the barn into the great city streets at last... and then the calls started coming in, "That bus driver wouldn't stop at my stop to pick me up! I had to wait for the next bus!" "I want to complain that the driver of my bus wouldn't stop to let me off! I had to walk five extra blocks to get to my appointment and I was late!" On and on came the calls so there was some anxiety about him coming back to the barn but he did. Right on schedule. He was quickly assailed with demands to know, "What happened?"

"Oh! It was great! Never had a better day in my life."

"What about all these people complaining that you did not serve them?"

"Oh. Those people. Well I couldn't just stop for all of them as that would have thrown me off my schedule."

The take away from this story is that in this man's mind everything would be good, perfect even, if it weren't for the people! He had his job of driving the streets and seeing his beloved city as he dreamed he could. Taking his focus from his obsessions to those around him was not what he wanted. The people just got in his way.

Unfortunately the same tendencies seem to find their way into the Church. Those who see wonderful benefits to being in God's family are sometimes not so loving when it comes to those who seem to struggle keeping up with the goings on. Paul had to write to the Corinthians that their practices had created divisions that benefited some and excluded others.

I Corinthians 11: 20-29 says, "(20)Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper, (21) for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk. (22) What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you. (23) For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; (24) and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." (25) In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." (26) For as often as eat this bread and drink this the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. (27) Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. (28) But a man must

examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup. (29) For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not judge the body rightly."

The purpose of Christ was to serve others. The purpose of the Lord's supper is to be in service to all. Even if we are not all together in mass, we are all together in body. That being the body of the Lord. We commune with all the Saints, past, present and future when we take the Lord's supper. There is no blame for why things are not the way that we may find more pleasing than the way that they are but only praise and thanksgiving for the ability to be in the Lord's family and a part of His table.

Pray constantly and thank God for the tremendous sacrifice that was made on our behalf to make us part of the Family of God. God bless and praise God for our blessings.