

# Passover > Lord's Supper > Forgiveness Connections

Holy Thursday, 4/9/20 at 11:00 & 7:00

Good Friday 11 & 7; Holy Saturday 4:00; Easter Sunday 9:00

**Introduction:** Dear friends in Christ: On Palm Sunday we studied about Jesus being warmly welcomed into Jerusalem as the Promised Messiah, cleansing the temple on Holy Monday, and teaching so much on Holy Tuesday. Today, we remember the actual Passover; then we focus on some of the events that took place in the upper room.

1. **The Actual Passover** (Exodus 12): We now jump back in time about 3,400 years to the time of Moses and the descendants of Jacob (*aka Israel*) being in bondage in Egypt. The LORD has sent nine plagues upon Egypt to show His power over their false gods and to persuade Pharaoh to let His people go. We now come to the tenth plague...
  - a. Preparation: <sup>1</sup> **The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt...** <sup>3</sup> **“Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb... for a household....** <sup>5</sup> **Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old...** <sup>6</sup> **and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.”** // Did you notice the things that pointed to Jesus? A lamb “without blemish, a male...” Take it on the “tenth day,” *maybe pointing to Palm Sunday*, and keeping it until the “fourteenth day,” *maybe pointing to Holy Thursday* – when the lamb for Jesus’ final Passover meal was put to death.

b. Passover: <sup>7</sup> “Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel [*the support above the door*] of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup> They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs...

<sup>11</sup> ...And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD’s Passover. [Why that name?] <sup>12</sup> For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast...

<sup>13</sup> ...when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you...” // Think about those words, which were spoken by the LORD to Moses and Aaron... For the firstborn to be spared, God had to (1) enable Moses and Aaron to believe what He said, (2) move them to tell others, (3) move others to believe, and (4) move them to follow His instructions regarding the lambs and the blood. Those with *God-given faith* did follow and the LORD did pass over them!

c. Remembrance: <sup>14</sup> “This day shall be for you a memorial day [*a day of remembrance*], and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute [*decree*] forever, you shall keep it as a feast.” // So the Passover has been remembered for many years! Whenever we have any special remembrance, it’s important to teach people the reason for the special day; for example, Passover – God delivered the Israelites from Egypt, Christmas – Jesus’ birth, and Easter – Jesus’ resurrection!

## 2. Jesus’ Final Passover Remembrance Preparation:

Technically, Passover is only one day – the fourteenth day of the month of Nisan (Lev. 23); then, following immediately after, is the seven-day feast of Unleavened Bread.

However, both terms, *Passover and Unleavened Bread*, are sometimes used to refer to all eight days. <sup>17</sup> **Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread** [on Thursday of Holy Week] the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?” <sup>18</sup> He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’” <sup>19</sup> **And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover.** // From the Gospel according to Luke, we know that Jesus send only two disciples, *Peter and John*, to do the preparation. So why the secrecy, why not name the man who had the upper room? Jesus did so to keep the location hidden from Judas – *so He could celebrate the Passover in peace, without being arrested before the designated time!*

### 3. **Eating the Passover Meal and Discussing Betrayal:**

- a. Is it I? <sup>20</sup> **When it was evening** [when the first star appeared in the sky], [Jesus] **reclined at table with the twelve.** <sup>21</sup> **And as they were eating** [so after a number of special things were done and spoken to remember the first Passover], [Jesus] said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” <sup>22</sup> **And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?”** // Jesus’ question “**was intended to shock the guilty soul of Judas out of its guilt...**” (Lenski, 1018).
- b. It is you! <sup>23</sup> He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me.” <sup>24</sup> **The Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born.”** <sup>25</sup> Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I,

**Rabbi?" He said to him, "You have said so." // Then, right away – as recorded by John, Jesus told Judas to take action quickly (John 13:27-30) – so his action was before the institution of the Lord's Supper!**

#### 4. **Jesus Instituted the NT Passover Meal:**

- a. The words of institution: <sup>26</sup> **Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it [to aid in the distribution] and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body."** <sup>27</sup> **And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, <sup>28</sup> for this is my blood of the covenant [my last will and testament], which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. // They received the bread – along with Jesus' body, and the wine – along with Jesus' blood, "for the assurance of their salvation" (Lenski, 1027). The same is true for us today!**
- b. Not backing down: <sup>29</sup> **I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."** <sup>30</sup> **And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives [aka the Garden of Gethsemane]. // With those words, Jesus indicated that He would die that day! Jesus also** ♣ **completed the purpose of all Passovers – which ✓ pointed back to God's physical deliverance from Egypt and ✓ pointed ahead to God's spiritual deliverance from death and hell and** ♣ **instituted the New Testament Passover, the Lord's Supper!**

**Let Us Pray:** Dear Lord Jesus, TY for loving us, living for us, dying for us, and winning our forgiveness!