

WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM? Christ is Our Passover Lamb

Mark 14:12–25

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I. Jesus prepares to observe the Passover meal (14:12-17) (Matt. 26:17-19; Lk. 22:7-13)

II. Jesus announces that He will be betrayed (14:17-21) (Matt. 26:20-25; Lk. 22:21-23; Jn. 13:21-30)

> God's sovereign plan (v. 21a)

Jesus was letting His shocked and sorrowful disciples know that events were playing out exactly as the Father had ordained them from the beginning of the world.

In these events, we see the intersection between the secret counsel of God and the machinations of the human will. In God's providence, what we call the mystery of concurrence occurred. Two streams came together—the sovereign will of God and the earthly will of human flesh. It is not as though God in His sovereignty coerced Judas to carry out the evil act of betraying Jesus. Rather, the sovereign God worked His will in and through the choices of His creatures. Judas did exactly what Judas wanted to do, but God brought good out of evil, redemption out of treachery. **R. C. Sproul**

> Christ's warning (v. 21bc)

(1) Walk in humility.

1 Cor. 10:12 Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

(2) Follow and trust Jesus.

When he calls us to obey God's Word, he summons us to follow him, not to go over uncharted ground.

He has gone before, and proved that God's Word can be relied on in the darkest hours of life and death. - **Sinclair Ferguson**

III. Jesus Institutes the Lord's Supper (14:22-25) (Matt. 26:26-30; Lk 22:19-20)

Four key elements in Mark's account of the Last Supper:

1. It inaugurates the "new covenant" which God makes with us through Christ (vv.23-24).

Luke 22:19–20 And he took bread, and when he had 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." 20 And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

> **Blood seals or inaugurates a covenant.**

> **Jesus is the Passover lamb, sacrificed for us (1 Cor. 5:7b).**

By identifying his own mission with the Passover, Jesus indicates that he has come to enact the new redemption and new exodus promised by the prophets.

In the New Exodus – the cross, God saved a people for himself through the blood of Jesus’ sacrifice. He freed us from slavery and made us his own. And on the night before that great act of deliverance, Jesus gave them a meal to celebrate ever after. This meal defines us as his people. We all celebrated it, and no one else should. By retelling the story of our salvation, this meal brought God’s past act of deliverance into the present. It tells every Christian that we are no longer slaves to sin, that we are forgiven and that our Lord Jesus Christ is the God who saves. **Bobby Jamieson – *Understanding the Lord’s Supper*, p. 11**

Remember: We look back with grateful hearts at Christ’s sacrifice on the cross for our sins.

2. The focus is not on the elements but on the one who gives them (vv. 22-23).

1 Corinthians 10:16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?

Examine: We look inward with the Spirit’s help and confess known sin. We renew our commitment to Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:27-28 Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. 28 Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

3. It emphasizes the fellowship we have with Jesus and the church.

> **The Lord’s Supper makes many one.**

1 Corinthians 10:17 Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

> **The Lord’s Supper marks off God’s people from the world.**

How does a group of Christians enact their commitment to Christ and each other?

Fellowship: We look around with appreciation for our spiritual family. We renew our commitment to them.

4. It reminds us that it is an unfinished meal (v. 25).

1 Corinthians 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

Wait: We look forward with hope to the coming kingdom. We renew our commitment to proclaim Christ.

This means, in part, that the Lord’s Supper belongs to the weak Christian. No one comes to the Table in unblemished worthiness or undiminished strength. We come to the Table in need. We come to the Table fresh from battles with sin, discouragement, unbelief, and the world. We need to be fed again. We need to receive the sustenance that Christ affords. By faith we receive the nourishment we need as we drink the benefits of Jesus’ atoning work for sinners and weaklings. **Thabiti Anyabwile**