

THE MARKS OF THE
**TRUE
CHURCH**



I'm In Covenant with Him
Sunday 2nd October 2022

Introduction

Hebrews 4:12 tells us: “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

There is life in the word of God.

“The word of God is not dead, it is living, potent and full of power to transform your situation.” – *Pastor Kola Taiwo, New Wine Church Woolwich.*

As you read through this text, allow the Word of God to penetrate every dead situation and infuse it with the life of God.

Throughout this series, we have been taught the 3 key marks of the true church:

- 1. Preaching of the Word**
- 2. Administration of Sacraments**
- 3. Exercising of Church Discipline**

This text will further expand on one of the sacraments, which is ‘The Lord’s Table’, otherwise known as communion.

The Sufficiency of Scripture

Psalm 19:7-12 reveals that the scripture is sufficient for everything we need in our journey through life.

“The word of God contains the answer for every question we could ever have.” – Pastor David Adabale, New Wine Church Woolwich.

Whenever God wants to do something, He sends His word.

This is why when Jesus was tempted, He responded with: ‘it is written’. Likewise, **Psalm 107:20** says: ‘God sent His word and healed them.’

When you read the word of God, do not read it for information, read it for revelation.

An acronym for the Bible is:

Blessed

Information

Giving

Life

Eternal

Words are Spiritual Containers

“Words are spiritual containers and they are the bridge between the spiritual and the physical realm.” – Pastor David Adabale, New Wine Church Woolwich.

Those that live in water are aquatic animals; those that live on the land are terrestrial animals, and those who live in the spirit realm are celestial beings.

Did you know that human beings are the only beings that are terrestrial and celestial at the same time, operating in the realm of the spirit and the natural?

Even angels and demons do not have this privilege!

There is more to you than meets the eye, it is not about your physical appearance, it is about what you carry on the inside of you. You are loaded with the Spirit of God!

“It is an indictment on the God of heaven, who created you in His image and after His likeness, to use your physical parameters to judge yourself.” – *Pastor David Adabale, New Wine Church Woolwich.*

The bridge between the realm of the spiritual and the realm of the natural are words. For example, if you hear the word ‘dog’, you create a picture in your mind; whereas if you hear the words, ‘big, black, angry dog’ the picture in your mind changes to fit what you have heard. So it is with the word of God that you hear and speak: they should *trigger a reaction on the inside of you.*

We must never trivialise the Word of God. Instead, turn to the Word of God for the solution to every problem you may be facing.

Video by Dr. Tayo Adeyemi:

“Ministries that are built solidly on the teaching of the Word always outlast the minister. They always produce believers that are mature, strong; the fruit from those ministries are much, much greater have substance inside themselves and can withstand the storms of life.” – *Dr. Tayo Adeyemi, Founding Pastor of New Wine Church.*

Spirit, Soul, and Body

We are not physical beings trying to have a spiritual experience; no, we are spiritual beings called to master our physical experience!!

Our spirit is about communion, conscience and intuition. Our soul consists of our mind, will and emotions. The mind is the thinker, the will is the chooser and our emotions are the feeler.

We feed our body with food, our soul with words, and our spirit with the Word of God. God downloads His counsel into our spirit, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

“The Holy Spirit is the executive agent of the Trinity. Whatever He does, He does by His Word, through the Holy Spirit.” – *Pastor David Adabale, New Wine Church, London, United Kingdom.*

Communion and Passover

Communion is a part of the covenant that causes us to enjoy what Christ did for us on the cross; it is one of the ordinances of Christ.

Mark 14:12-26 gives us more context into this, with two key words: 'Passover' and Lamb'.

In addition, **Mark 14:22-24** says: "And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, "This is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many."

The communion elements represent the body and blood of Jesus. In Israel, they celebrate a feast called 'Passover'.

What is the 'new covenant' mentioned in **Mark 14:24**? In answer to this question, let us explore this further.

In **Luke 24:1-35**, Jesus was crucified as the Passover Lamb and rose up from the grave, which caused a lot of commotion in Israel. The risen Jesus was speaking with the disciples, although they didn't recognise Him because their eyes were restrained, until they ate the Passover meal with them, and their eyes were opened.

Luke 24:30-31 says: "Now it came to pass, as He sat at the table with them, that He took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished from their sight."

Jesus as the Passover Lamb had communion with His disciples, and as a result, their eyes were opened! Likewise, Jesus is alive and we are in covenant with Him! One of the ways that our covenant with God is demonstrated is in the partaking of communion.

Our Position in God's Covenant Agenda

The table below outlines how God has kept His eternal covenant agenda from the creation era (starting with Adam) unto the grace era (ending with Jesus Christ, the passover lamb):

	Era	Started with...	Position of sin	Scriptural reference	Description	To qualify
A	Creation era	Adam	No Sin	Genesis 1:26-28	Human Race	Created by God
B	Dominion era	Adam	Sin Entered	Genesis 3:1-24	Fallen Race	Born
C	Regeneration era	Noah	Sin Remained	Genesis 6:1 – 8:22	Rescued Race	Be in the ark
D	Foretaste era	Abraham	Atonement of Sin (Covering of Sin)	Genesis 12:1 – 25:11	Chosen Race	Born Jewish
E	Grace era	Jesus Christ	Remission of Sin (Cleansing of Sin)	Romans 8:29	Restored Race	Receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour

Jesus is the Ark!

The ark in **Genesis 6:1** was a representation of Christ. Inside Christ is salvation, and God has many types of people being refined by Him in His presence.

The ark was designed to withstand the storms of life, and Christ is the Ark. As long as you are in Christ, what was designed by the world to sink you, will only lift you higher.

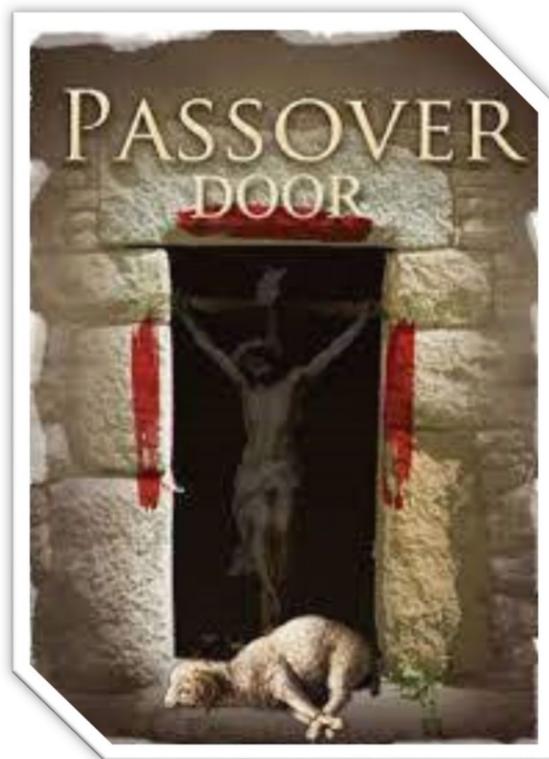
Whatever is designed to sink you will instead elevate you.

Jesus, the Passover Lamb

In the chosen race (the foretaste era in the table above), God instituted the Passover. During Passover, they had to kill a lamb without breaking its bones, cut it so that blood is spilled and place the blood on their doorposts, so that those inside that house will be delivered from the angel of destruction.

Similarly, Jesus was killed during Passover, meaning that Passover was a foretaste of the death of Jesus Christ. Jesus was the Passover lamb that was killed in the book of Exodus.

The three points of the blood on the lamp post also give foresight into some of the points in which Jesus's blood was shed.



“Each of those points was God re-enacting a new and better covenant than the lamb in the book of Exodus, so that we can step into the fullness of what Christ has made available for us.” – *Pastor David Adabale, New Wine Church Woolwich.*

Jesus commanded us to take communion in remembrance of Him, so that we remember the new and better covenant that He established for us.

The 5 Points of Jesus' Shed Blood

Back – This indicates health, wellness and wholeness. Jesus shed blood in His back by being whipped with a sharp multi-pronged instrument, for our healing (**see Isaiah 53:5**).

Head – This is the place of blessing. When Jesus was given the crown of thorns, it was shoved into His head so that blood poured. This was to release the blessing of Christ on our lives, and remove the curse. Christ has redeemed us from every form of curse!

Hands – This represents the point of work, vocation, and economic power. Someone with a ‘withered hand’ cannot produce what is required for sustenance. However, **2 Corinthians 8:9** tells us that although Christ was rich, for our sake He became poor. As a result, we can partake of the prosperity of God, which gives us what money can buy, and what money cannot buy, such as health, peace of mind, and many more blessings.

Feet – This indicates the place of dominance and victory. We are assured in **Luke 10:19** that “we have been give the power to tread upon serpents, scorpions and all the powers of the enemy.” When blood was shed from Jesus’ feet, He removed defeat and gave us victory. (**Also see Romans 16:20.**)

Side – When Jesus was on the cross, a Roman soldier pierced His side to confirm that He was dead. Christ was pierced and blood and water came out. This was to give us new life, through the new covenant of Jesus Christ (**see 1 Corinthians 5:21**).

Lastly...

As you have learned of the benefits of the sacrament of communion, be encouraged to partake of the communion from a place of greater revelation into what Christ has done for you!