**Nothing but the Blood!**

**Mark 14:12-25**

**Event 1**: Passover in Exodus 12. **Event 2:** Passover in Mark 14.

These two great events, the Passover that took place in Egypt, and the Passover dinner taking place here in the Upper Room in Mark chapter 14, are separated by approximately, one thousand, four hundred and thirty-three years.

* All throughout Jerusalem, Jews were preparing for Passover—when they would kill their one-year old lambs to celebrate and remember how God had delivered them from slavery, in Egypt, 1400 years earlier.
* **But here’s the irony:** that very night in Jerusalem while thousands of lambs were being prepared to be sacrificed, right there in their midst was **the Lamb of God** who was preparing to be sacrificed Himself.
* The prophet Isaiah, 700 years before this Passover, wrote these words: “He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; He was led **like a lamb to slaughter**, and as **a sheep** before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth” (Isaiah 53:7).

What can we learn from The Lord’s Supper? **Four truths:**

1. Jesus, the Lamb of God, would be **betrayed**!

a. **Zechariah 11:12-13**, “I (Zechariah) told them (the Israelites), “If you think it best, give me my pay; and if not, keep it.” So, they paid me thirty pieces of silver. And the Lord said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the handsome price at which they priced me! So, I took the thirty pieces of silver and threw them into the house of the Lord to the potter.”

b. **Matthew 27:3-10**

\* Judas took the 30 silver coins and returned them to the chief priests and elders.

\* The chief priests picked up the coins and said, “It is against the law to put this into the treasury, since it is blood money.” So, they decided to use the money to buy the **potter’s field** as a burial place for foreigners.

2. Jesus, the Lamb of God, **would go** in fulfillment of Scripture!

a. Jesus said, “The Son of Man will go just as it is written about him.”

b. The Greek Word from which we get the words ‘will go’ is υπαγει, and this is what it means: “to go away slowly with the idea of going **without noise or notice**.”

c. When Jesus was later crucified, most of the world was unaware, or simply paid no attention.

**Matthew 23:37-38**, Jesus says, “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing. Look, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

What would the Lord say to America right now?

3. Jesus, the Lamb of God, **would die in our place**!

a. This is the most important truth we learn in these verses. Jesus was the prophesied Lamb of God who came into this world for one reason—To die for our sins so that we might have eternal life.

b. This was the first Lord’s Supper or communion service. Jesus was looking forward to his coming death, burial and resurrection.

\* The first thing He did was give thanks. Jesus was thanking His heavenly Father, not just for the bread they were getting ready to eat, but for what it represented, his physical body.

\* The **cup** is symbolic of the blood of Jesus. Pay particular attention to the phrase, “This is **my blood of the covenant** which is poured out for many.”

The promise is guaranteed by the blood. Nothing but the blood.

**Hebrews 9:15 and 22** put it like this: “For this reason, Christ is the mediator of a **new covenant**, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that He has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant…and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.”

4. Jesus, the Lamb of God, is our **only hope**.

V**erse 25**. “I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God.”

1. What was Jesus pointing to? I believe he was directing our attention to his **2nd Coming**, when the Kingdom of God will arrive here on planet earth in all of its glory and power. In that moment, all believers, of all time, will be invited to sit down at **the Wedding Supper of the Lamb**.

**Revelation 19:6-9** says,

Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: “Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the **wedding of the Lamb** has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean was given her to wear.” (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.)

Then the angel said to me, “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are invited to **the wedding supper of the Lamb**’” And he adds, “These are the true words of God.”