

A.D. Part 13- The Last Passover

27 So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord.

28 Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup. 29 For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of Christ eat and drink judgment on themselves. 1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Whenever we receive communion, we should have two things in mind. 1) The highest love and respect for the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and 2) a sense of our own unworthiness.

The table of the Lord is a place where the purification of the church is the regular result.

“I will bring one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. After that, he will let you go from here, and when he does, he will drive you out completely. ‘About midnight I will go throughout Egypt. 5 Every firstborn son in Egypt will die, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh, who sits on the throne, to the firstborn son of the female slave, who is at her hand mill, and all the firstborn of the cattle as well. 6 There will be loud wailing throughout Egypt—worse than there has ever been or ever will be again. Exodus 11:1,4-6

3 Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. 4 If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. 5 The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. 6 Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Exodus 11:3-6

14 When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. 15 And he said to them, “I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. 16 For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.”17 After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, “Take this and divide it among you. 18 For I tell you I will not drink again from the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.”

19 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. 20 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. Luke 22:14-18

Jesus was not a victim, he was a victor.

17 The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. 18 No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. John 10:17-18

God has always delivered us from bondage to sin and death by the sacrifice of an innocent substitute.

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

Jesus' purpose was never simply just to give us safety, blessings, companionship, joy, champion social causes, or just to make life easier. Jesus purpose was always to die for us.

Communion must be an ever present reminder to Christians that the Lamb of God, chosen by God, sacrificed for sinners, once and for all satisfied the demands of God's justice and allowed God's wrath to passover we who believe.