

THE EUCHARIST MAKES THE CHURCH II

Summary of 1st talk:

Scripture and the Canon of the New Testament:

- the church comes before the bible.
- as the church is logically prior to the bible, so the Eucharist is logically prior to the scriptural accounts of it.

Church: a sacrament

- Christ is the sacrament of God
- The church is the sacrament of Christ
- The Eucharist is the sacrament of the church

2nd talk:

1. Synoptic Relationships.

Order of composition: Mark, Matthew & Luke; John comes later; the significant parts of Paul are earlier.

2. Institution Narrative and NT genres

Letters, gospels and apocalyptic

- 'This *is* my body'
- 'Do this'
- 'The blood of the covenant'

3. Was the last supper a Passover meal?

Matthew Mark and Luke *say so* but don't provide the detail of a Passover Meal.

John describes Jesus *as* the Passover Lamb and so reports his death as simultaneous with Passover.

All these elements combine to place the Eucharist at the heart of Christian life.

Books:

Paul Bradshaw, Eucharistic Origins

Raymond Brown, The Death of the Messiah

Dom Gregory Dix, The Shape of the Liturgy

Avery Dulles, Models of the Church

Morna Hooker, The Gospel According to St Mark

Michael McGuckian, The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

Max Thurian, The Eucharistic Memorial