**The Passover Meal**   
Luke 22

Seder or Passover similar to our Thanksgiving Meal, Christmas, Easter.

15 Jesus said, “I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. " Luke 22:15

19 He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”  
20 After supper he took another cup of wine and said, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.Luke 22:19,20

Passover is the Jewish festival in celebration of the Jews' freedom from slavery and flight from Egypt. Although traditions vary throughout the world, the basics are as follows: The holiday lasts a total of seven or eight days and the first night of Passover begins with a ceremonial dinner, called a Seder, where the story of the exodus is told.  
  
The food and wine customs of a given Seder are elaborate, and they differ between regions and families, but some factors remain constant.

* Each participant in the Seder drinks four cups of wine throughout the evening, at fixed points, for the four promises of redemption associated with the exodus story.
* The major dietary restriction during the week of Passover is the ban of leavened bread, or *chometz*. Chometz is as bread made from (wheat, oat, spelt, rye, or barley) flour that has been in contact with water for more than 18 minutes and therefore had a chance to rise. Before Passover, the house is traditionally cleansed of chometz.

Fundamental to the Seder table is the Seder plate, which has on it the following items:

* *Zeroah*, a lamb's shankbone symbolizing the ancient Passover sacrifice
* *Beitzah*, a roasted egg symbolizing the temple sacrifice and the continuing cycle of life
* [*Haroset*](https://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/haroset-recipe-1951340), a paste of fruit and nuts symbolizing the mortar used to build the pyramid of the pharaohs
* *Mar'or*, a bitter herb (like horseradish) to represent the bitterness of slavery
* *Karpas*, a green vegetable (usually parsley) representing spring
* A bowl of salt water to dip the karpas symbolizing the slaves' tears

5 times mentions this is the Passover meal.  
PASSOVER IN JESUS’ TIME

• Assigned seating: By honor  
head of the family at front. Oldest to youngest OR social importance if not family

• First cup: Cup of Sanctification blessing  
• Bitter herbs  
parsley, cilantro, dip in salt water or vinegar. Reminder that life is bitter at times. Not prosperity always. There is bitterness even if you are a child of God. Slavery for 400 years. BUT don't stop eating.

• Question: “Why is this night different from all other nights?”  
Youngest person asks this?  
• Answer: Israel’s history Abraham–Moses  
head of the table. Jesus recaps the history. WOW  
Pharaoh, no time to raise bread, roasted lamb, spread blood. The blood of the lamb, the people were saved. The disciple were eventually gonna get it.  
John the Baptist often said, behold the lamb of God

• Opening hymn (Psalm 113-114)

• Second cup: Cup of Deliverance   
free from slavery

• Bread broken and dipped, lamb served  
Jesus broke the tradition and said "This is my body…"

• After meal, third cup: Cup of redemption  
Luke 22:19-20 "New covenant in my blood."  
doesn't finish the Passover….I won't drink wine again.

• Fourth cup: Cup of praise / completion  
“I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God”  
It's not finished.

We live today between the 3rd and the 4th cup.

• Closing hymn (Psalm 115-118)

116:3…singing this  
118:17, 22-23 singing then see it

THREE LIFE-CHANGING TRUTHS ABOUT THE CROSS

**1. The Cross is the Center of world history  
15**Jesus said, “I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. Luke22:15  
world shaking influence.   
His Story  
Old Testament looking forward  
New Testament looking backward.  
hidden Jesus in the Seder   
The first and best known of these symbols is called the afikomen According to the late Jewish scholar David Daube and others, afikomen is actually a Greek word meaning the coming one” (habba’ in Hebrew) and is a clear reference to the Messiah.**[1](https://jewsforjesus.org/publications/newsletter/newsletter-apr-2011/mysterious-passover-symbols/" \l "_ftn1" \o ")**

The afikomen is a piece of matzah, (unleavened bread) that is broken before the Passover meal. Part of it is wrapped in a cloth and hidden. At the end of the meal it is brought back, distributed to the participants and eaten as the final morsel.

In today’s Jewish celebration, the second or middle of three pieces of unleavened bread is taken from a special bag called the matzah tosh. The bread is removed, broken, and the portion that is wrapped in the cloth becomes the afikomen that is then hidden from view.

After dinner, the tradition turns into a fun game for the children who search for the afikomen and are rewarded when they find it. The bread is then broken and distributed among the participants who all eat it together. Does this bring anything to mind?

When Jesus celebrated Passover with His disciples in the upper room, He broke the bread we know as the afikomen and distributed it to His disciples saying, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” ([**1 Corinthians 11:24**](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/1%20Cor%2011.24))

We know that our Messiah’s sinless body was “broken” in death, wrapped in a cloth and hidden as in burial, then brought back; resurrected by the power of God. It is truly a reward to those who find and partake in the life He offers. Yet the amazing parallels we see in the traditions of the afikomen remain hidden to those who reject Jesus claims.

The afikomen was not part of the original Passover described in the book of Exodus. We are often asked when it was introduced to the service; a very good question to which there is no definitive answer.

THE CROSS CHANGED HISTORY AND LIVES  
IT IS THE KEY!

**2. The cross is the foundation for a new community**  
**24**Then they began to argue among themselves about who would be the greatest among them. Luke 22:24  
Humility  
 dispute about seating chart. Who is greater

You, we as Christian should be like walking into an air conditioned room. WE CHANGE THE WORLD FOR BETTER… not worst  
work together, 59 one anothers.  
Be devoted to one another in brotherly love…” ([*Romans 12:10*](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%2012.10))

“…Honor one another above yourselves. ([*Romans 12:10*](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%2012.10))

“Live in harmony with one another…” ([*Romans 12:16*](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%2012.16))

“…Love one another…” ([*Romans 13:8*](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%2013.8))

“…Stop passing judgment on one another.” ([*Romans 14:13*](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%2014.13))

“Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you…” ([*Romans 15:7*](https://biblia.com/bible/nkjv/Rom%2015.7))

SERVING OTHERS Jesus came to serve….

**3. The Cross is the solution to the great mystery**  
**20**After supper he took another cup of wine and said, “This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you. Luke 22:20-  
How can I connect with God - the problem is SIN  
today's culture is to pretend it's not there  
Ancient version is to pay for the sin. Sacrifice  
Both Jesus and Paul draw on something from Jewish tradition to provide insights not previously understood. By calling the cup “the new covenant in my blood,” Jesus makes a direct reference to the promise of [**Jeremiah 31**](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Jer%2031). God had declared that He would make a new covenant because the previous covenant had become “broken” ([**Jeremiah 31:32**](https://biblia.com/bible/esv/Jer%2031.32)). To violate a covenant agreement with God would surely incur His wrath and judgment—a terrible cup! But instead, God promised a new covenant of grace and salvation.  
why all the **blood** in Christianity?  
Instinctively all humans know there is a price to pay for the sin.  
Broken lamp (expensive lamp) - someone will pay to replace it.   
You or they will

Jesus paid our debt in FULL  
Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. 1 Corinthians 5:7

Jesus says, I've got you covered  
penance, good works, or anything doesn't work.  
Let it go. Jesus blood was shed for you.  
Move from bondage to freedom

Why did Jesus use a meal to symbolize our relationship with him?

**Meals must be personally received**We can't eat for someone else. Must be done continually  
WHAT IS PASSOVER?

The cords of death entangled me, the anguish of the grave came upon me; I was overcome by trouble and sorrow. Psalm 116:3

I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the LORD has done. Psalm 118:7

The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes. Psalm 118:22,23