

“Til he comes”  
Part 1

Remember me

04/05/09 Palm Sunday

### What was the Passover?

Every year, on the 15th day of the Hebrew month of Nissan, Jews worldwide commemorate the birth of the Jewish nation by celebrating Passover.

After 410 years of slavery in Egypt, Moses told Pharaoh that he must "Let My People Go." Each time Pharaoh refused to release the Israelites, God brought another plague upon the Egyptians. The tenth and final plague was the death of firstborn children. In executing this plague, God passed through the land of Egypt, but "passed over" Jewish homes whose door posts had been marked with the blood of a sacrificed lamb. Thus, the holiday is called Passover. The Israelites were then released from bondage. But the Israelites only truly became free when, 50 days after the Exodus, they accepted the Torah from God at Mount Sinai. Thus, the Jewish nation was born. Every Passover, we are commanded to tell the Passover story.

Passover to a Jew is what Christmas and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July are to Christians.

Jesus and the disciples were on their way to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover when...

“...They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they prepared the Passover.” Luke 22:7-13

### 10 Steps to Prepare for the Passover:

#### 1. Cleaning

Before Passover, the house needs to be cleaned so that all chametz (leavened products) are removed. Chametz is leavened

grain products. It is written in the Torah that during the week of Passover, "neither chametz (the result of grain that ferments) nor se'or (highly fermented sourdough that is used to make another dough ferment) shall be visible to you in all your boundaries."

#### 2. Sabbath

Before you have looked up from the dusting, Shabbat HaGadol, the Shabbat before Passover, arrives.

#### 3. Shopping

#### 4. Cooking

#### 5. Burning or Selling the Chametz

#### 6. Searching for Chametz

Finally it is the night before Passover, and it is time to gather your family in your sparkling clean home for Bidikat Chametz.

#### 7. Planning the Seder

It is a good idea to put some time and thought into the kind of seder service you want.

Is there something you can do to make the seder this year especially memorable? Our neighbor dressed up like Elijah, and when it was time to open the door for Elijah he walked in, drank the cup of wine, and left. A few years ago, friends of mine asked all their guests to dress up like desert nomads. Then they conducted their seder on the floor as if they were in a tent in the desert.

#### 8. Preparing the Passover Plate

It is important to prepare the six symbolic items - zeroa, beitz, karpas, maror, chazeret, charoset - which should go on the seder plate

#### 9. Setting the Passover Table

The following is needed to set the table for the Passover Seder:

- festive tablecloth and napkins
- kosher for Passover dishes, flatware, water glasses, and wine glasses
- small dishes of salt water for dipping

- enough bottles of wine and grape juice for each person to have four cups
- a special wine cup reserved for Elijah
- a plate with 3 pieces of matzah on it and a cover over it
- seder plate
- Haggadot

## **10. Pesach Kasher!**

Make your seder a memorable and enjoyable experience for the whole family. A nap before the seder is recommended for all, not just the kids, so that everyone arrives to the seder with good energy and spirit.

“In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me. For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.” 1 Corinthians 11:25-26

### **We can remember Christ by remembering**

#### **I. What Jesus has done.**

In the O. T. worship centered in the sacrifice of unblemished lambs. Jesus was to be the Passover Lamb. He was God’s provision for our redemption.

He desired to have a few last hours with His disciples to instruct them of some last things. This do—was the way of showing forth his death.

At the Lord’s table we call to mind the high cost of our Salvation. While it is free to us, it cost Christ dearly—His very body and life’s blood.

Sometimes, in the things we do, we don’t show forth His death as much as He requires. Instead, we try to crucify Him anew.

## **1. That Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the Passover**

“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.” Luke 11:15-16

## **2. HIS CROSS**

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends..." Jn 15:13

Jesus wants us to remember His cross. To remember the sacrifice that he made. The cross and the road to Calvary was not an Easy one to walk (in fact Jesus asked the Father if there was another way) YET Jesus was willing to take up that cross... He was willing to deny himself for you and for me

## **II. What Jesus is doing now.**

The word communion is an action word which means: “fellowship, participating in, sharing together, having in common.” The observance is not simply keeping a dead memory alive. It is entering into the presence of one who lived, died, was raised from the dead by the power of God, and is alive forevermore. Above all that He is present with us here and now—at the table.

Jesus wanted to have communion with His disciples. He wanted them to think often of Him.

We are a fellowship of believers. When we sit at the Lord’s table, it is as if we were present with Jesus during that final meal. Most definitely, he is with us.

## **1. GOD’S LOVE**

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life..." Jn 3:16

"God demonstrated His own love for us in this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us...." Rm 5:8

God so loved the world that he gave.....  
God demonstrated his love for us....

## **2. MY NEED**

When we take communion we do not simply hold the bread and the cup in our hands -- but we partake of them - in a way they become a part of us..

This reminds us of our greatest need, which is to not only know about Jesus (hold him in our hands) but to take Him into our lives - to make Him a part of us.

How do we do that? by being obedient to God's will and God's word.

## **3. WHAT SAVES YOU**

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Nothing can for sin atone - nothing but the blood of Jesus  
Naught of good that I have done - nothing but the blood of Jesus.

O! precious is the flow That makes me white as snow; No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.

It is His blood that saves not the good you do or the bad you don't do.

## **4. My WORTH**

"For you know that it was not with perishable things such as gold or silver that you were redeemed form the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect...."

Every year on the passover when the city of Jerusalem swelled to a million or more, scholars estimate that over 100,000 lambs were sacrificed, when the smells of blood and burning animals filled the air - the people were reminded of the cost of their sins.

And every time we hold the cup and the bread we ar reminded of the tremendous cost of our sins... The broken body and the shed blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

## **4. OUR ONENESS**

When we take the Lord's Supper we are not only declaring our "oneness" our "fellowship" with God but with each other.

Alexander Campbell (one of the founding father's of the Restoration Movement)

Each disciple, in handing the symbols to his fellow disciple, says, "You are my brother, once an alien, are now a citizen of heaven, once a stranger, are now brought home to the family of God. You have owned my Lord as your Lord, my people as your people. Under Jesus the Messiah we are one. Mutually embraced in the everlasting arms, I embrace you in mine: thy sorrows shall be my sorrows, and they joys my joys. Joint debtors to the favor of God and the love of Jesus, we shall jointly suffer with Him, that we may jointly reign with him. Let us then renew our strength, remember our king and hold fast our boasted hope unshaken to the end.

## **III. What Jesus will do**

1 Cor. 11:26 says: "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show forth the Lord's death till he

comes." You proclaim the Lord's death "Till He Comes." Did three words ever tell more?

Jesus spoke of His coming kingdom. He was preparing the disciples for the work ahead. They did not fully understand what Jesus was telling them, but they were faithful.

When we partake of the Lord's Supper, we are to remember the promise of His return. We have our instructions from Jesus the same as the disciples had their instructions. Are we as faithful as they were?

### **1. OUR FUTURE – He is coming back.**

"For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes...."  
1 Cor 11:26

"...I am going to prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am" Jn 14:2,3

Have you ever noticed how some things go together - you mention one and the other immediately pops up into your mind;

peanut butter and jelly  
Abott and costello  
Laruel and Hardy  
Lewis and Clark  
Sonny and Cher  
Proctor and gamble  
Sears and Roebuck

In like manner you can't think of Jesus death with out immediately thinking of his resurrection.

His death is not the end of the story, in fact it is the beginning of our story of eternity... You see we know the

rest of the story....

"For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes..." 1 Cor 11:26