

**Introduction:**

This afternoon, I have a trivia question for you. What phrase appears on Quebec license plates? *Je me souviens* ("I remember") Now this phrase is also inscribed on the Quebec Parliament Building. I have heard that it comes from a man named Tache that says "I remember that born under the lily, I grew under the rose" The lily represents France, and the rose represents England. However, according to Wikipedia, there is a debate about if that is the correct ending to that line. Other ideas are: "I remember my French history and heritage" or "I remember what the English did to the French." A former newspaper writer, J. Kelly Nestruck said this about it on his blog site.

*It's one of Quebec's great ironies that no one remembers precisely what architect Eugene-Etienne Tache meant when he inscribed Je me souviens (I remember) above the main door of the Parliament Building in Quebec City in 1883. The motto, which officially became part of Quebec's coat of arms in 1939, has been the subject of so much debate over the years that you just wish Tache had told somebody, anybody, what it was he remembered. The Alamo? A lost lover? Mama?*<sup>1</sup>

Well you can spend your afternoon and probably the rest of your life trying to figure that out, if you even care, but it is interesting that this architect spoke of remembering, without naming an object.

It is sad, but I believe, many times people approach the Lord's Supper, and they don't know who they are remembering.

This afternoon we are going to celebrate and participate in the Lord's Supper. This is a special ceremony instituted by our Lord for the purpose that we would remember Him. I would like to read two passages that we often read in connection with this ceremony. So I would ask that you turn your Bibles to Luke 22:14.

**Read Luke 22:14-20 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-25**

The title of today's message is that phrase: *In remembrance of Me*. We are going to look through the Scripture this afternoon and find out what the Lord meant when he said that. I think many people, like the disciples, often misunderstand what Christ meant with those words. They come to the Lord's Supper; they eat the bread and drink the juice; they say a prayer and sing a song; and they think that is it.

**Proposition:** Remembering Christ is not simply about a ritual; it is about a relationship.

<sup>1</sup> Nestruck, J. K. <[http://fence.blogspot.com/2005\\_06\\_01\\_fence\\_archive.html](http://fence.blogspot.com/2005_06_01_fence_archive.html)>

*Transition: This afternoon we are going to learn some things about a relationship, a relationship with Jesus Christ. What we learn will help us heed the command of our Savior to do this ritual in remembrance of Him.*

## **I. Sin destroys the relationship**

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But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. – James 1:14-15 (KJV)

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### A. Sin begins in temptation

1. Judas tempted by money (Luke 22:2-6)
  - a. Everyone possess a particular kind of lust  
Jim Berg's term: *Designer Lusts*
  - b. Judas possessed a monetary kind of lust
    - 1) When observing Mary's love (John 12:3-6)
    - 2) When offering Jesus' life (Luke 22:5)
      - a) Judas did not covet much money
      - b) Judas only coveted the money of a slave

*Sin does not desire much to be satisfied. Sin never begins with a heinous crime; but it may lead to one.*

2. Disciples tempted by power (Luke 22:24)
  - a. Typical temptation by the disciples (Luke 9:46)
  - b. Obvious misunderstanding of the point
    - 1) Not remembering Christ
    - 2) Remembering themselves

*Selfishness is the beginning of most sins.*

3. Peter tempted by safety (Luke 22:56)
  - a. Others faced this temptation and won
    - 1) Implication of the word *also*
      - a) John possibly entered the court (John 18:15)
      - b) John likely identified with Jesus

2) Question about the other's fate

*We do not know what happened to John; although he was not killed, yet Peter would not have known this because he stopped short in his following of Christ.*

*There is great potential for temptation when chooses to quit following the Lord out of fear.*

b. Peter faced this temptation and lost

*The relationship was destroyed by the sin of the disciples which all began with little temptations of money, power, and safety.*

B. Sin appears in action

1. Judas betrayed Jesus (Luke 22:47-48)

a. Using a sign of friendship

b. Indicating a sign of betrayal

Nothing can be a greater affront or grief to the Lord Jesus than to be betrayed, and betrayed with a kiss, by those that profess relation to him and an affection for him. Those do so who, under pretence of zeal for his honour, persecute his servants, who, under the cloak of a seeming affection for the honour of free grace, give a blow to the root of holiness and strictness of conversation.<sup>2</sup>

*Sometimes the greatest of sins are committed by those who profess friendship with Christ and Christ's servants, yet Judas was not the only professing follower of Christ to surprise us by his sin.*

2. Disciples forgot Jesus (Matt 26:56b)

a. They desired to stand by him in power

b. They feared to stand near him in danger

3. Peter denied Jesus (Luke 22:57-60)

a. Denied relationship with Christ (57)

b. Denied association with the disciples (58)

c. Denied appearance of his speech (60)

<sup>2</sup> Henry, Matthew. *Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible*. Note on this verse

*Each lie made the next one easier; each lie made it harder and harder for him to found looking at Christ; yet Christ looked at him.*

### C. Sin results in regret

1. Judas ended in despair (Matt 27:3-5)
  - a. Extreme desire
  - b. Extreme regret

*Sin never satisfies; the painful regret of sin brought upon by the Holy Spirit is always stronger than the conniving desire of sin brought upon by the Devil.*

2. Disciples remained in fear

*Next mention of the disciples was in a locked up room, which was possibly the same room they ate the Passover with Christ.*

3. Peter fell into grief (Luke 22:61-62)

*Perhaps the greatest regret was felt by Peter. He was most bold in his boast to stay with the Lord, yet He was most pronounced in his sin to deny the Lord.*

*Transition: Clearly we can see how sin destroys the relationship; yet thankfully, there is hope because love seals the relationship.*

## II. Love seals the relationship

### A. Love involves sacrifice

1. God sacrificed His Son (John 3:16-17)
  - a. Sacrifice not intended for judgement (17)
  - b. Sacrifice intended for salvation (16)

2. Jesus sacrificed His all

- a. Sacrifice of His soul (Luke 22:42)

*Christ denied his humanity in order to save all of humanity*

- b. Sacrifice of His body

- c. Sacrifice of His spirit (Luke 23:46)

*Christ's sacrifice involved utmost submission to the Father*

## B. Love involves suffering

1. Jesus suffered physical pain (Isa 53:5)

It is said that Christ did not even look like a man

2. Jesus suffered emotional pain (Isa 53:3)

- a. As mankind rejected His love
- b. As his disciples forsook His side

3. Jesus suffered spiritual pain (Isa 53:10)

*For a moment, God also forsook Christ*

*Transition: Why all this sacrifice and suffering? It was in order to seal the broken relationship. Sin destroys the relationship; love seals the relationship; and forgiveness restores the relationship.*

## III. Forgiveness restores the relationship

### A. Forgiveness begins with forgetting

1. Jesus was willing to forget Peter's sins (John 21:15ff)
  - a. He did not condemn Peter
  - b. He only questioned Peter
2. God is willing to forget our sins (Isa 43:25)

### B. Forgiveness finishes with faith

1. Jesus needed Peter to choose His will (John 21:15ff)
  - a. Peter had to choose to feed God's sheep
  - b. Peter had to trust to believe God's forgiveness
2. God needs us to choose His will (Isa 43:26)

**Proposition:** Remembering Christ is not simply about a ritual; it is about a relationship.

### **Conclusion:**

In order to understanding this ritual, you must first possess a relationship with Jesus Christ. When you partake of this ritual, do you remember this relationship?