

The Lord's Supper

Matthew 26:17-19, 26-30

The Lord's Supper - Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will You have us prepare for You to eat the Passover?" 18 He said, "Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples.'" 19 And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.



26 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." 27 And He took a cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, 28 for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."

30 And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

(Read also: 1 Corinthians 11:23-25, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:14-20, John 13:1-38)

"Do this in remembrance of Me." Luke 22:19

Exodus 12:21-28

The Passover - Then Moses called all the elders and said to them, “Go and select lambs for yourselves according to your clans, and kill the Passover lamb. 22 Take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two door posts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. 23 For the Lord will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two door posts, the Lord will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you. 24 You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons forever. 25 And when you come to the land that the Lord will give you, as He has promised, you shall keep this service. 26 And when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’ 27 you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the Lord’s Passover, for He passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when He struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.’” And the people bowed their heads and worshiped.

Leviticus 4:22-24

Laws for Sin Offerings - When a leader sins, doing unintentionally any one of all the things that by the commandments of the Lord his God ought not to be done, and realizes his guilt, 23 or the sin which he has committed is made known to him, he shall bring as his offering a goat, a male without blemish, 24 and shall lay his hand on the head of the goat and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt offering before the Lord; it is a sin offering.

A Closer Look: *The Perfect Sacrifice*

Once for all. Before Christ, we were slaves to sin. In the Old Testament, sacrifices of perfect lambs and other animals were needed for forgiveness. At Passover, the blood of a perfect lamb also delivered God's people from death. Jesus, the spotless lamb of God, delivers all believers from eternal death through His body and blood, shed on the cross. Jesus tells us to celebrate the Lord's Supper as an everlasting reminder of this grace. Through the covenant of His blood, we now have life and salvation through Him.

1. In the Old Testament, sacrifices for the sins of the people were a daily reminder of the sacrifice that Jesus Christ would make for them and us with His death on the cross. Read Exodus 12 in this folder. Tell the story of Passover. How did the sacrifice of a perfect lamb save the believers? Now picture Jesus as this Perfect Lamb.
 - a. Note what John says about Jesus. ~ *"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29*
 - b. In Leviticus 4, the priest was to first realize his guilt and then sacrifice. His sacrifice was a means to confess his sin and receive forgiveness.
 - c. Because of Jesus sacrifice for us, how do you receive forgiveness from God? ~ *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9*
 - d. Daily, sacrifices were made for the people's sins. How many times did Jesus die for the sins of the entire world? ~ *Nor was it to offer Himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, 26 for then He would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. Hebrews 9:25-26*

2. Read Matthew 26:17-19, 26-30.

a. Knowing Passover was a celebration of deliverance, why do you think Jesus picked this time to introduce The Lord's Supper to His disciples?

b. What was about to happen when they left the upper room? Why do you think this was an emotional time for Jesus and the disciples? ~ *Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. John 13:1*

3. Read again Matthew 26:26-28. As Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, He said the bread and wine were His body and blood! Jesus is giving Himself completely and fully to those He loves.

a. What is Jesus asking of us in return for His sacrifice? ~ *"This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."* Luke 22:19

b. What benefit does Jesus say we receive as we commune? ~ *For this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. Matthew 26:28*

4. If communion gives forgiveness, how does it also give life and salvation? ~ *And you, (John), will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare His ways, 77 to give knowledge of salvation to His people in the forgiveness of their sins, Luke 1:76-77*

5. Why should we take communion frequently? ~ *For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. 1 Corinthians 11:2*

6. Out of love for God, what should our sacrifice be? ~ *For You will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; You will not be pleased with a burnt offering. 17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Psalm 51:16-17*