



Doubtless Living!

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THE GOSPEL OF
LUKE

That you may have certainty!

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**CHANGE
AHEAD**

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22 JESUS' LAST PASSOVER



created by the Bible Project

PASSOVER OBSERVED

THE FIRST LORD'S SUPPER

Luke 22:14-23

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The First Lord's Supper

Luke 22:14-23

¹⁴ When the hour came, he reclined at the table, and the apostles with him.

¹⁵ Then he said to them, "I have fervently desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. ¹⁶ For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." ¹⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. ¹⁸ For I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

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The First Lord's Supper

Luke 22:14-23

²⁰ In the same way he also took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. ²¹ But look, the hand of the one betraying me is at the table with me. ²² For the Son of Man will go away as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!"

²³ So they began to argue among themselves which of them it could be who was going to do it.

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¹⁴ When the hour came, he reclined at the table, and the apostles with him. ¹⁵ Then he said to them, "I have fervently desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.

DESIRE FULFILLED

- This is the last meal Jesus will have with the apostles before his death, and He has been eagerly awaiting it.
 - ❖ The Greek language intense and emphatic, denoting the deep passion with which Jesus spoke.
 - ❖ Jesus strongly expressed His pleasure at celebrating the Passover meal with them, but He also noted its new significance.
 - ❖ As they recall how God saved the nation in the exodus, another age of salvation is dawning.
- Jesus is not sad. He knows what He will face, but more importantly He also knows what impact His sacrifice will have for all who believe.

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¹⁶ For I tell you, I will not eat **it** again until **it** is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."

ENCORE PROMISED

- Jesus tells His disciples that He will not celebrate **the Passover** again with them until He returns to establish His kingdom on earth.
- Jesus will celebrate the Passover again with them in the millennial kingdom, but **that Passover will be in remembrance of the cross** instead of the exodus.
- By making this statement, He is assuring the apostles that His death will not be the end of the story.
- Jesus and the disciples are all together in the upper room, as one group. But life will not be the same after this meal, His suffering is ahead.

CHANGE INITIATED

- Jesus taking a cup and giving thanks marked the beginning of the Passover celebration.
 - ❖ The traditional Passover meal has four cups, and this would have been the first one, which is called **the cup of blessing**.
- The Twelve and Jesus are sharing one last moment of celebration, gratitude, and fellowship before His suffering.

¹⁷ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he said, "Take this and share it among yourselves. ¹⁸ For I tell you, from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

PASSOVER TRANSFORMED

- Up to this point, everything about the Passover meal was normal, it was following the traditional format.
 - ❖ Opening prayer of thanksgiving
 - ❖ The first cup of wine (the cup of blessing)
 - ❖ The ceremonial washing of hands
 - ❖ Eating of the bitter herbs
 - ❖ Singing of the first part of the Hallel Psalms
 - ❖ The second cup of wine
 - ❖ Explanation of the meaning of Passover
- Then came the main meal, consisting of the roasted sacrificial lamb and unleavened bread.

Once Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, broke it and passed it around
EVERYTHING CHANGED.

¹⁹ And he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

COMMUNION INAUGURATED

- It is impossible to overstate the monumental change these next few simple phrases introduce!
 - ❖ Christ's words signaled the end of the Old Covenant and the beginning of the New Covenant.
 - ❖ The bread was no longer the Passover "bread of affliction" (Deut. 16:3), it now represented the body of the perfect Passover lamb who would be sacrificed for their/our sins!

The phrase "*which is given for you*" introduces the most important truth in the Bible –
SUBSTITUTIONARY ATONEMENT!

Substitutionary Atonement

- **Isaiah 53:5:** But he was pierced because of our rebellion, crushed because of our iniquities; punishment for our peace was on him, and **we are healed by his wounds**.
- **1 Peter 2:24:** He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree; so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness. **By his wounds you have been healed**.
- **2 Corinthians 5:21:** He made the one who did not know sin to be sin for us, so that in him **we might become the righteousness of God**.

RATIFIED BY BLOOD

- **Jesus took the third cup of wine, which came after the meal, and with it He declared a New Covenant to be sealed with His blood!**
 - ❖ The New Covenant is a covenant of forgiveness and the only saving covenant.
 - ❖ It was ratified with His blood through His substitutionary death on the cross for their sins and ours!
 - ❖ Jesus reinterprets the symbols of the Passover and gives them new meanings, which will reside until He returns.

Observance of the Lord's Supper is to be a constant reminder of the price that was paid to redeem us.

²⁰ In the same way he also took the cup after supper and said, "This cup is the **new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.**"



DELIBERATE DISCIPLESHIP

- Jesus' last Passover, which He dramatically transformed into the First Communion, is loaded with significance.
- Rather than looking back to the Exodus, Jesus looks forward to the cross and a new sacrifice that will open the way to a new era.
- Jesus of Nazareth, God's only begotten Son, is the perfect sacrifice; the innocent, spotless, perfect Lamb who takes away the sins of the world.
- Jesus knew His death was coming, but He promised it would not be the end. He knew that He would once again sit at the table with all of His disciples to celebrate God's eternal deliverance!
- In the meantime, for those who gather in His name, we are to remember His sacrifice and give thanks for the New Covenant that He inaugurated with His blood.