

“Christ Is Our Passover—Part 5”

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BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with a seven-part series that will conclude shortly before we commemorate the suffering and death of our Savior.

The overall title of the presentation was “Christ Is Our Passover—Part 5.” Each presentation will have a subtitle. The particular subtitle of that presentation was “On the Night the Passover Lamb Was Betrayed.”

Keynote scripture

The keynote scripture for each presentation in the series will be 1 Corinthians 5:7.

- 1 Corinthians 5:7— “For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.”

What happened the previous night?

Here is brief reminder that the Lamb of God was killed at 3:00 p.m..

- Matthew 27:46—The Lamb of God was killed at the 9th hour (3:00 p.m.).
- 1 Corinthians 11:23—The apostle Paul reminded disciples about what happened on the previous night: “The Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed . . .”

Passover of Jews was near

- John 11:55—“The Passover of the Jews” was near, and many went from the country up to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves.
- John 11:56—People stood in the temple asking: Do you think He will come to the feast?
- John 11:57—The chief priests and the Pharisees had given a command—to report it if they saw the Son of God (so that they could seize Him).

Two days until the Passover

- John 12:1—Six days before the Passover, the Son of God went to Bethany. John mentioned that it was six days before the Passover when the Son of God went to Bethany.

However, the events of John 12:2-8 (involving the honorable actions by a woman toward the Son of God) occurred two days before the Passover. How do we know? The other Gospel writers supplied that detail.

■ Matthew 26:2—The Son of God said: “You know that after two days is the Passover.”

■ Matthew 26:3-4—The chief priests, scribes and elders assembled and plotted to kill the Son of God.

■ Matthew 26:5—They said: “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”

■ Matthew 26:6-11—The behavior of a woman (unnamed in this account) should be told as a “memorial to her.”

■ Mark 14:1—Mark wrote: “After two days it was the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread; and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take Him by trickery and put Him to death.”

■ Mark 14:2—They said: “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar of the people.”

■ Mark 14:3-9—The behavior of a woman (unnamed in this account) should be told as a “memorial to her.”

■ Luke 22:1—Luke wrote: “Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover.”

■ Luke 22:2—The chief priests and the scribes sought how they might kill the Son of God—for they feared the people.

It is interesting to note that Luke’s account did not mention the memorial to the woman as mentioned by Matthew and Mark.

Let’s return to John 12 and notice John’s account of the memorial to the woman.

■ John 12:2-8—This account identifies Mary (a sister of Lazarus) as the woman to have a memorial about her actions.

Son of God hid

■ John 12:23-36—The Son of God mentioned that it was time for Him to be glorified.

■ John 12:36—After the Son of God instructed His disciples, He hid for a while.

Son of God gave instruction

■ John 12:42—Although some of the rulers believed Him, they did not confess Him—lest they would be put out of the synagogue.

- John 12:43—These individuals loved the praise of people more than the praise of God.

- John 12:47-48—The Son of God said that people who didn't understand were not being judged, but those who did understand were being judged.

Washing feet

- John 13:1—John wrote: "Before the Feast of the Passover," the Son of God knew that His hour had come.

- John 13:2-5—After supper, the Son of God washed the feet of the disciples.

- John 13:6-11—He had a discussion with a reluctant Peter.

- John 13:12-17—The Son of God set an example for the disciples.

Broken bread and wine

- Luke 22:7—Luke wrote: "Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed."

- Luke 22:8-18—The Son of God instructed the disciples to prepare a Passover meal.

- Luke 22:19—He broke the bread and said: "Do this in remembrance of Me."

- Luke 22:20—He took the wine and said: "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."

- Luke 22:21-23—When the Son of God mentioned that one of the disciples would betray Him, they wondered which one of them it might be.

Arguing about Passover?

I would like to remind present-day disciples that arguing about who has superior knowledge is disgusting to the Son of God.

- Luke 22:24—There was a dispute among the disciples about who was the greatest.

- Luke 22:25—Disciples should not be exercising lordship over people or exercising authority over people.

Have you recognized a behavior that can arise at this time of the year?

It is amazing that people are rude toward other disciples who believe different details surrounding the suffering, death and resurrection of the Son of God.

Which is more wrong? Being wrong about some of the details surrounding the suffering, death and resurrection of the Son of God? Or being arrogant, rude and condescending toward people who believe different details surrounding the suffering, death and resurrection of the Son of God?

■ Luke 22:26-27—Disciples should be servants—people of conviction and compassion.

How to be a servant

Following are a few verses to shape a disciple's approach in helping other people.

■ Matthew 5:14-16—Let your light shine.

■ Philippians 2:3—Avoid conceit by esteeming others better than yourself.

■ James 3:13-18—Seek "meekness and wisdom" and the "wisdom from above."

■ 1 Peter 3:15—Be ready to give an answer of hope—when approached.

He taught the disciples

■ John 13:18-30—The Son of God identified Judas as the betrayer.

■ John 13:31-35—The Son of God gave instructions—highlighting love.

■ John 13:36-38—He had a discussion with Peter.

■ John 14-16—The Son of God taught His disciples.

■ John 17—The Son of God prayed to the Father.

Paul reiterated the symbols

■ 1 Corinthians 11:23—On the same night in which He was betrayed.

■ 1 Corinthians 11:23-25—When Paul described the broken bread and the wine, he quoted the Son of God: "Do this in remembrance of Me."

■ 1 Corinthians 11:26—Paul mentioned that when disciples partake of the symbols: "You proclaim the Lord's death till He comes."