

The Table of Welcome

Luke 22:7-23

1 Cor 10:1-4, 16-17, 21; 11:27-28

SJSM Sermon, Ven. Wong Tak Meng, 4-5 May 2024

Jesus' last Passover with his disciples

- **Amidst grave danger and secrecy**

- Matt. 26:1 When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, 2 “You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”
- Luke 22:1 ‘Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called ^sthe Passover. 2 And the chief priests and the scribes ^twere seeking how to put him to death, for they feared the people.
- Luke 22:10 He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters 11 and tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ 12 And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there.”

- **The significance of his suffering and what is to come**

- Luke 22:15 And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. 16 For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.”

Jesus: The true Passover Lamb

- **Foretold by John the Baptist**

- John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “**Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**”

- **The Bread as his body broken for us**

- Luke 22:19 And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “**This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**”

- **The Cup as the new covenant in his blood**

- 20 And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “**This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.**”

1. A Welcome to be reconciled to God by the sacrifice of Christ

- **Sin is serious:**

- Rom. 6:23 For **the wages of sin is death**, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Heb. 9:22 Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and **without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**

- **Christ's sacrifice is sufficient:**

- 1Cor. 15:3 Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures...
- 1John 4:10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.
- Matt. 26:28 “...for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many **for the forgiveness of sins.**”

2. A Welcome to be strengthened as God's covenant people

- **Strengthened by His presence and grace:**
 - Matt 28:20 "...teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
 - 2 Cor 12:9 But he said to me, "**My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.**"
- **Strengthened in unity and belonging, for we drink of the same cup and eat of the same bread:**
 - Luke 22:17 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "**Take this, and divide it among yourselves...** Luke 22:19 And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "**This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.**"

3. A Warning against Unfaithfulness

- **Warning against taking God for granted**

- 1Cor. 11:27 Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord.

- **Warning against dividing the Body of Christ**

- 1 Cor 10:16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? 17 Because there is one bread, **we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.**

- **Warning against idolatry: Anything that we hold more highly than God in our life**

- 1 Cor 10:21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

Luke 22:7-23

The Passover with the Disciples

Luke 22:7 Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. 8 So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it.” 9 They said to him, “Where will you have us prepare it?” 10 He said to them, “Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters 11 and tell the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ 12 And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there.” 13 And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

Institution of the Lord’s Supper

Luke 22:14 And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. 15 And he said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. 16 For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” 17 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, “Take this, and divide it among yourselves. 18 For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” 19 And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 20 And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood. 21 But behold, the hand of him who betrays me is with me on the table. 22 For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom he is betrayed!” 23 And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who was going to do this.

1 Cor 10:1-4, 16-17, 21; 11:27-28

Warning Against Idolatry

1Cor. 10:1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, 2 and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, 3 and all ate the same spiritual food, 4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ...

16 The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? 17 Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. ...

21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. ...

1Cor. 11:27 Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. 28 Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.