



## The Last Passover

### Key idea:

In the midst of deep betrayal by the priests and Judas, a woman displays true devotion and worship, sacrificing a costly gift to anoint Jesus in spite of the indignant reaction of others.

### Key text:

Mark 14:12-26

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when it was customary to sacrifice the Passover lamb, Jesus' disciples asked him, "Where do you want us to go and make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

13 So he sent two of his disciples, telling them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him. 14 Say to the owner of the house he enters, 'The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' 15 He will show you a large upper room, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." 16 The disciples left, went into the city and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

17 When evening came, Jesus arrived with the Twelve. 18 While they were reclining at the table eating, he said, "I tell you the truth, one of you will betray me — one who is eating with me." 19 They were saddened, and one by one they said to him, "Surely not I?" 20 "It is one of the Twelve," he replied, "one who dips bread into the bowl with me. 21 The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born."

22 While they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take it; this is my body." 23 Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, and they all drank from it. 24 "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," he said to them. 25 "I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God." 26 When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

## **Key points:**

1. Jesus fulfilled the Passover, becoming our ultimate Passover lamb.
2. The Lord's Supper is deeply rooted in the Passover tradition.
3. Christ's sacrifice provides sanctification, deliverance, and redemption.
4. The Lord's Supper looks back to Christ's sacrifice, provides present nourishment, and looks forward to future fulfillment.

## **Discussion Questions:**

1. How does understanding the Passover context enhance your appreciation of the Lord's Supper?
2. The sermon mentioned that Jesus was in control even as events seemed to be spinning out of control. How can this truth encourage us in our daily lives?
3. Discuss the significance of Jesus reinterpreting the Passover elements (bread and wine) to represent his body and blood. What does this tell us about his mission?
4. The sermon emphasized that Christ fulfilled all aspects of Passover, not just as the lamb. How does this broaden your understanding of Christ's work?
5. What struck you about Jesus' prediction of his betrayal during the Passover meal? How might the disciples have felt?
6. Jesus did not drink the fourth cup of Passover, pointing to future fulfillment. How does this impact our understanding of communion and our hope for the future?
7. How does the idea that "Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed" (1 Corinthians 5:7) impact your daily walk with God?

## **Practical Applications:**

1. Before communion next Sunday, spend time reflecting on Christ as your Passover lamb and the full implications of his sacrifice.
2. This week, when facing challenges, remind yourself of God's faithfulness in the Exodus and in Christ's work. How might this change your perspective?
3. Consider researching more about Passover traditions to deepen your understanding of the Last Supper's context.
4. Practice explaining to someone else how Christ fulfills the Passover. This can help solidify your understanding and prepare you to share your faith.

5. As you participate in communion, consciously think about its past, present, and future aspects as discussed in the teaching.
6. Reflect on areas of your life where you need to more fully apply the truth that you are sanctified, delivered, and redeemed in Christ. What practical steps can you take?
7. How you can make your regular communion experiences more meaningful based on what you've learned?