

The New Covenant

Luke 22:7-20

Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover."

"Where do you want us to prepare for it?" they asked.

He replied, "As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters, and say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is the guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there."

They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.

When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, "I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."

After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, "Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes."

And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.

The disciples were surprised by the words of Jesus. They knew that for the Passover a perfect lamb was offered to God and that it was for the sins of the people. "But does that mean Jesus will give his life for us?" they asked. "Could it be that he himself will be the offering?"

The disciples knew what the covenant was. Everyone had heard about God's covenant with men like Noah, Abraham, Moses and King David. But ... would they also be part of that covenant?

The disciples didn't understand what Jesus had said that night. But later, after His death on the cross and His the resurrection, they would understand.

Jesus was offering his followers a new covenant.

But this covenant was not only for the Jews or the disciples.

The new covenant is for all who wish to have a loving relationship with God.

