

Matthew: Jesus, The King of Kings

Blood of The New Covenant

Matthew 26:17-35

Previously

- Passover (briefly explain)
- Chief priests & scribes conspire
- Anointing at Bethany (Mary and alabaster flask)
- Judas sells out Jesus for 30 pieces of silver

Today

- Passover Fulfilled in a New Covenant
- The Covenant of Jesus Body & Blood
- Betrayal revealed
- Denial foretold

[Pray]

:17 - 20

Feast of Unleavened Bread

Literally this is the Passover meal.

What you eat to celebrate and remember

Thanksgiving, Christmas, 4th of July BBQ all rolled into one here

DGC *John seems to indicate that the meal took place before the Passover (John 13:1), and that Jesus was actually crucified on the Passover (John 18:28).*

France - *The simplest solution...is that Jesus, knowing that he would be dead before the regular time for the meal, deliberately held it in secret one day early.*

I love that Jesus was longing to have a special meal with them

Having to eat at a work party vs. longing to sit down with your closest of friends

Spent way too much time and money eating out in my 20s

They asked Jesus where He wanted to have the meal

Jokes about asking your wife "I don't care"

Certain man not named. Who was he? Disciples didn't know.

Jesus knew Him and the man knew of Jesus at least.

Luke tells us more

Luk 22:10-11 - And He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him into the house which he enters. "Then you shall say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says to you, "Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with My disciples?" ' "

Reminds me of the folks who just let the donkeys go when the Lord had need

Eliezar sent to find Rebecca

Jesus sees Nathanael under the fig tree, praying

Evening had come, they sat down.

Evening is the beginning of the Hebrew day

(Sun down to sun down not sun up to sun up) (Christmas Eve dinner vs. Christmas)

(also explains no mention of lamb, meal usually eaten at the end of the day - He was the lamb)

:21 - 22

Jesus breaks the news

- **A night meant to celebrate**
- **A night meant to be a sad sendoff**
- **Last night before the worst day**
- **Interrupted by unthinkable news**

I'd think it was heavy on Jesus' heart all night and he was waiting for the right moment

His betrayal was no secret to Him

Betray - to deliver one over

They knew what He meant, but they didn't know who

And each of them wondered, did I do something? Will I do something?

They knew Jesus could tell the future, so-to-speak, was a prophet

Each one grieved, offended, uneasy

All looking at each other, talking, wondering

Luke tells us they also argue about who would be greatest at this point too

Sorrow, is it me? No it can't be me. I'd never do that!

Was this the point Jesus piped up and spoke of His betrayal? Was this what kicked off the argument?

Disciples keep arguing over who's the best disciple.
Kinda proves they're all D students and not d-ciples.

:23 - 25

The one who dipped at the same time

Communal eating

The meal meant to bring them together, celebrate the savior, the last meal

Was now one that would reveal the division

The Consolation v24

**This was always meant to happen to Jesus. It was always the plan.
But who would betray Him? That was their own choice. (Ps 41:9)**

**There's something to be said about our free will and God's omniscience
Although God knows what we will choose, it is still up to us to choose it**

2 Timothy 2:19-21 - Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity." But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.

**God knows who's are His (he's not fooled, he sees the heart)
but we, if we are His, will make an effort to be a vessel of honor for God**

The real test of being a disciple is not our words, not our proximity or position in the group, but our behavior, the direction of our lives - what does our life hinge on?

Harsh reality: Better to not have been born

to not know life, then to know a life betraying God and live for eternity without him

Life apart from God is not what it's cracked up to be

Don't believe the lies. Don't look back with rose colored glasses

“Teacher, is it I?”

Do you think Judas knew Jesus knew at that moment? Was there a possibility? Did they all go in turn, “is it me, Lord?”

Luke’s mention of their argument over greatness, it could have broken out here as well

Jesus reveals he has a betrayer in one of them

They all wonder if it’s them, then they each proclaim they’d never do it, they’re his greatest follower

Proverbs 20:6 - Most men will proclaim each his own goodness, But who can find a faithful man?

Judas had received the payment but hadn’t delivered yet. Perhaps he still had a way out. But it seems for him there was none.

God always offers a way out of sin

Before we knew Jesus, before the Holy Spirit was our helper...we had no choice. We were slaves to sin.

1 Corinthians 10:13 - No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God [is] faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear [it].

Luke tells us that Satan entered Judas’ heart when He sold Jesus out

It may have been too late at this point to turn back. Judas, like **Pharaoh**, had made his final choice

If Judas was possessed at this point as Luke seems to tell us,

it’s possible that Jesus is talking about Judas but also to Satan directly - **the original betrayer.**

What was his tone, “is it I?” Knowing full well, not being ashamed of it any longer.

Much like Jesus rebukes Peter saying “Get behind me, Satan” when Peter pipes up thinking there’s no way Jesus should go to the cross.

Was Judas there for the Lord’s supper? Had he left before the washing of feet?

We can’t say for certain. Either scenario is chilling, sobering, grievous.

:26 - 29

Take eat, this is my body

Not transubstantiation - actually becoming his body and blood
(as if bread and wine could hold him)

***We love to turn things into religious rituals and rites
at the expense of simple relationship - which is what God wants!***

Remember, they're celebrating the passover with a meal together -
He's showing the fulfillment of passover
The new meaning

**Spotless lamb, without sin, without blemish. Sacrificed to save people from death.
Anyone who would want to eat could come**

Colossians 2:7 - ...[feasts] which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.

These things were just a shadow of what? - the Light of Jesus.

Jesus is the actual Passover. The real Sabbath. The fulfillment of the law. The one the covenants all promised.

Drink from it, all of you (was Judas involved? Had he left?)

Different kinds of offerings, one would be a drink offering. Something completely poured out to God.

It is open for all to come and drink. But to eat and drink in a sober way

1 Corinthians 11:27-30 - Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks [this] cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. **But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.** For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many [are] weak and sick among you, and many sleep.

Shed for many

Not limited atonement

Jesus said to invite everyone to the wedding feast

Why would he limit it?

He desires none should perish (2 Peter 3:9)

Equivalent to: Abundant, plenteous

- 1 - is not humanity many, are not our sins many?
- 2 - although it is for all, even the few that would choose are still many

This is the New Covenant

“Binding promise” (Old Testament, New Testament)

**God loves to make covenants with people, -
Jesus is God making himself the covenant**

yet they always seem to be only thought-up, signed, and fulfilled by Him alone

Adamic - 2 part, 1 at creation, 2 after the fall - promise of the Messiah through humanity

Noahic - never flood the entire earth again - God judged but God would spare - rainbow

Abrahamic - build a nation and bless the world, ultimately messiah - circumcision (set apart)

Cutting covenant

Mosaic - The Law - blessings of obeyed - pointed a need for the savior

Davidic - Kingly line with messiah on the throne - their part only left blessing on them

New Covenant -

all promises fulfilled - unity with God again, from the heart (**better than the Garden**)

- Spared from Judgment of sin, inherit a new world
- God’s people (church) from one Man, set apart and holy, hearts circumcised
- Law written on our hearts, secured by a savior who fulfilled the law
- Sit as Kings and Priests with Him - With one King over us

Wine and celebration

A toast

He will not rest, he will not celebrate, the party will not begin until we are with Him in paradise

The wedding party doesn’t start until the vows have been fulfilled!

Hebrews 10:1-4 - For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, [and] not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. But in those [sacrifices there is] a reminder of sins every year. **For [it is] not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.**

The Sacrificial System was a stop-gap - a reminder and proclamation that a savior was still needed and on the way

Communion/Lord's Supper doesn’t forgive sins either - it’s a reminder and proclamation that

the Savior did come and the sacrifice was made, if we'd take part - receiving it. Taking it. Eating it. Drinking it.

His body and blood - Jesus would give up everything for an opportunity to have us back

It's not simply knowing this fact. It's partaking in it that saves us

Partaking in it by faith. By making His death the foundation for our life

For trusting that He really did pay for our sins - there's literally nothing we can do to get rid of sin

If we still think there is, or we have some part in the covenant, other than accepting the terms, we've got the wrong deal

:30

Sung a hymn

Pascal hymns: Ps 113-118, Hallel Ps 116-118 (They are even prophetic of the cross)

Worship - songs praising God for Who He Is, What He's Done, and what he's done for us

Worship is not a style

We err when we insist that our style is correct

Some like jazz, some like blues, some like orchestra or opera

The hymns many today insist on weren't even written for 1800 years

It's like demanding the KJV (great translation, great source text, probably the best source)

But English didn't even exist, not even old English, in Jesus' day

We get so myopic and religious over style and modern tradition and miss the heart of relationship

If you really think you have to sing hymns only and the original language, better learn some Hebrew and Aramaic and their tunes!

Eph 5:18-20 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Interesting the lead in...old sailors being drunk, maybe drinking and singing songs at parties or the bar

The Spirit will lead us into songs about our Savior and our Savior sings, even before death (and we should sign to one another, encourage one another with them)

:31 - 35

Another chilling statement

As if the night couldn't get any worse (it would)

Peter, the big dog, would deny Jesus (and 3x before 3am)

Maybe the disciples said "that figures" when Judas betrayed Jesus

But big, bold, brash, Peter, deny him? Unthinkable.

But not just Peter - everyone would stumble

The good thing about stumbling is that it means, if you love God, you get up

Proverbs 24:16 - For a righteous [man] may fall seven times And rise again. But the wicked shall fall by calamity.

Peter would be ready to fight, the other disciples as well

But that was the flesh at best

Jesus will go on to say later, "The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

In some sense, we can't blame them. They were following God as best as they could.

But they didn't yet have the Holy Spirit. We'd see a marked difference in Peter after Pentecost.

**Thankfully our relationship with God is not based
on our ability to keep our swelling promises**

Our relationship with God is not based on our behavior (although it will be evidence of it)

**Our relationship with God is based purely
on whether we accept His new deal or not**

Jesus' body and blood - sacrificed for us

Do we drink of it? Do we eat of it?

Do we accept the terms of this deal?

His death for our life?

Or does it not seem good enough for our tastes?

**Is there something we think is good enough about us to do better than
God's Son for us? Let us consider. Examine ourselves. And feast.**