THE COMMON SERVICE
By Bob Musgrave

I wish to write a few short articles on the communion service. They will be to the point. For the past ten years I have been preaching a sermon in my meetings on the subject: "Is it right to be Right?" David says in Psalm 145:17, "The Lord is rightenus in all his ways, and holy in all his thoughts." Isaiah says, "Seek ye out of the Book of the Lord, and read: no one of these shall fail, none shall want her mate: for my mouth it has commanded, and his spirit it hath gathered them." Isa. 34:16.

Now, the communion is the Lord's work, and he has shown the way to observe it, as well as the purpose of it. Where is a man who will say, "The Lord's way is not right?" The Lord's way is revealed in the gospel (Rom. 1:-16-17). The gospel is revealed in the Book of the Lord. In it the manner of observing the communion is revealed. Where? See See Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:17-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25. Read these Scriptures! Let us notice carefully to see just what was said and done by Jesus as he gave it to us. None but Jesus is referred to as the Giver. Always, in all places, the reading shows that Jesus took, Jesus gave, Jesus commanded. Now, to his manner—what he did: Jesus took bread—No. 1; Jesus gave thanks or blessed—No. 2; Jesus brake it—No. 3; Jesus gave the bread that he had given thanks for and broken—No. 4; Jesus said, "Take, eat"—No. 5. Furthermore, he said, "This is my body." We all believe that every act that Jesus did should be done by the church. We believe the first act is to take the loaf, the second act is to offer thanks, the third act is to break the loaf, and the fourth act is to give it to the congregation to eat. Yes, that is right, but I notice that some places the brother that serves at the table takes the loaf as Jesus did, but calls on some one else to offer thanks. Jesus did not do that. He offered thanks. "Well", says one, "is it wrong to ask some one else to offer thanks?" I do not want to say that it is wrong. But I do want to say that I know it is right for the one at the table to offer thanks; for that is the Lord's way —the way He did it—and God says his way is right. So I just want to ask you, brother, to remember how the Lord did it; and next Lord's day, at the table, you offer thanks for both the loaf and the cup. That is right. If it is right, it cannot be wrong. No doubt. No fear. It is as "the Book of the Lord" directs.

I send this hoping that the readers of The Truth will just step to your Bibles and re-read just what Jesus did and what he said. Take what you read, for it is right.—Elk City, Oklahoma.

Remarks

Brethren, this paper is an open forum. Its sole mission is to recover truth from the rubbish of the Romish and Protestant apostasy and to find a common ground of unity on every question now before the church. Bro. Musgrave will write several more articles in addition to the one above. As to his stad here (i. e., on whether we should, when serving at the table, call on others to offer thanks), I wish to say that he expresses my convictions exactly. It cannot possibly be wrong to follow the example of Jesus to the letter. If other ways are right, this way is