



JESUS' LAST SUPPER IN THE HOUSE

Luke 22:7–30

⁷Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. ⁸And He sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat.” ⁹So they said to Him, “Where do You want us to prepare?” ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹Then 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?’” ¹²Then he will show you a large, furnished upper room; there make ready.” ¹³So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they prepared the Passover. ¹⁴When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. ¹⁵Then He said to them, “With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; ¹⁶for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” ¹⁷Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, “Take this and divide it among yourselves; ¹⁸for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.” ¹⁹And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” ²⁰Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you. ²¹But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. ²²And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!” ²³Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing. ²⁴Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest. ²⁵And He said to them, “The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them, and those who exercise authority over them are called ‘benefactors.’ ²⁶But not so among you; on the contrary, he who is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he who governs as he who serves. ²⁷For who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves? Is it not he who sits at the

table? Yet I am among you as the One who serves.²⁸ But you are those who have continued with Me in My trials.²⁹ And I bestow upon you a kingdom, just as My Father bestowed one upon Me,³⁰ that you may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.”

—Luke 22:7–30

Read Luke 22:7–30

Have you ever wondered why we call *communion*, “communion”? Or why we celebrate Jesus’ sacrifice for our sins with bread and wine? Bread and wine were not only common elements in Israel, but they were used to establish covenants or binding agreements between two parties. In betrothal ceremonies, the prospective bride and groom would stand before a rabbi, pledge their lives and fidelity to one another, then they would eat from the same loaf of bread and drink from the same glass of wine. This signified their oneness or pledge to one another; they were now covenanted together, and the penalty for either party breaking the binding agreement was death.

It was during this last Passover supper, shared with His disciples, that the New Covenant and the rite of communion was established. As Jesus sat down at the table with His disciples anticipating His suffering, condemnation, and death, He disclosed to His disciples that with *fervent desire* He had desired to have that last meal with them. Jesus desired that meal because it was then that He explained the significance, necessity, and power of His death. He wanted His disciples to remember what He had done for them and for all humanity. He instructed the disciples to commemorate His life by the elements of a covenant: bread and wine. He explained that from that moment forward, the bread was to remind them of His body that was battered, beaten, and crucified for them. The wine was to remind them of His blood that He willingly poured out so that anyone who believed in Him could have their sins forgiven. His life was the binding element in the New Covenant. His sacrifice would allow the chasm that was forged

by sin to be crossed so men could once more be reconciled to God in an intimate and loving relationship.

Communion, therefore, is the time when believers eat bread and sip wine in order to remember Jesus' body that was crucified and His blood that was poured out to pay the penalty of our sin and reconcile us to God. Sweet communion with God is the result of Jesus' work on the cross. So the bread and the wine remind us not only of the price Jesus paid for our redemption, but the wondrously deep, intimate, and loving relationship with God that Jesus procured for us. *And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight* (Colossians 1:21–22).

May the Spirit of God impress you with the depth of Christ's love and sacrifice for you as you read through Luke 22:7–30.

1. Briefly outline Jesus' instructions to Peter and John, and how they were to discover the house where they were to prepare and celebrate the Passover. Luke 22:7–12

2. According to Luke 22:13, what did Peter and John discover when they followed Jesus' instructions?

3. Use the following verses to capture Jesus' heart and words, *When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him:*
 - a. Verse 15

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

A man carrying a water jug was very unusual. Water-bearing was the job of women.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Many of the homeowners in Jerusalem built guest rooms with outside entrances to rent to the pilgrims coming to the Feast of Passover.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

*The traditional Passover celebration used four cups of wine—at the opening benediction, after the Passover explanation, after the meal, and after a concluding psalm. This was probably the first cup that introduced the ceremony.*³³

- b. Verse 16
 - c. Verse 17
 - d. Verse 18
 - e. Verse 19
 - f. Verse 20
4. According to Luke 22:21–22, what did Jesus reveal at the table about:
- a. His betrayal
 - b. His death
5. How did the disciples react to Jesus' revelation? Luke 22:23
6. Use Luke 22:24–30 to remark on:
- a. The disciples' dispute

- b. The kings of the Gentiles

 - c. The greatest among Jesus' disciples

 - d. Jesus' conduct among the disciples

 - e. The disciples' reward
7. What is your greatest takeaway from Jesus' last supper in the house?

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.

—Matthew 23:11

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.

—Revelation 21:14