INTRODUCTION

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States of America.

General John Logan, in his General Order #11, stated, "The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades ... "National Holiday Act of 1971 stated it to be observed on the last Monday in May.

In the Bible's New Testament, there is established a weekly memorial day and event to remember the One who died for us, and we read about it in our lesson text.

(Matthew 26:17-30; Mark 14:12-26; Luke 22:7-23; 1 Corinthians 11:23-34)

1. WHEN / HOW DID THIS MEMORIAL BEGIN: THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Jesus and the disciples were observing the Passover when He institutes His supper.

The annual Passover observance was a remembrance of Israel's exodus from Egypt's bondage.

It's origin is recorded in the book of Exodus, chapters 11 and 12.

After 9 plagues, Pharaoh still refused to allow Israel to leave Egypt.

(Ex. 11:1) "Lord said to Moses, I will bring one more plague ... "

(v4-5) "Moses said, Thus says the Lord, About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt, and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die"

(Exodus 12:1-14, v17, v26-29) are instructions for Israel to avoid the plague.

(v13) "Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are.

And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt"

(Matthew 26:19) "the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover"

2. WHAT ARE THE 2 ITEMS IN THE LORD'S SUPPER?

Unleavened bread - (Exodus 12:8; Matthew 26:26; 1 Corinthians 11:23-24)
The cup - (Matthew 26:27-28; Mark 14:23-25; 1 Corinthians 11:25)
(Mark 14:25) "drink of the fruit of the vine"

3. WHAT SHALL WE CALL THIS MEMORIAL?

(1 Corinthians 10:16) "the communion" and (v21) "the Lord's table" (1 Corinthians 11:20-22) "the Lord's supper" (Acts 20:7) "break bread"

4. WHEN (HOW OFTEN) ARE WE TO OBSERVE THE LORD'S SUPPER?

(Acts 20:7) "Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread"

5. WHAT ARE WE TO REMEMBER WHEN OBSERVING THE LORD'S SUPPER?

(1 Corinthians 11:25), "in remembrance of Me"

(v26) "For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."