The Passover And The Lord's Supper – Part 2

Luke 22:1-20

I. Introduction.

A. This lesson is a continuing of "*The Passover And The Lord's Supper*".

II. The Passover that Christ observed.

A. As the time of the Passover nears, Jesus gave instruction to His disciples: Luke 22:8-9, "*And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the Passover, that we may eat. And they said unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare?*"

B. Matt. 8:20, "*And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.*"

C. Luke 22:10-12, "*And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in. And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the Passover with my disciples? And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready.*"

D. Luke 22:13, "And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the Passover."

E. The Passover Jesus and His disciples observed was actually a day earlier than that done by the rest of the Jewish world

1. John 19:31-37, *"The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the Sabbath day, (for that Sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away. Then came the soldiers, and brake the legs of the first, and of the other which was crucified with him. But when they came to Jesus, and saw that he was dead already, they brake not his legs: But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water. And he that saw it bare record, and his record is true: and he knoweth that he saith true, that ye might believe. For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken. And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.*"

III. Facts concerning the Sabbath.

A. Matt. 12:40, "*For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.*"

B. Many believe that Jesus died on Friday before the coming of the Sabbath; but that does not coincide with his being buried three days and 3 nights per Matthew.

1. Matt. 26:1-5, "*And it came to pass, when Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said unto his disciples, Ye know that after two days is the feast of the Passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified. Then assembled together the chief priests, and the scribes, and the elders of the people, unto the palace of the high priest, who was called Caiaphas, And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill him. But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar among the people.*"

2. John 19:12-15, "*And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar. When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. And it was the preparation of the Passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King! But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.*"

3. John 19:31, "*The Jews therefore, because it was the preparation, that the bodies should not remain upon the cross on the Sabbath day, (for that Sabbath day was an high day,) besought Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.*"

a) That Sabbath day was an high day. Jesus was crucified on the preparation of the Passover, which was also referred to by the Jews as a high Sabbath day.

b) Luke told us when Jesus' body was prepared for burial it was still during the preparation of the Passover and he called it a Sabbath.

1) Luke 23:53-54, "*And he took it down, and wrapped it in linen, and laid it in a sepulchre that was hewn in stone, wherein never man before was laid. And that day was the preparation, and the Sabbath drew on.*"

4. Since the Feast of the Passover always appeared on the 15th of Nisan (Jewish calendar), Jesus died on the cross on the 14th of Nisan. The term Sabbath to the Jews meant a day of rest. They were to rest on the Feast of Passover, as well. It was referred to as a high Sabbath day.

5. The religious world historically point to Jesus dying on the cross in A.D. 33 because in that year the 14th of Nisan appeared on a Friday. But a more logical date of His crucifixion was Thursday, April 6th in the year A.D. 30.

6. One more corroboration of the Feast of Passover being called a Sabbath.

   a) Matt. 28:1 in the Greek text is specific that Sabbath is plural, although the King James Version shows it in the singular.

   b) Matt. 28:1, "*In the end of the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.*"

   c) The Greek text literal translation has it, "*In the end of the Sabbaths…*", thus combining the high Sabbath (Feast of the Passover) and the Passover proper (Saturday) together as ending on the first day of the week.

   d) Day of Pentecost was 50 days after the first Sabbath following the Feast of the Passover. It was always on the first day of the week because the Day of Pentecost was always counted as 50 days after the Passover proper which was always on Saturday.

IV. Jesus said His body was the veil of the temple.

A. What was the purpose of the veil and how was it constructed?

1. Purpose.

   a) The veil was a symbol of God's inapproachability.

2. How was it made?

   a) Exo. 26:31-37, "*And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen of cunning work: with cherubims shall it be made: And thou shalt hang it upon four pillars of shittim wood overlaid with gold: their hooks shall be of gold, upon the four sockets of silver. And thou shalt hang up the vail under the taches, that thou mayest bring in thither within the vail the ark of the testimony: and the vail shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy. And thou shalt put the mercy seat upon the ark of the testimony in the most holy place. And thou shalt set the table without the vail, and the candlestick over against the table on the side of the tabernacle toward the south: and thou shalt put the table on the north side. And thou shalt make an hanging for the door of the tent, of blue, and purple, and scarlet, and fine twined linen, wrought with needlework. And thou shalt make for the hanging five pillars of shittim wood, and overlay*

them with gold, and their hooks shall be of gold: and thou shalt cast five sockets of brass for them."

1) The veil was made of blue, purple, scarlet, and fine twisted linen embroidered with figures of cherubims. It was hung with golden hooks upon four pillars of acacia wood overlaid with gold which were set in sockets or bases of silver. It was quite thick (4 to 6 inches) as the material was interwoven layers upon layers. Its height was 30 feet and its width was 60 feet. It was impossible for anyone in the temple to accidentally look into the holiest of holies.

B. Jesus said His flesh was our veil.

1. Heb. 10:19-20, "*Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, <u>through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;</u>*"

2. He made it possible for us to access God directly, something only the high priest could do under the Mosaic Law.

a) Heb. 9:11-12, "*But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.*"

C. What happened to the veil of the temple when Jesus was crucified?

1. Matt. 27:50-51, "*Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, <u>the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom;</u> and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;*"

2. Mark 15:37-38, "*And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost. And <u>the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom.</u>*"

3. Luke 23:44-45, "*And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened, and <u>the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.</u>*"

a) The veil was literally torn "in the middle".

V. Breaking the bread.

A. The unleavened bread we are told by the Lord was His body.

B. We are told that the veil of the temple was His body.

C. We are told that the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom at the death of Jesus.

D. We are told to partake of His broken body.

E. I think it's pretty plain as to how we are to partake of His body in the communion.

F. Incident that happened after His crucifixion that showed how He was known.

1. Luke 24:30-35, "*And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them. And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight. And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? And they rose up the same hour, and returned to Jerusalem, and found the eleven gathered together, and them that were with them, Saying, The Lord is risen indeed, and hath appeared to Simon. And they told what things were done in the way, and <u>how he was known of them in breaking of bread.</u>*"

2. 1 Cor. 11:24, "*And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.*"

   a) Jesus did not break off a piece for himself to eat; He broke the bread <u>for</u> them.

   b) The Greek work for "brake" here was "klao".

   c) Let us look when Jesus broke the five loaves and two fishes in Mark 6:41-44, "*And when he had taken the five loaves and the two fishes, he looked up to heaven, and blessed, and brake the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before them; and the two fishes divided he among them all. And they did all eat, and were filled. And they took up twelve baskets full of the fragments, and of the fishes. And they that did eat of the loaves were about five thousand men.*"

   d) In Mark's account, when Jesus broke the five loaves for the five thousand He used the Greek word "kataklao", which means "break into pieces". Luke also used the Greek word "kataklao".

   e) In every account of breaking the bread in the Lord's Supper the Greek word used was "klao". If Jesus were to break off a piece of the

unleavened bread for himself the Greek word would have been "ek-klao", meaning "break off from", as if He was breaking off a piece for himself to eat.

VI. The Cup.

A. Luke 22:14-20, "*And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him. And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer: For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.*"

1. Two cups are mentioned in this passage. The first cup Luke mentioned was part of the Passover meal.

2. Then Jesus took the unleavened bread that was reserved for the Messiah, gave thanks for it, broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying it is His broken body.

3. Then Jesus took the cup of blessings which was reserved for the Messiah and did likewise, which means He gave thanks for it and gave it to His disciples to drink.

4. Jesus did not eat the bread nor the cup which was reserved for the Messiah which were both after the Passover meal, because He said during the <u>Passover</u> meal that He would not eat nor drink of it until the Kingdom of God was established, which was after the day of Pentecost when the church was established.

5. Paul gave some further instruction concerning The Lord's Supper:

   a) It is not a common meal. 1 Cor. 11:20-22, "*When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper. For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken. What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not.*"

   b) Jesus told Paul what we are to do and how we are to do it. 1 Cor. 11:23-30, "*For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had*

supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep."

B. The practice of using individual cups in the Lord's Supper.

1. The set of individual cups as used in many of the churches of Christ today was invented in 1894 by John G. Thomas (U.S. patent No. 516,065) in Lima, Ohio. John G. Thomas called himself a Congregationalist preacher.

2. This practice was first used in the church of Christ by G. C. Brewer in 1912. In his own words as recorded in his book "Forty Years on the Firing Line": "I think I was the first preacher to advocate the use of the individual communion cup and the first church in the State of Tennessee that adopted it was the church for which I was preaching, the Central Church of Christ at Chattanooga, Tennessee." He said in the body of this book that he thought he was the first one in Tennessee to use individual communion cups; however in the introduction to his book he claimed to be the first person to introduce them in the church of Christ. This practice was fought against vigorously by churches of Christ and Christian newspapers from all corners of the world. Eventually this practice became the norm, and few people today know there was ever a controversy over the matter.

VII. Conclusion.

A. Jesus is our sacrificial Lamb. We partake not only His body but His blood during the Lord's Supper. This is not done once a year but every first day of the week.

B. When we partake of the bread and the cup, Jesus is here partaking of it with us.

1. Luke 22:17-18, "*And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.*"

2. Jesus made this statement during the Passover meal before He instituted the Lord's Supper. He said this before one of the first three cups. He could not have drunk from the 4th cup (the one He used to institute the Lord's Supper) because He said He would drink of the fruit of the vine until the coming of the kingdom of God.

3. The kingdom of God started on the Day of Pentecost.

4. Matt. 18:20, "*For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.*"

5. John 12:26, "*...and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour.*"

C. When Jesus' body was broken on the cross it ended the Old Covenant God had with the Jews, having torn down the veil of the temple rending it in two.

D. When Jesus' blood was shed on the cross it began a New Covenant.

1. Matt. 26:27-28, "*And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*"

2. 1 Cor. 11:25, "*After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.*"

3. Matt. 26:39, "*And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.*"

4. I know this is figurative language, but why did Jesus say, "*...if it be possible, let this cup pass from me*"? Why did He say "*cup*"?

a) I submit to you Jesus was referring to the cup of the New Testament.

b) If Jesus' blood was not shed on the cross, there would be no New Covenant.

c) Jesus knew in advance that we are to partake of His blood in the communion; I submit to you, that's why He said "cup". There would be no New Covenant without this cup of sorrows; without this cup of His shed blood.

d) When we partake of the cup in the communion we do partake of His shed blood.

1) Matt. 26:28, "*For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.*"

e) Jesus instructs us as to the importance of eating His body and drinking His blood.

1) John 6:53, "*Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.*"