

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

A Message of Hope and Fulfillment For Those Longing For God

This is My Body, This is My Blood

Luke 22: 1-23

As we have studied the Gospel of Luke, beginning about half way through, Luke begins to tell us the story of how Jesus set His face to go to Jerusalem. This was the culmination of His mission, the purpose for which He came. This trip would be His last, in this earthly visit, to the Holy City. As the day of His atonement drew even closer, Jesus longed for some time alone with His twelve disciples. Aside from the personal moment, the reason was key: this night was the closing of the Old Covenant and the introduction of the New Covenant—a pivotal moment in salvation history.

I. Betrayal

- A. Religious leaders looking for a way to arrest Jesus without notice
- B. Judas plays into their hands, becoming the tool of Satan
- C. Hidden motives and character flaws—for money Judas agrees to betray

II. Secret Preparations

- A. Peter and John sent on a secret mission
- B. Clandestine signals and a safe house location
- C. Preparations in the large upper room
- D. Judas is out of the loop and cannot know the location until that evening

III. Kingdom Banquets

- A. This Passover is the second of three profoundly significant celebration feasts:
 - 1. The original Passover—deliverance from Egypt
 - 2. This Passover—fulfillment of the promise
 - 3. The coming banquet—Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- B. The New Covenant
 - 1. This is My body which is given for you—His body broken that we might be healed; His body slain that we might have life
 - 2. This is the New Covenant in My Blood—the Cup of Redemption: delivered from bondage to The Law & The Law of Sin & Death; raised in Divine Life

IV. Spiritual Food and Mystical Union—John 6:35-58

- A. The Bread of Life
- B. My body is true food and My blood is true drink, John 6:53-55
- C. Partakers of the Divine Nature, I Peter 1:1-4

Through His sacrifice on the cross, and His atonement for our sins, Jesus has made possible a new way to live. No longer in fear of failure and punishment and exhausting self-effort, we have been brought near to God and made actual partakers of the Divine Nature. We are invited to feast at His table; not to eat His physical flesh or drink His literal blood, but to draw spiritual and emotional nourishment from His very Person. He is the Source of all life, abundant life, and in Him is fortification of the will, courage, love, power (2 Tim 1:7) to live life with strength and stability. The more we partake of Him, the more fortified we become. To feast at His table is to be nourished with Divine Life for all that comes our way. This is His Body and His Blood given freely for us!

Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was approaching. The chief priests and the scribes were seeking how they might put Him to death; for they were afraid of the people. And Satan entered into Judas who was called Iscariot, belonging to the number of the twelve. And he went away and discussed with the chief priests and officers how he might betray Him to them. They were glad and agreed to give him money. So he consented, and began seeking a good opportunity to betray Him to them apart from the crowd. Then came the first day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. And Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, so that we may eat it." They said to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare it?" And He said to them, "When you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house that he enters. And you shall say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?"' And he will show you a large,

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What elements make Jesus' Passover preparation like a clandestine spy mission?
2. What were the contributing factors to Judas' betrayal?
3. What key points made this Last Supper / Passover so important?
4. Explain the essential differences between life under the Old Covenant and the New. Give an example from your experiences.
5. How do we eat the Body of Jesus? And WHY? How do we drink the Blood? What is He talking about?
6. What does Jesus reveal in this Passover meal that promises all we need for life and godliness?
7. How does Jesus' provision fortify us in these troubled and uncertain times?

NOTES

furnished upper room; prepare it there." And they left and found everything just as He had told them; and they prepared the Passover. When the hour had come, He reclined at the 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 say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; for say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes." And when He had taken some bread and 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 in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood. But behold, the hand of the one betraying Me is with Mine on the table. For indeed, the Son of Man is going as it has been determined; but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!" And they began to discuss among themselves which one of them it might be who was going to do this thing.

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Paul R. Martin
Lead Pastor
Alliance Bible Church of McHenry, IL