

THREE VIEWS ON THE LORD'S SUPPER

	<u>OPEN COMMUNION</u>	<u>CLOSE COMMUNION</u>	<u>CLOSED COMMUNION</u>
1. BELIEFS	The Lord's Supper is a Christian ordinance, given by Christ to all believers.	The Lord's Supper is a DENOMINATIONAL ordinance, given by Christ to be performed in the local church, and partaken of by believers of like faith and practice.	The Lord's Supper is strictly a LOCAL CHURCH ordinance, and is to be observed in the local church by members of only that particular local church, under the discipline of that church.
2. ADMISSION POLICY	Anyone may partake, regardless of baptism church membership, daily life.	A person must be <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. saved, 2. baptized by immersion, 3. a member of a local church of like faith and practice, 4. living a Godly life. 	A person must be <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. saved, 2. baptized by immersion, 3. a member of that PARTICULAR local church, 4. living a Godly life.
3. COMMUNICANTS	Anyone present at the service may partake.	A person who belongs to another church of like faith and practice may partake, along with the church members.	The person must be a member in good standing of the particular church in which the Lord's Supper is being served.
4. VIEW OF THE LOCAL CHURCH	The view would necessarily be universal, invisible, as anyone may come.	This fringes on "universal," as it indicates a person can belong to another body of like faith and practice, yet partake with a different body.	This is totally LOCAL, VISIBLE, as each person must belong to that particular local assembly.
5. VIEW OF CHURCH DISCIPLINE	The church does not have any control over those taking part and has no authority to discipline. They do not practice Biblical church discipline.	Biblical church discipline may be preached but is probably not practiced. A pastor cannot exclude someone (from another church) when he does not know his walk, beliefs, etc. Therefore, he probably will not exclude his own members.	Biblical Church Discipline can be practiced effectively as the pastor knows his people, and can exclude members out of good standing from partaking of the Lord's Table.
6. CONCLUSION	No man has the right to judge another man or withhold from him the right to partake. It is a "love feast," and whomsoever will may "come and dine."	The ordinance is a "DENOMINATIONAL" ordinance and a person who fulfills the requirements may "remember Christ's death" with Christians of like faith and practice if of their church. [They may flit back and forth between churches and be disloyal to their own.]	The policing of the Lord's Table keeps it pure and undefiled. This is the responsibility of the local church. A local assembly, cannot take responsibility for people who are not members of their own church.