**The Last Supper**

### The Last Supper

### Mark 14:12-26

**12**On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus’ disciples asked him, “Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

**13**So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. **14**Say to the owner of the house he enters, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ **15**He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.”

**16**The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

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**22**While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take it; this is my body.”

**23**Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it.

**24**“This is my blood of thecovenant, which is poured out for many,” he said to them. **25**“Truly I tell you, I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

**26**When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

**Passover**

**The first of the Seven Annual Feasts of the Lord. Not just Feasts of “the Jews”, or “the Hebrews”, These are the feasts of “The Lord”**

**Lev. 23:4-6 “**These are *the Lord’s* appointed festivals, the sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their appointed times: **5**The Lord’s Passover begins at twilight on the fourteenth day of the first month. **6**On the fifteenth day of that month the Lord’s Festival of Unleavened Bread begins; for seven days you must eat bread made without yeast.”

**Passover is the 1st night of the “Festival of Unleavened Bread”**

PASSOVER CELEBRATION :
Passover takes place on the 14th of Nissan *(the 7th month of Hebrew calendar, New moon to new moon)*

It is one of the THREE Pilgrimage Feasts (along with Succoth and Pentecost)

**Deut 16:16** *“Three times a year all your men must appear before the LORD your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles.”*

It is a very important holiday in the Hebrew calendar and was observed by Jesus every year from the time He was a child to the last supper.

**Luke 2:41**“His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. **42**And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast.”

The apostles, who were ***all Jewish*** observed this and the other feasts regularly even after Jesus ascended and even during and after Pentecost (Shavuot) see Acts 3.

Passover (Pesach) is celebrated today with a symbolic meal (Seder).

Jesus’ last supper was clearly a Passover Seder ;

**Luke 22:14*****“***When the hour had come, He reclined at the table, and the apostles with Him. **15**And He said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat *this Passover* with you before I suffer; **16**for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

Why did Jesus use Passover as the time that He allowed Himself to be arrested, and sacrificed, and not Yom Kippur (the Day of Atonement) ?

What significance is Passover to the cross?

**Exodus 12:23-27 “**For the Lord will pass through the land to strike down the Egyptians. But when he sees the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe, the Lord will pass over your home. He will not permit his death angel to enter your house and strike you down.

**24**“Remember, these instructions are a permanent law that you and your descendants **must observe forever**. **25**When you enter the land the Lord has promised to give you, you will continue to observe this ceremony. **26**Then your children will ask, ‘What does this ceremony mean?’ **27**And you will reply, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt. And though he struck the Egyptians, he spared our families.’”

Jesus gave His blood, so that the Spirit of death would Pass-Over us. His sacrifice was a once-and-for-all atonement for our sins, not a once-a-year sacrifice in the temple.

John the Baptist introduced Jesus as the “Lamb who takes away the sins of the world”.

Jesus was more than the Paschal Lamb, or the Yom Kippur Goat.

He is the Messiah!

ISAIAH 53 speaks of “the Messiah”

* He was despised and rejected by mankind…
* Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering…,
* and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all…
* he was led like a lamb to the slaughter…,
* and though the Lord makeshis life an offering for sin…,
* because he poured out his life unto death…,
* For he bore the sin of many…

**Celebrating Passover** – (Traditions that are said to have been in place while Jesus was growing up.)

* Passover begins with cleansing the house of Chametz*, (my Grandparents)*
* Lighting the Shabbat candles
* Ceremonial Washing of the hands (Jesus washed the disciples feet in John 13)

The Seder includes several symbolic foods and four cups of wine:

* *The Cup of Sanctification – based on God’s statement, “I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians”*
* *The Cup of Judgment or Deliverance - based on God’s statement, “I will deliver you from slavery to them”*
* *The Cup of Redemption – based on God’s statement, “I will redeem you with an outstretched arm”*
* *The Cup of Praise (Hallel)or Restoration – based on God’s statement, “I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God”*

SEDER PLATE:

1. Karpas- Green herbs signifying the hyssop that was used to place the blood on the lintel and doorposts of the homes of the Hebrews in Egypt so the Spirit of Death would “PASS OVER”
2. Salt water symbolic of the tears of the people bound in slavery
3. Marror – Bitter Herbs, symbolic of the hardship of slavery in Egypt
4. Charoseth – Sweet apple honey and nut mixture that reminds of the sweetness of freedom.
5. Wine - signifying the blood of the Pascal Sacrifice lamb.
6. Matzoh/Unleavened Bread – made without Yeast, reminding us that they children of Israel left in haste without time for the dough to rise.

**Matzah (Matzot)** – Made basically the same way for thousands of years.

Unleavened, flat, LINED, SCORED, BURNT-MARKS

**Isaiah 53:5** - But he was *pierced* for our transgressions, he was *bruised* for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his *stripes* we are healed.

After the Sulchan Orech, the supper, Jesus took the afikomen, a piece of Matzah that had been wrapped in a linen cloth and hidden away and retrieved.

As is outlined in the Haggadah he broke it and gave it to his disciples.

Following that, there is the drinking of the 3rd cup of wine called “the cup of redemption” as is custom Jesus gave thanks for the wine, but before He drank it, he spoke greater meaning into both the bread and the wine.

Last Supper, Last Seder or Communion

**1 Corinthians 11:23-26 “**For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; **24**and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, “Take, eat;[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1%2520Corinthians%252011#fen-NKJV-28625b)] this is My body which is brokenfor you; do this in remembrance of Me.” **25**In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the “new covenant in My blood”. This do, as often as you drink *it,* in remembrance of Me.”

**26**For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.”

The “New Covenant” is based on faith in the shed blood of Christ to take away sin, not on repeated sacrifices or any other kind of work

**We are saved by “Grace through Faith” (Eph. 2:8)**

We live in the age of “*GRACE*” : )

We are not bound by traditions, rites, rituals, sacraments or works to earn our salvation or make us worthy in any way.

Celebrating Passover or even Communion is *not a requirement for salvation*, but it is a privilege for all those who have been given sonship (or *daughtership)* through the “spirit of adoption” and the “ingrafting” that Paul talks about in Romans 8 & 11.

There is no punishment for ignoring the feasts of the Lord, but there is a richness and joy in celebrating and remembering the great things that God has done, in the manner with which he asks us to remember them.

Jesus died so that we could be saved from the consequences and punishment of our sins. That is the beauty of Grace – “the New Covenant in His blood”.

**Rom 6:14-15“**For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.**15**What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!”

* Let’s not ever take the grace of the Lord for granted, asking *“What can I get away with?”*
* Let’s respond to grace with gratitude, asking “*What can I say, what can I do, to offer my heart Oh God completely to you”*

While we are no longer bound to the law and obligated to offer sacrifices for our sins, we are compelled by the Spirit to live in a way that honors God and does not get entangled in the sins he forgives us of.

**As we take communion in remembrance *of* Him,**

**let’s live our lives in deference *to* Him.**

**Showing Him honor and respect in all we do.**

**1 Cor. 5:7-8** “For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. **8**Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old bread leavened with malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”