

**Date:** February 24, 2026

**Title:** The Table of the Passover Lamb

**Passage:** Luke 22:14-23

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Summary:

I. Passover Background

II. Jesus Re-interprets the Meal

III. Lord's Table Established

Key Truths:

- Jesus' crucifixion is "the great exchange."
- God looked on His perfect Son who never sinned and poured out His full wrath and judgment on His Son. God then views us through the righteousness of His Son for those who have come to Him in faith.
- The New Covenant is based on a heart change. Judas Iscariot is a cautionary example: Just because you're going to church and reading God's Word doesn't mean you have a changed heart.
- The Communion elements point to the symbols of Jesus' great sacrifice of His life (blood) and body.
- The Lord's Table is a special time to remember what Jesus has done for all those who believe in Him.

Possible Discussion Questions:

- What point(s) in the sermon did the Lord most impress upon you?
- Why is it important to remember the past?
- Why is Communion important to observe?
- What next steps will you take in response to the truths you have heard or seen?

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**Introduction:**

What comes to your mind when you hear about the Lord's Table?

- Tendency: Contemplate whatever sins or deficiencies we have and confess them before taking the Lord's Supper.
  - Observation: But if looking inward, then we are actually looking at the wrong direction.
    - We are to look to Jesus and His righteousness.
    - We should spend less time looking at our sin and more time looking at our Savior.

**Context of Passage:**

Last week of Jesus' life before His crucifixion.

- Jesus and His disciples are in Jerusalem.
- Many miracles are happening. Yet the religious leaders are looking to kill Jesus.

#### Luke 22:1-2

Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to put him to death, for they feared the people.

- Judas Iscariot then agrees to look for a time to betray Jesus (Luke 22: 3-4)

#### Luke 22:7-8

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it."

- Jesus prepares and gathers His disciples to celebrate the Passover.

#### **Passage:**

#### Luke 22:14-23

And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!" And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

### **EXPOSITION**

#### **Overview**

- I. Passover Background
- II. Jesus Re-interprets the Meal
- III. Lord's Table Established

#### **I. PASSOVER BACKGROUND**

#### **Luke 22:14-15**

***And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.***

*Passover*

- A meal that commemorates God rescuing the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt.

Exodus 1:6-11

Then Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation. But the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them.

Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. And he said to his people, "Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and, if war breaks out, they join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with heavy burdens. They built for Pharaoh store cities, Pithom and Raamses.

- Israelites become enslaved during their time in Egypt.
- God raises a man, Moses, to speak to Pharaoh of Egypt to release the Israelites, who refuses through 9 plagues that God brings in response.
- For the 10th plague, God speaks that the firstborn of every family will die. Exception are specific instructions given to the Israelites:

Exodus 12:5-7

Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

"Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

- An innocent lamb is sacrificed whereby the blood is a sign that would spare them God's judgment.

Exodus 12:12-13

For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. 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 no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

- God's final plague. Pharaoh finally relents and releases the Israelites and they are finally free.

Passover Feast - commanded:

### Exodus 12:14

“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.

- God commands His people to have a feast to remember this rescue.
- Seven-day feast where the first day of the feast: sacrifice the lamb
  - Further instructions: Prescribing the eating of unleavened bread for seven days, demanding a thorough house cleaning from leaven (v. 15), issuing a stern warning of banishment for eating leaven (v. 15), and bracketing the seven days with special holy days (v. 16), served to proclaim the high importance of the nation’s remembering this event.

### Luke 22:17

***And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves.***

- Four cups of Passover
  - First cup is the Cup of Blessing

### Luke 22:16

For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

### Luke 22:18

For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

- Jesus did not drink the Cup of Blessing.
  - Why? He was to drink the cup of judgment to come. He was not to drink this Cup of Blessing.

## **II. JESUS RE-INTERPRETATION OF THE PASSOVER**

### Luke 22:19

***And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”***

### *Bread*

- Called "the bread of affiliation" (reminded them of Israelites while in slavery in Egypt)

### John 6:35

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

*This is my body*

- Jesus explains the bread is now His body.
  - Meaning: our salvation will come through His body and His affliction.

John 15:13

Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

John 1:29

The next day [John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

- Jesus is the ultimate Passover Lamb who would take away the sins of the world

Isaiah 53:5-6

But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

- Prophecy of the substitutionary offering of the Messiah

2 Corinthians 5:21

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

- Martin Luther: This is the great exchange.
- God looked on His perfect Son who never sinned and poured out His full wrath and judgment on His Son. God then views us through the righteousness of His Son for those who have come to Him in faith.

**Luke 22:20**

***And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.***

*Cup*

- metaphor of cup that God can give, either one of judgment or blessing

*This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.*

- Jesus now establishes that this cup will be one of blessings out of His sacrifice.

## *New covenant*

- Old covenant of following God's Law. Israelites knew they kept on failing to obey fully.
- New covenant was given that would be established by Jesus.
  - One that would come from within with changed hearts.

### Jeremiah 31:31-34 (The New Covenant)

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

### Luke 22:21-23

***But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!” And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.***

- Judas Iscariot
  - One who had spent years closely with Jesus but never changed nor believed.
    - He participated physically but not spiritually.
- Caution: Just because you're going to church and reading God's Word doesn't mean you have a changed heart.

## **III. LORD'S TABLE ESTABLISHED.**

### Luke 22:19b

***Do this in remembrance of me.”***

- Not to remember from past rescue of slavery from Egypt
  - But Jesus' rescue from slavery from sin into a New Covenant.

### 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way also he

took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Key Point: The Lord's Table is something new for believers today:

- Passover Meal by Jews
  - A meal celebrated by the Jews.
  - But it is something that points to the past that their ancestors had experienced.
  - It is not a meal that those taking it are actually participating in. Pointed to events that occurred centuries ago.
- The Lord's Table

#### 1 Corinthians 10:16

The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?

#### 1 Peter 2:24

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

#### Ephesians 2:7

so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

- The elements point to the symbols of Jesus' great sacrifice of His life (blood) and body.
- It is a special time to remember what Jesus has done for all those who believe in Him.

#### Comparison

##### Passover

- only the priests examined the lamb for the feast to be sacrificed

##### The Lord's Table

- we take time examine the Lamb of God
  - Remember the great sacrifice of Jesus.

#### Titus 3:4-7

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly

through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.