



The First Lord's Supper

Community Study Guide: Mark 14:12-26 –Week of May 12th, 2024

1. The First Lord's Supper is the Last Passover

Once again, we see Christ showing His sovereign and supernatural knowledge, in which He clearly predicts a series of events. He instructs His disciples on how they are to acquire and prepare a place for Jesus to have the Passover meal. The events play out precisely as Jesus had prophesied. We get further confirmation that this and all of the events that are about to occur are happening according to the definitive plan of God. This all was done to prepare the moment for Jesus to complete the practice of the Passover and replace it with a new covenant. This new covenant would be one would be one in His blood, not simply the blood of a lamb. Jesus would use this moment to prepare His disciples for the coming change that He was bringing, in which His shed blood would once and for all make propitiation for sins.

2. The way to approach the Lord's Supper: "Is it I?"

As the disciples and Jesus are reclining at a table, partaking in the meal, Jesus gives them startling news. One of the twelve will betray Jesus. This incendiary information causes quite a reaction from them. They all respond by asking, "Is it I?" Why did Jesus reveal this information? Primarily so that once these prophesied events had taken place, they might believe that Jesus is who He claimed. Furthermore, the reason for this question is to have the disciples reflect on themselves. By asking the question, Jesus instigates the disciples to search their own motivations... Could they? Would they? For us as Christians, we too should take great caution in

DISCUSSION GOALS

Head

Jesus came to be the full and complete fulfillment of the law. He was the spotless Lamb of God, who lived His life in perfection. By His death, burial, and resurrections, He has overcome sin and death. Furthermore, we have been gifted His righteousness, and He has taken our sin. That sin was upon Him, and it was carried to the cross. He has atoned for our sins, and we have received His grace.

Heart

We must properly approach Christ, rightfully asking, is it me? We must humbly confess our sins, knowing Christ's faithfulness to forgive our sins.

Hands

We are saved by grace, and that grace comes as a gift of faith. We are to look to Christ, and remember all that He has done for us. What He has done is now the cornerstone for all that we will do. Put your faith in Christ, for He is your salvation.

approaching the Lord's supper. What sin is in our hearts? What must we confess and repent from? We ought not to be like Judas, hypocritically asking "Is it I?" We should humbly confess the sin we have in our hearts, knowing that Jesus is our Savior, and His blood has paid for all our sins.

3. The way to receive Grace is through Faith

During their meal, Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper, a new covenant in His blood. The bread that He broke and blessed was His body, the wine His blood. We see that all the disciples, including Judas, partake in this covenant. We once more see that it is not some action that is taken that brings about salvation. Salvation was available for those who trusted in Jesus, and who put their faith in Him. Jesus would go forward, and once and for all satisfy the wrath of God by having His body broken and His blood poured out. This would act as a ransom for all those elected by God, that Christ might provide propitiation for our sins. We look to Him, in faith, for our salvation.

Read Mark 14:12-26

1. **Read Verses 12-16.** Why is this information included here? What do we learn about Christ in these verses? What are the implications for events involving Christ going forward?
2. Pastor Jan stated that the “First Lord’s Supper was the Last Passover.” What is meant by this? How did Christ’s actions effect the way that we should view the Passover?
3. In the order of events(before communion), Jesus reveals to the disciples that one of them will betray Him. What was the disciple’s response? What is surprising about how all the disciples responded?
4. **Read Verse 20-21.** What can we learn from this passage? What does it teach us not only about Christ, but about Judas? How do we see both God’s sovereign decree and man’s responsibility in this passage?
5. While they were eating, Jesus gave the disciples the first Lord’s supper. Why was this new covenant given? In what ways was it different from the previous covenant (Exodus 24:3-8)?
6. The Lord’s Supper provides Christians an opportunity to do three things. First, to remember Christ, and what He has done. Second, to consider our own hearts, to determine if “Is it I?” Third, it is to proclaim His death until He comes. Think of each of these different opportunities... how do we practically observe these during the process of the Lord’s Supper? How does this information change the way you view taking of communion?
7. **Read 1 Corinthians 23-32.** What does it mean to drink the cup in an unworthy manner? What are the consequences of receiving communion in such a state? What steps should we take if we are to find ourselves in such a position?
8. Considering the implementation of the Lord’s Supper, how do we see the Gospel message? How do we see that salvation is ultimately given by grace and received in faith?