

Mrk53 – **The Salvation Meal – Mark 14:12-26**

About our text today - **R. Kent Hughes** says

Jesus is preparing for the most important meal eaten in the history of the world.

WHY? – Because **Jesus** is going to **Illustrate**,
with the **Passover Meal**,

that HE is **God's** – **Sacrificial, Passover Lamb**

Fulfilling God's **Plan of Salvation** – for **all** who would believe

THIS is the **Passover Meal** – that **Changes Eternity**
For ALL who will **put** their **Faith** for **Salvation** – **in Jesus Christ**

Let's Pray

Mark 14:12 (NLT)

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?"

The ***Festival of Unleavened Bread*** is the **first day** of **Passover**

The **Passover Lambs** are **either BEING Sacrificed** –
OR – **Being PREPARED** to be **Sacrificed**

(depending on how you **interpret** the language)

**But – one thing we know FOR SURE
Jesus IS God's - *Once & for all "Passover Lamb"***

**& he is about to Be Sacrificed
FOR our lives - ON Passover**

**Passover celebrates – the exodus (setting free) of the Israelites
from the Bondage of Slavery in Egypt**

**JUST AS the Cross -sets US free
from the Bondage of Slavery to Sin**

The 10th Plague - God Poured Out on Egypt

That finally Set Israel free from their Bondage (Exo 11-12)

**Was the Angel of Death
that impacted every family in Egypt**

JUST AS Death - still impacts every family today

**But the Israelites were instructed
to sacrifice a spotless lamb**

**& put the blood of the lamb
on the doorposts of their house**

thereby "covering the family" Under the Blood of the Lamb

& that night – The angel of death “PASSED OVER”
the home that was covered by the Blood of the Lamb

JUST AS today – when we put our Faith in Jesus

we are covered by HIS sacrifice – on our behalf
& Death literally “PASSES OVER US”

& instead we are ushered from this Temporal Life
straight into Eternal Life with God

That is what PASSOVER – AND the Passover meal
Is Ultimately ABOUT

& THAT is **WHY** – *This is the Most Important meal Ever Eaten*

& so – again - Mark 14:12-13 (NLT)

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?”

13 So Jesus sent two of them into Jerusalem with these instructions: “As you go into the city, a man carrying a pitcher of water will meet you. Follow him.”

It would not be hard to spot a MAN
carrying a pitcher of water

because men DID NOT usually do that – Women did

So – Just as Jesus said

a man carrying a pitcher of water - MET the disciples
& they followed him to a home

Mark 14:14-15 (NLT)

14 (Jesus still giving instrucs) *At the house he enters, say to the owner, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room where I can eat the Passover meal with my disciples?’*

15 *He will take you upstairs to a large room that is already set up. That is where you should prepare our meal.”*

This whole scene

has a real “covert operation” feel to it – doesn’t it?

because the most powerful men in Israel
were determined to Kill Jesus

& Jesus was determined to give his life for us
as the Passover Lamb

But NOT before this meal

ALL of these events would happened on Jesus’ timeline

NOT man’s timeline

& **NOT** his enemy’s timeline

AND - it is **possible** –

the house the **disciples** were just “**Led To**”

was **John Mark’s “family home”**

Who is the **writer** of this **Gospel**

& **if it IS** John **Mark’s “family home”**

then it is **most likely** - the **Same Upper Room**

where the **Holy Spirit** was **poured out**

on the **120 Disciples** - on the **Day of Pentecost**

THIS was a Spirit-Filled Room – for sure

Cont’g - Mark 14:16 (NLT)

16 So the two disciples went into the city and found everything just as Jesus had said, and they prepared the Passover meal there.

Luke says it was **Peter & John**

who were **sent** to **prepare** this

“most important meal in the history of the world

Mark 14:17 (NLT)

17 In the evening Jesus arrived with the Twelve.

Now – right here

& SURROUNDING the rest of our vs's today

is where the famous Upper Room Discourse (teaching) occurs

That discourse - takes up John Ch's 13-16 (4 Ch's)

& is the most Power-Packed – Condensed teaching of Jesus
in the 3 years the Disciple's training

& so this was a Monumental Night
surrounding the Passover Meal

Every Minute - & Every Word - had Eternal Significance

Because Jesus knew

he was only hours from the cross

AND Jesus knew – that his disciples DID NOT know

that he was only hours from the cross

Even AS Jesus was explaining to them
that HE was the PASSOVER Lamb

Even AS – Jesus was SHOWING them

that the original PASSOVER

which freed Israel from the Slavery of Egypt

was a PICTURE – a TYPE of what he was

about to accomplish - as God's True Passover Lamb

So – a LOT happened at this meal

But - Mark writes in a Fast-Paced “Action Style”

& so HE leaves the deeper theology for JOHN to write
& Mark focuses on the action-events

& so – Mark goes right to
Jesus calling out The Betrayer

Mark 14:18-19 (NLT)

18 As they were at the table eating, Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, one of you eating with me here will betray me.”

19 Greatly distressed, each one asked in turn, “Am I the one?”

ALL of the Disciples were “Greatly Distressed” at this point

But ONE of them was “Distressed” because
he KNEW he was the One

because the Betrayal had already started

& so – they’re all asking – “*Is it me?*”

Mark 14:20 (NLT)

20 He (Jesus) replied, “It is one of you twelve who is eating from this bowl with me.

This is a HUGE statement – because Jesus is saying
it is one of you who is Sharing LIFE with me

it is one of you whose feet I have just washed (Jn 13)

it is one of you that I have loved unconditionally

it is one of you 12 who will betray me – to my death

& then – Jesus makes it clear – that this is GOD'S Plan

there is nothing happening here
that is not WITHIN God's Complete Control

As Mark 14:21(a) says (NLT)

21 For the Son of Man must die, as the Scriptures declared long ago . . .

THIS is the fulfillment of God's Plan of Salvation
First Prophesied in GEN 3:15

Where the Lord God speaks to Satan
at the fall of man in the garden

& speaking of THIS DAY - God says to Satan (Gen 3:15)
"He (Jesus) will Crush your head - but you will strike his heel"

Jesus is preparing to Crush the Head (or Plan) of Satan

By Becoming - God's Passover Lamb

that takes away the sin of ALL THOSE
who will be "covered" (By Faith) under his sacrifice

THIS is exactly how God ordained OUR Salvation to occur

BUT Still – WOE to the one who does the Betraying

Mark 14:21(b) (NLT)

21 . . . But how terrible it will be for the one who betrays him. It would be far better for that man if he had never been born!”

**Guys – JUDAS Made this Choice HIMSELF
God did NOT force him to betray Jesus**

**Did God KNOW Judas was going to do this?
YES, of course - But God did not force him to do it**

**& Jesus GAVE Judas
EVERY Possible Opportunity to Repent**

**Jesus loved Judas so equally
that the other disciples never had a clue**

**Jesus even had JUST washed Judas’ feet
as an act of servant-love toward him**

**& Lstn – IF Judas had repented
He would have remained with the 12**

**& Jesus would have still
gone to the Cross at the perfect time**

But Judas made his choice
To Betray the Love of Jesus

& he certainly came to feel
It would've been better if he had never been born

& Each of US – have a similar choice to make

WHAT are we going to with Jesus?

Are we going to BELIEVE who the Bible says he is?
& RECEIVE him into our life?

OR are we going to Turn our Back on him, & Betray him?

The Bible says – HOW we answer THAT question

Determines – IF we will spend Eternity
in the Presence of God

& Now – IN the CONTEXT
of ALL the Monumental Things Happening - at the Last Supper

we have – THE EVENT that Instituted Communion for us today

Using the PASSOVER – AND the PASSOVER MEAL

Jesus is going to Communicate
the Most Important Truth you will ever Hear in your Life

Mark 14:22 (NLT)

22 As they were eating (the Passover meal), **Jesus took some bread and blessed it. Then he broke it** (tore it) **in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “Take it** (meaning: take & eat it), **for this is my body.”** (Luke adds **“which is given for you”**)

Everything at the Passover Meal

Has a **Significant** - & **Symbolic** – **Meaning**

There were BITTER HERBS

to **remind Israel** of the **Bitterness** of **Slavery**

The **HERBS** were dipped in **SALT WATER**

to **Remind Israel** of the **tears shed** under their **Bondage**

& This **UNLEAVENED BREAD** was to **remind them**

of the **SOURCE of LIFE** - that Israel **consumed**
AS they were **FREED** from their **Bondage**

& **Leaven** symbolized **Sin**

So the **bread** was **unleavened**

to **symbolize** the **SINLESS Source** of their New Life

& **during** Israel’s **time** in the **wilderness**

this **“Sinless Source of Life”** came **down** from **Heaven**
& **they** called it **MANNA**

& in JOHN Ch 6 – Jesus made it clear –
HE IS that Manna from Heaven

HE IS the Sinless Source of Life
that God provided from Heaven

& so here – at the Last Supper – Jesus makes it clear

This Bread in the Passover Meal

Represents the “Sinless Source of Life” that comes from God

WHICH IS - The BODY of Jesus Christ –
Bearing Your Sins – ON the CROSS

& Jesus says – Take this IN
RECEIVE the Sacrifice I’ve made for you on the cross

Mark 14:23-24 (NLT)

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 between God and his people. It is poured out as a sacrifice for many.

THIS – is the New Covenant

that Required the Sacrifice – of the Life of Jesus Christ
to be Freely Offered to US

You see – For God to BE God - He MUST Judge Sin

God cannot simply overlook sin
or he could NOT be a Holy God

& the Judgement for Sin
is Separation from God – which we call DEATH

But the New Covenant
that Jesus is INITIATING Right HERE

Is Jesus – paying the Full Penalty
FOR our Sin - IN OUR PLACE

Enabling God – to offer us the FREE GIFT
of ESCAPING the Judgement on our Sin

BY us PUTTING our FAITH in Jesus Christ
& RECEIVING His Sacrifice - for our sin

Romans 6:23 explains it perfectly (NLT)

23 For the wages of sin is death (that's where we're at, without Jesus Christ – the Old Covenant), *but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.* (that's the New Covenant of Jesus paying for our sins on the cross - & us receiving eternal life by putting our Full Faith in him)

& so THE CUP becomes a Symbol
of the Life that Jesus Christ Gave - in our place
so that we could live for eternity – with God

& then – Jesus ENDS this Forever Life-Changing Meal

With the PROMISE of another Communion Meal coming
In the Heavenly Kingdom

Mark 14:25 (NLT)

25 I tell you the truth, I will not drink wine again until the day I drink it new (Mat adds “with you”) in the Kingdom of God.”

& then – Jesus closed – 3 ½ years of teaching his disciples

with a WORSHIP SONG – on the way to the Arrest, & the Cross

Mark 14:26 (NLT)

26 Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives.

Guys – when we take communion –
we are stopping the world for a few minutes

& we’re stopping all our Religious Motions & goings on

& we are coming back – to the single most important truth
that we can Receive in this life

Jesus Christ gave himself
as an OFFERING – as a SACRIFICE

To pay the full penalty for our Sin

& when we put our faith - in WHO Jesus Christ IS

& in WHAT - he has done for us on the CROSS

The Greatest Exchange in all of Eternity Occurs

Jesus takes on OUR SIN

& he GIVES us – HIS Righteousness before God

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NLT)

21 For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ.

Let's Pray