

THE BLESSING OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (Mk. 14:17-26)

May 25, 2025

TEXT—Mk. 14:17-26

Heb. 10:4-7, 10

MAIN IDEA—Jesus Christ changed the meaning of the Passover celebration forever. No longer would it represent Israel's deliverance from slavery in Egypt, but instead the greater reality of deliverance from the slavery of sin through faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ, God's Lamb. **MEMORY VERSE - [1 Cor. 11:26]**

THE LAST PASSOVER (Mk. 14:17-21)—This was a unique time during the earthly life of Christ, for it would be the last Passover meal Jesus shared with His disciples before His crucifixion. During this meal Jesus informed them of a coming betrayal and more importantly changed the meaning of the Passover forever.

Ex. 12:5-13, 23-27

***The traditional meal consisted of several elements:**

***An opening prayer of thanksgiving for God's deliverance, protection, and goodness.**

***Then the 1st of 4 cups of diluted red wine was given.**

***A ceremonial washing of the hands followed, representing holiness and a recognition of sin.**

***John 13 tells us that Jesus washed the disciples' feet and taught on humility (probably at this point).**

***The eating of bitter herbs symbolizing the bondage & suffering endured in Egypt followed the hand washing ceremony.**

***Flatbread was broken, distributed, and dipped into a paste made of ground fruit & nuts.**

***Next was the singing of the 1st two psalms of the Hallel (Ps. 113-118), followed by the drinking of the 2nd cup of wine.**

***Then the head of the household would explain the meaning of the Passover.**

***Next, the roasted lamb and unleavened bread was served.**

***After more washing of hands, the head of the household would distribute pieces of bread to be eaten with the sacrificial lamb.**

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***This was followed by a 3rd cup of wine to be received.**

***The participants would sing the rest of the Hallel (Ps. 115-118). Lastly, they would drink a fourth cup of wine. Jesus was excited for this meal**

Lk. 22:15-16

Jn. 13:23-30

Ps. 41:9; Jn. 8:24

THE FIRST COMMUNION (Mk. 14:22-26)—Here, Jesus reveals the greater reality of what the Passover meal points to, namely Himself. The LORD Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper and the introduction of the New Covenant of salvation to all who place their trust in His sacrifice.

Q96-What is the Lord's Supper? A. The Lord's Supper is a sacrament in which bread and wine are given and received as Christ directed to proclaim His death. Those who receive the Lord's Supper in the right way share in His body and blood with all His benefits, not merely physically but by faith, and become spiritually stronger and grow in grace.

V22—The Bread received during the Lord's Supper symbolizes Christ's body that would be given as the sacrifice for sin removing God's wrath and giving God's favor.

1 Jn.4:10; Lk. 22:19

V23-25—The Cup is symbolic of Christ's blood that would be shed on the cross to redeem sinful people who trust in Him alone as Savior and Lord.

Heb. 9:11-15, 22

V25--The Lord's supper has a past reference to Christ's death. It has a present reference to our corporate participation in Him through faith. It has a future reference in that it is a pledge of His return.

1 Cor. 11:26

Q97-What is the Right way to receive the Lord's Supper? A. The right way to receive the Lord's Supper is to examine whether we discern the Lord's body, whether our faith

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feeds on Him, and whether we have repentance, love and a new obedience—so that we may not come in the wrong way and eat and drink judgment on ourselves.

>The bible warns against eating at the Lord's Supper in an unworthy manner and exhorts us to examine ourselves before coming to participate in this sacrament. **[1 Cor. 11:27-28]**

Do we understand that the bread represents the body of Christ, given for His people? Do we understand that the cup represents Jesus' blood, poured out to pay for our sins?

1 Cor. 11:29-31

*We're to look for repentance in our hearts and faith in Jesus **[Lam. 3:40; 2 Cor. 13:5]**.

*Have I confessed the sinful the things I've done that dishonor God or the sinful attitudes I've had towards others (anger, un-forgiveness etc.)? Does my faith feed on Christ? Do I trust in the Lord Jesus Christ to give me all I need to be pleasing to God and to make me grow? *Look for Love **[1 Jn. 4:19-21]**. *Am I walking in love towards God and love towards others who have done me wrong?

*Look for a new obedience to Christ **[1 Jn. 2:3-6]**.

We should examine ourselves for failures to obey God and confess these to God as sin and receive cleansing before receiving the Lord's Supper **[1 Jn. 1:8-9]**.

V26—They Sang a Hymn They possibly sang from the Psalter **(Ps. 115-118)**.

Ps. 118:28-29