



Matthew 26:17-30

THE PASSOVER AND THE LAMB

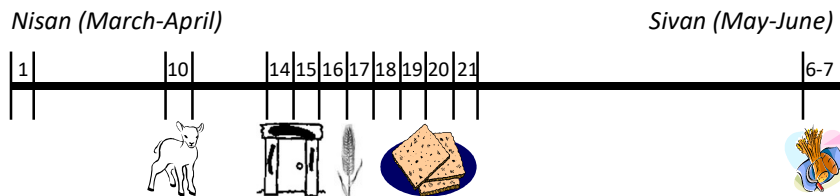
The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴ And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶ 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. ⁷ 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. ⁸ They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it... ¹³ 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. —Exodus 12:1-8, 13

All of the gospel of Matthew has been leading up to the time of Jesus' death. Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many (20:28).

Jesus' death took place during the Passover, the first and foremost feast on the Jewish calendar. It was the time that Israel looked back to their redemption from bondage in Egypt by the mighty hand of God (Exodus 12:1-28; Leviticus 23:4-8; Deuteronomy 26:8).

The Four Spring Feasts (Leviticus 23:4-22)

1. _____ (Nisan 14-15)
2. _____ (Nisan 15-21)
3. _____ (Nisan 16-17)
4. _____ (50 days after Firstfruits)



THE PASSOVER PREPARATION (26:17-19)

- The disciples' _____ of the Passover meal.
- Jesus' _____ for the Passover meal.

The Passover meal at which the father of the household gathers together all his family is the meal of meals. —Franz Rosenzweig

The Galileans used a different method of reckoning the Passover than the Judeans. The Galileans used the sunrise-to-sunrise reckoning whereas the Judeans used the sunset-to-sunset reckoning. ...The Galileans, and with them Jesus and His disciples, had the Paschal lamb slaughtered in the late afternoon of Thursday, Nisan 14, and later that evening ate the Passover with the unleavened bread. On the other hand, the Judean Jews who reckoned from sunset to sunset would slay the lamb on Friday afternoon which marked the end of Nisan 14 and would eat the Passover lamb that night which had become Nisan 15. —Harold W. Hoehner

The plan to keep the place completely secret from Judas and the rest of the disciples, except Peter and John, was necessary to avoid premature arrest and interference with the events of the evening. —John F. Walvoord

THE PASSOVER MEAL (26:20-30)

The Family (26:20). Passover was a family meal. By celebrating with His disciples, Jesus affirmed His special relationship to them as a father and their relationship to each other as brothers (Matt. 12:46-50).

The Betrayer (26:21-25). Jesus interrupts the meal by revealing that He will be betrayed. The disciples are saddened and confused. On Jesus' right is _____ and on His left is probably _____. While eating, Jesus first passes the bread to Judas who realizes that Jesus knows of his betrayal. Judas leaves the meal at this point. The disciples think Judas is leaving to buy supplies or to give money to the poor (John 13:21-30).

The Bread (26:26). Jesus gives new meaning to the unleavened bread:

- The bread is _____.
- The bread is _____.
- The bread is _____.
- The bread is _____.
- The bread must be _____.

None of the gospels mention the most significant part of the Passover— _____ (cf. 1 Corinthians 5:7; John 1:29).

The Cup (26:27-29). There are four cups at every Passover meal.

*Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the Lord;
I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.
I will rescue you from their bondage.
I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.
I will take you as My people, and I will be your God. (Exodus 6:6-7a)*

1. The Cup of _____.
2. The Cup of _____.
3. The Cup of _____.
4. The Cup of _____.

The Hymn (26:30). Jesus and the disciples ended the meal by singing the last part of the *Hallel* (Psalm 113-118). The final verses of the *Hallel* would soon be fulfilled by Jesus on the cross (118:21-29).

BASIC PASSOVER SEDER

First Cup of Wine (Sanctification)
Washing of Hands
Eating of Bitter Herbs
Story of Redemption (Exodus)
Singing of Hallel (Psalm 113-114)
Second Cup of Wine (Judgment)
Breaking & Eating of the Matzah
Passover Meal
Third Cup of Wine (Redemption)
Singing of Hallel (Psalm 115-118)
Fourth Cup of Wine (Praise)

I get chills during Passover, knowing that I'm following what was written in the Bible more than 2,500 years ago. —Joan Nathan

Verse 25 was spoken privately. It appears only in this Gospel. Judas cannot call Jesus "Lord," merely "Rabbi." —Craig L. Blomberg

If Jesus were able to whisper in the ear of Judas, then Judas must have been reclining next to him in one of the two most favored positions. Jesus did everything to show his love for Judas, but in vain.

—Michael Green

The plain meaning of our Lord's words is this— "This bread represents my body. This wine represents my blood." —J. C. Ryle

Jesus understands the covenant he is introducing to be the fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecies [31:31-34] and the antitype of the Sinai covenant [Exod. 24:8]. His sacrifice is thus foretold both in redemption history and in the prophetic word. —D. A. Carson

On the night Jesus was betrayed... He broke bread and lifted it up and gave thanks. If Jesus can give thanks in that, I can give thanks in everything. —Ann Voskamp