

LESSON #80 – EATING THE PASSOVER AND THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Matt. 26:17-35; Mark 14:12-31; Luke 22:7-38; John 13:1-38

Jesus came to Jerusalem at this special time to give His life for His people. He came to die for our sins on the cross. He had told His disciples what was going to happen but they did not want to believe it. They did not want Jesus to die. They wanted Him to stay with them forever. But Jesus knew that it was more important for Him to die so that all who believed in Him might be saved from the wrath of God against their sins.

During the time when Jesus came to Jerusalem the Jews were celebrating the feast of the Passover. This was the feast which God had told them to keep reminding them how He had brought them out of their slavery in Egypt. It was important for Jesus to come to die during this time because now it was He who was going to give His life to bring His people out of their slavery to sin. You see, the Bible says that we are born as sinners. We are just like blind people who cannot see. All men are slaves to their sinfulness because they cannot do anything but be bad unless God helps them. Their spirits are dead and they cannot make them alive again. This is the slavery which Jesus came to take us out of. Do you know that if you believe in Jesus right now, if you believe that He is the Son of God and that He died on the cross for your sins, then God says that you have His Spirit inside of you and you are alive again? We, too, have a celebration to remember what Jesus did, just as the Jews had one to remember how God brought them out of slavery. It is called the Lord’s Supper. In our lesson today we will see when the Lord’s Supper began and why it should be a wonderful celebration for us.

Jesus came to Jerusalem as the feast began and He told His disciples to go into the city to a certain man and to tell Him that Jesus was coming with His disciples to celebrate the Passover at his house. So the disciples did as they were told. Jesus had many things which He wanted to tell them because He knew that He would soon be arrested and crucified. He got up and wrapped a towel around His waist and poured water into a pan and began to wash His disciples’ feet, drying them with the towel. He told them that if they were going to be His disciples they must be willing to serve other people, not thinking about themselves. He told them that He came to serve and they should do the same. This is a very important lesson for us, too.

As they were eating the meal Jesus said that one of them was going to betray Him, to turn against Him and give Him to the Pharisees. It was Judas Iscariot. Then Jesus took the bread and broke it and gave it to the disciples and then the wine. He told them to do this in remembrance of Him. This was the first time the Lord’s Supper was given. No longer should God’s people remember only the blood of the lamb which had been put on the doorposts so that the firstborn would not die in Egypt. Now they should remember the true Lamb of God, Jesus. Remember how John the Baptist had said of Jesus, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.”

Now Jesus felt so guilty that he left. When he was gone Jesus told His disciples many things. We will learn about them in next week’s lesson. Jesus told them that they would not follow where He was going right now. He told them that they would all fall away from Him. Peter was sure that he would stay with Jesus. But Jesus told him that before the rooster crowed in the morning he would deny Jesus, he would say that he did not know Him, three times! The disciples had to learn that it was not going to be easy to be the servants of Jesus. We must learn that, too!

Memory Verse: “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” – I Corinthians 11:24

Application: It will never be easy to be a disciple of Jesus. But that is what He calls you to be. You are called to serve others as He has you!

LESSON #80 – EATING THE PASSOVER AND THE INSTITUTION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

Matthew 26:17-35; Mark14:12-31; Luke 22:7-38; John 13:1-38

Today’s lesson marks the beginning of a very important event in the history of God’s people. It helps us to understand many things which you have learned about the nation of Israel and God’s plans to save His chosen people. When Jesus and the disciples came to Jerusalem, the Jewish people were celebrating the Passover. Do you remember what the Passover was and why the Jewish people celebrated it? Let’s think back for a moment.

In the book of Genesis we read that God called a man named Abraham and made a Covenant with him. Do you remember what the Covenant was called? In that Covenant God promised that all nations on the earth would be blessed. That means that they would be made happy because of the person who would be a descendant of Abraham. You learned how God made the nation of Israel from Abraham’s descendants. God gave him a son, Isaac. Isaac had Jacob, and Jacob had twelve sons that became the nation of Israel.

They had become slaves in the land of Egypt. They had stayed there for a long time, for four hundred years. Then God brought them out of Egypt by performing wonderful signs against Egypt. The last one had been the death of all of the oldest children of the Egyptians. Do you remember what had saved the children of the people of Israel? They had to believe what God told them, and they had to take a lamb and put its blood on the door posts. Then they were to eat the Passover meal. When the angel of death came, it was the blood of the lamb which saved the firstborn children. Every time the people ate the Passover, they were to remember how God had saved them and had brought them out of slavery.

Now the promised one had come in whom all nations would be blessed. We saw two lessons ago that the good news of the kingdom was to go to all nations before the end will come. That is the good news about Jesus, the Lamb of God! Jesus told His disciples to go to Jerusalem and find a certain man and tell him that they were going to celebrate the Passover at his house. The disciples did as they were told and prepared the Passover meal.

That evening, Jesus took a towel and began to wash the feet of his disciples. This was a custom in those days for the servant of the house to do, for they did not wear shoes. Jesus wanted to show them as we saw last week, that if they wanted to be His disciples, they would have to serve others. He told them that He had come into this world the first time to serve and to give His life as a payment for many.

As they were eating, Jesus told them that one of them would betray Him. It was Judas Iscariot. Jesus took the bread and the wine of the Passover meal, but He gave them a new meaning. He told the disciples to do this no longer in remembrance of Egypt, but in remembrance of Him. He was the true Lamb of God as John the Baptist had proclaimed when he saw Jesus, “Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”

You see, the Bible says that the people in the Old Testament and all people ever born are born in slavery to sin because of Adam’s sin against God. All people are born with dead spirits- spirits which can do nothing but sin unless God makes them alive again. The judgment of God must come upon sinners just as the angel of death came upon the Egyptians. Jesus came to take that sin away and to free His people from being slaves so that they could believe in God and live forever again. The name of the Passover was changed to the Lord’s Supper in remembrance of Jesus.

In the days ahead, the disciples would learn how hard it was to serve Jesus. God’s people must get strength by remembering Jesus and believing in Him!

Eating the Passover (Continued)

Name: _____ Date: _____

MEMORY VERSE

“This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” –
I Corinthians 11:25

APPLICATION

To be a follower of Jesus takes great courage and humility. We are proud by nature. We like to think that we are more important than anyone else. Jesus tells us that those who would follow Him must serve others willingly and cheerfully. We can only do that if we remember Jesus. He came to give His life for His people. The people at the time of Moses saw God do wonderful things to free them from their slavery in Egypt. Oh, what wonderful things do we know that God has done for us! He sent His own Son to be punished in our place; to suffer and to die on the cross! If you believe that, how can you not love Him and serve Him till the end?!

QUESTIONS

Fill in the blanks with the words at the bottom.

1. During the time when Jesus and His disciples came to Jerusalem for the last time, the Jews were celebrating the feast of the _____.
2. Jesus was the one who had been promised to Abraham in whom all nations would be blessed as a part of the _____.
3. When God saved the first-born children of the people of Israel in Egypt, He saved only those who _____ and obeyed what Moses told them to do.
4. It was not their faith which saved them, it was the blood of the _____ which they put on their door posts.
5. Today it is not the faith of Christians which saves them, but the blood of _____, the true Lamb of God.
6. In order to show the disciples that they must be willing to serve others, Jesus washed their _____ as they were preparing to eat the Passover meal.
7. As they were eating, Jesus told them that one of them would _____ Him by leaving Him and delivering Him to the Pharisees and the Jews.
8. _____ had called Jesus the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” at the beginning of His ministry.
9. Just as the people of Israel were slaves in Egypt, the Bible tells us that all men are _____ to the sin which keeps them from believing in Him and being saved.
10. Jesus came to free those from this slavery who believe in him. The meal which we celebrate is done in remembrance of Jesus and is called the _____.

Feet
John the Baptist
Lamb
Jesus

slaves
betray
Passover

Covenant of Grace
Lord’s Supper
believed

LESSON #80 – JESUS’ TRIUMPHANT ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

Read Matt. 21:1-16; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:28-44; John 12:12-19

The ministry of Jesus is at an end. He begins now His final week before His crucifixion. As Jesus entered into Jerusalem, the people worshipped Him and honored Him as their King. But, like the disciples at this time, they thought that the kingdom would come immediately. They were not prepared for what was about to happen. Many of them would despair and be filled with disappointment at the death of Jesus. But those who were truly God’s people would soon have cause for rejoicing. They would feel the presence of Jesus in their hearts and know that they were a part of His kingdom even though He would ascend into heaven until the day of judgment. Jesus was born to die and thereby to save those who believe in Him from the judgment of God against sin. How can we be disappointed with that? These people left Jesus when there was trouble. May God give us the grace to hold fast to Jesus whatever may happen, for He is our King!

QUESTIONS

1. What celebration was about to be celebrated in Jerusalem? _____
 What was the Passover to be a reminder of? _____

2. According to John’s Gospel, why did the Jews want to kill Lazarus, too? _____
3. How was Jesus honored at the home of Mary, Martha, and Lazarus? _____
4. What instructions did Jesus give two of the disciples? _____

5. What were they to say if someone asked them what they were doing? _____
6. How was Jesus honored as He rode along upon the colt of the donkey? _____
7. How did the Pharisees react when the people began to praise Jesus? _____
8. The Pharisees claimed to know the Scriptures of the Old Testament very well. Read Zechariah 9:9. How does this prove that the Pharisees were spiritually blind? _____
9. What did Jesus say would happen if the people stopped shouting praises? _____
10. After He had entered into Jerusalem, where did Jesus go? _____
 What did He do there? _____
11. Why did the Pharisees find it difficult to have Jesus arrested and killed? _____

QUESTION TO THINK ABOUT

How interested are you in the words of Jesus?