Another Sermon by Edward O Bragwell

The Great Memorial Day
1 Cor. 11:24-25

Introduction:
A. Americans have celebrated Memorial Day the last Monday in May since 1971.
   1. Before 1971, it was May 30.
   2. Called Decoration day from 1868-1882
   3. Honor soldiers who made ultimate sacrifice for our country and its freedom.
B. Christians celebrate another memorial day, the Lord’s Day, every Sunday.
   1. The day Jesus rose from the dead (Matt. 28:1; Mk. 16:1,2,9; Lk. 24:1; Jno. 20:1).
   2. The day the Lord’s church was established (Pentecost)
   3. The day Christians perform two significant acts in which we remember the sacrifices of Christ.

Discussion:
I. The Lord’s Supper (Acts 20:7)
   A. The two elements in the Lord’s supper are designed to remind us of his supreme sacrifice for us.
      1. The bread to remind us of the sacrificed body (1 Cor. 11:24)
         a. The body that was beaten and abused (Matt. 26:19-34; Isa. 53:5; 1 Pet. 2:24)
         b. The body that was nailed to a Roman cross (Matt. 26:35-50; (Describe crucifixion)
      2. The fruit of the vine to remind us of his shed blood (1 Cor. 11:25)
         a. The blood needed to remit/forgive our sins (Heb. 9:11-14, 22-26)
         b. The blood that dedicated the New Testament (Heb. 9:15-20; Matt. 26:28)
         c. The blood that purchased the church (Acts 20:28)
   B. The observance of the Lord’s supper signifies our communion (fellowship) Christ (1 Cor. 10:14-21)
      1. “Communion” is not the name of the supper – it called the “Lord’s Supper”
      2. “Communion” is what we do when we eat it – we commune or have fellowship with Him.

II. The Contribution (1 Cor. 16:2)
   A. There is more to scriptural giving than just putting money in the plate.
      1. It is a result of having planned to give (2 Cor. 9:7)
      2. It is a result of a total commitment to Christ (2 Cor. 8:4-5)
      3. It expresses fellowship with the gospel of Christ and brethren (Phil. 1:5; 4:16; Rom. 15:25)
   B. In giving we remember what Christ has done for us (2 Cor. 8:7-9)
      1. He left the riches of heaven (Phil. 2:4-11)
      2. He lived a life of poverty (Luke 9:58)
      3. He gave his all for us.

Conclusion:
A. It is great to have a national memorial day to remember those who have sacrificed.
B. It is greater to have this day, the first day of the week, to remember Him who sacrificed it all for us.