

## **“ HIS FINAL DAY” ( 24 Hours the Changed Everything)**

- \* Jesus is believed to have died at the age of 33 years. That’s 12,000 days. The writers of the Gospels devoted their work to approximately 1,100 days. The focus however was on one 24 hour period! The day leading up to and including the crucifixion.
  
- \* The major events of that day were:
  1. The Last Supper
  2. The Garden of Gethsemane
  3. Jesus’ Condemnation and Conviction
  4. Jesus Before Pilate
  5. The Humiliated King
  6. The Crucifixion
  7. Christ the Victor
  
- \* As we look deeper into each one of these significant events, I hope we experience the truth of God in each one!
  
- I. Jesus celebrates Passover with His disciples!

Mark 14:12, 22-25

**12** On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, Jesus’ disciples asked him, “Where do you want us to go to prepare the Passover meal for you?”

**22** As they were eating, Jesus took some bread and blessed it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “Take it, for this is my body.”

**23** And he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God for it. He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. **24** And he said to them, “This is my blood, which confirms the covenant[a] between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice for many. **25** I tell you the truth, I will not drink wine again until the day I drink it new in the Kingdom of God.”

A. Paul reflects on this event and instructs the church in Corinth!

## 1 Corinthians 11:23-28

**23** For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread **24** and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, “This is my body, which is given for you.[a] Do this in remembrance of me.” **25** In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people —an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it.” **26** For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again.  
**27** So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against[b] the body and blood of the Lord. **28** That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup.

1. Do not allow yourself to become so familiar with this act that you forget it’s significance!
2. Also, do not become so rigid and close minded concerning it’s practice that you forget it is a celebration of your faith in Christ!

### B. The historical event of Unleavened Bread and Passover!

1. When God delivered Israel out of Egypt, they left “in haste”!

Deuteronomy 16:3

**3** Eat it with bread made without yeast. For seven days the bread you eat must be made without yeast, as when you escaped from Egypt in such a hurry. Eat this bread—the bread of suffering—so that as long as you live you will remember the day you departed from Egypt.

2. There was no time to allow for the bread to rise before it was bake for the meal!
3. Within the Feast of Unleavened Bread is the celebration of Passover!

## **Exodus 12:1, 3, 5-7, 11-14**

**12** While the Israelites were still in the land of Egypt, the Lord gave the following instructions to Moses and Aaron:**3** Announce to the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each family must choose a lamb or a young goat for a sacrifice, one animal for each household.**5** The animal you select must be a one-year-old male, either a sheep or a goat, with no defects.

**6** “Take special care of this chosen animal until the evening of the fourteenth day of this first month. Then the whole assembly of the community of Israel must slaughter their lamb or young goat at twilight. **7** They are to take some of the blood and smear it on the sides and top of the door frames of the houses where they eat the animal.**11** “These are your instructions for eating this meal: Be fully dressed,<sup>[a]</sup> wear your sandals, and carry your walking stick in your hand. Eat the meal with urgency, for this is the Lord’s Passover.

**12** On that night I will pass through the land of Egypt and strike down every firstborn son and firstborn male animal in the land of Egypt. I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt, for I am the Lord! **13** But the blood on your doorposts will serve as a sign, marking the houses where you are staying. When I see the blood, I will pass over you. This plague of death will not touch you when I strike the land of Egypt.

**14** “This is a day to remember. Each year, from generation to generation, you must celebrate it as a special festival to the Lord. This is a law for all time.

C. Paul’s application of this event was to reflect the truths of our faith!

1. In summery: Christ is our Passover lamb and as we “keep the feast” our lives should be “unleavened” or without sin!

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

**6** Your boasting about this is terrible. Don’t you realize that this sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough?

**7** Get rid of the old “yeast” by removing this wicked person from among you. Then you will be like a fresh batch of dough made without yeast, which is what you really are. Christ, our Passover Lamb, has been sacrificed for us.[a] **8** So let us celebrate the festival, not with the old bread[b] of wickedness and evil, but with the new bread[c] of sincerity and truth.

2. Paul further details the truths of what we now call Communion or the Last Supper!

1 Corinthians 11:23-28

**23** For I pass on to you what I received from the Lord himself. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread **24** and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and said, “This is my body, which is given for you.[a] Do this in remembrance of me.” **25** In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people — an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it.” **26** For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are announcing the Lord’s death until he comes again. **27** So anyone who eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord unworthily is guilty of sinning against[b] the body and blood of the Lord. **28** That is why you should examine yourself before eating the bread and drinking the cup.

3. Some interesting things to note:

- a) Deut. 16:3 says that the celebration of Unleavened Bread was a memorial to remember God’s covenant of deliverance! At the celebration Jesus had with His disciples He said, “This is the New Covenant in My Blood”!
- b) Exodus 12:5 says to offer a lamb “without spot or blemish”. I Peter 1:19 says Jesus is our Passover lamb without spot or blemish.
- c) From history and custom we know that the Jews would separate the “perfect lambs” for use in temple sacrifice. There were “temple shepherds” that would watch over these specific lambs. It is believed that these were the shepherds the angels appeared

to announcing the coming of Baby Jesus!

d) Also notice that Paul says in I Corinthians 11:28 to examine yourselves when we take the Lord's Supper.

e) Isn't it also interesting that at the trial of Jesus, after Pilate observed the accusations, he said in Luke 23:4, "I find no fault in this man"!

#### 4. An interesting custom of today:

Many modern Jewish families today practice the "cleaning out of the leaven" as part of the Passover celebration. Crumbs of bread are hidden in various rooms and the master of the house proceeds in going from room to room looking for and disposing of the "leaven". They carry a candle so the "light" reveal where the leaven is hidden. When the crumbs are found he is careful not to touch it so he takes a feather and sweeps it into a small wooden spoon. He then wraps crumbs, spoon, feather and candle into a cloth and burns it. This is to remind them of their total deliverance from Egypt.

## II. Jesus expresses the heart of the matter!

### Matthew 23:23-28

**23** "What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens,[a] but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—justice, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things. **24** Blind guides! You strain your water so you won't accidentally swallow a gnat, but you swallow a camel![b]

**25** "What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! **26** You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish,[c] and then the outside will become clean, too.

**27** "What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurity. **28** Outwardly you look like righteous

people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness.

A. Remember the point of Unleavened Bread and Passover were NOT a celebration of Religious Ritual but rather a “type and shadow” of our redemption! An object lesson of God’s provision. A “blue print” of God’s restoration!

1. The blood of an unblemished lamb caused the death angel to pass over the house of the Israelites.
2. The blood of the Lamb of God applied to our lives causes us to pass from death to life!

John 5:24

**24** “I tell you the truth, those who listen to my message and believe in God who sent me have eternal life. They will never be condemned for their sins, but they have already passed from death into life.

3. This new life in Christ is “change from the inside out”!

Galatians 2:16

**16** Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.”

4. Inside peace is a sign of restoration in Christ.

Romans 5:1-2

**1** Therefore, since we have been made right in God’s sight by faith, we have peace[a] with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. **2** Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God’s glory.

B. The Cup: Jesus held up “the cup” after supper and said.....

## 1 Corinthians 11:25

**25** In the same way, he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it.”

1. There are four (4) cups used in a modern Jewish Sedar meal: Sanctification, Deliverance, Redemption and Restoration
  2. Paul called it the “cup of blessing”!
  3. Jesus asked the Father to “take this cup from Me” while praying in Gethsemane.
  4. The Sedar meal actually changed after the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D. It is believed historically that Jesus held up the “cup of redemption” at the Last Supper!
  5. He proclaimed this cup of redemption was the “new covenant” in His blood!!
- C. This meal with Jesus and His disciples was one of the major events of the last day of Jesus on earth! How important it must have been to Him and how important must it be for us! THAT is how our Savior spent His last Thursday evening!!!