

Jesus Christ – The Lamb of God

I. JESUS CELEBRATES THE PASSOVER WITH HIS DISCIPLES

- A. As we read the gospels, we find the account of Jesus celebrating the Jewish Passover with His disciples. In the preceding days and weeks, He had just completed some of His most direct teaching and instructions about the Kingdom of God, The End-times, stewardship of our lives before God, and the importance of being watchful and ready for His coming (Matt. 24-25).

“Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, that He said to His disciples, ‘You know that after two days is the Passover, and the son of man will be delivered up to be crucified’ (Matt 26:1-2).

- B. The Passover was a Jewish covenant meal that God instructed Moses to observe, right after God showed His great power to Pharaoh through 10 miracle signs and wonders, and right before He brought deliverance to the Jews from the slavery of Egypt, through the Red Sea, and into the promised land. We read about the Passover in Exodus 12.

“... Every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household... Then the whole assembly shall kill it at twilight and shall take some of the blood and put it on the doorposts and on the lintel (type of the Cross) of the houses where they eat it.” (Ex. 12:3, 7).

“And thus you shall eat it: with belt on your waists, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord’s Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord. Now 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 the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt” (Ex. 12:11-13).

- C. What a powerful lesson to us today of what actually happened when Jesus Christ went to the Cross of Calvary on our behalf. Jesus became the Passover Lamb that was given for us, that the judgment that we deserved would be placed upon Him. That’s why John The Baptist said of Christ, ***“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!” (Jn. 1:29).***

- D. Jesus knew why He came, and what He came to do. And He gladly laid down His life for us to pay the price to redeem us back to God.

“I am the Good Shepherd... and I lay down My life for the sheep... No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself.” (John 10:14, 15, 18).

- E. How appropriate, that at the exact time of year when the Passover was celebrated, also became the exact moment Jesus would go to the Cross to give His life as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. In the foreknowledge of God, from the foundation of the world, this was God’s plan and purpose for all of mankind! Can you say, thank you Jesus!

II. JESUS INTRODUCES THE “NEW COVENANT”

- A. As Jesus meets with His disciples to celebrate the Last Supper (covenant meal), He mentions the fuller aspect of what it really means. He says this:
- “And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, ‘Take eat, this is my body.’ Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it all of you. For this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for many for the remission of sins’” (Matt 26:26-28).*
- B. The book of Hebrews speaks about Christ *“having obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, which was established on better promises” (Heb. 8:6)*. What are those better covenant and promises?
- C. On this Good Friday, I want to focus on two specific covenant promises. Number 1, the promise of salvation (forgiveness, redemption, deliverance). Jesus paid the price on the Cross to save you and forgive and redeem you.
- D. Number two, the covenant promise of healing. The Biblical word for healing is the word, **Rapha**. It means to cure, restore, to heal from bodily sickness and disease. In Christ’s suffering He bore more than our sins. He also suffered to bear our grief’s and sorrows, and He suffered for our peace and healing (Isa. 53: 4-5).
- “Surely He has borne our grief’s [malady, calamity] and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. Be He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes [black and blue mark, wounds] we are healed” (Isa 53:4-5).*
- E. The Apostle Peter confirms the same idea when he says, *“Who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed” (1 Pe. 2:24).*
- F. At this Good Friday service, I want you to believe God that He not only died for your sins, but He also gave His life so that you might receive healing in your physical body. Jesus paid the price for your healing so that you don’t have to!

Prayer for healing: *“Jesus I believe that you are my savior that you carried my sins, including any sickness and disease, on yourself, so that I don’t have to. Today, I say that I am redeemed from the curse, because you bore my sickness and carried my diseases in your own body. I agree with the scripture, ‘by your stripes I am healed’. I align my thoughts and words with your thoughts and words, and I say with my mouth that I forbid any sickness or disease to operate in my body. I declare, every organ, every tissue of my body functions in the perfection in which God created it to function”. In the name of Jesus Christ, amen! (Gal 3:13, Matt 8:17, 1Pe. 2:24, Isa. 53)*

III. RECEIVE COMMUNION TOGETHER AS A SEAL OF THE COVENANT