



“Preparing for the True Passover
Lamb”

Mark 14:12-21

I. The Sovereign Setting (12)

A. The Day- "*On the first day of Unleavened Bread*"

-2 feasts, while separate, occurred within the same week and occurred back to back. The Passover occurring first and then immediately following the Passover, the Feast of the Unleavened bread would begin.

Passover: a memorial to God's passing over Israel in Egypt

Feast of Unleavened Bread: A week-long reminder of their Exodus from Egypt (Exodus 12:14). Spiritually, it was an act of consecration (a spiritual picture symbolizing Israel's separation from the sinful and idolatrous practices of Egypt) *Ref*: Paul 1 Cor 5:6-8

I. The Sovereign Setting (12)

A. The Day- "*On the first day of Unleavened Bread*"

B. The Event- "*when the Passover lamb was being sacrificed*"

-The Passover Lamb was sacrificed and eaten on either Thursday or Friday (Galilean Jew: Thursday vs Judean Jew: Friday)

-Practical reason: 2 different sacrifices allowed for those there for Passover to efficiently participate in the Passover

The Purpose: a picture of God's power and redemption of His people. It was a picture of His wrath towards sin and the protection against His judgment through the means of sacrifice.

-The Priest slit the Passover sacrifice's throat and sprinkled the blood upon the altar. The animal was then skinned, roasted, and then given back to the worshiper for eating during the Passover meal that evening.

II. The Sovereign Schedule (12b-15)

-Sovereignly ahead of His coming, the Lord set up the events, the circumstances, and the location of the last Passover meal (for protection)

-Jesus' prophetic instructions are detailed and particular:

- 1) They will meet a man upon coming into the city, who is carrying a pitcher of water (uncommon as women and slaves did)
- 2) "Large upper room"-likely the home of John Mark's mother.
(Mark wrote the Gospel of Mark as memoir of Apostle Peter)

III. The Sovereign Surety (16)

- 1) They will meet a man upon coming into the city, who is carrying a pitcher of water (uncommon as women and slaves did)
- 2) "Large upper room"-likely the home of John Mark's mother. (Mark wrote the Gospel of Mark as memoir of Apostle Peter)
- 3) Found the room prepared for Passover Meal (Bread, wine, bitter herbs, charoset)

"I (Jesus) earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." - Lk 22:15

Jesus saw it as a commitment, of greatest importance, that was crucial both to God's plan of redemption and to the spiritual encouragement and comfort of His disciples.

IV. The Sovereign Selection (17-20)

-Jesus, along with His 12 disciples, gathered in the upper room of the homeowner, reclining at the table and partaking the Passover meal together (tables U-shaped, guests reclining on the floor)

-Several stages to the Passover Meal

"Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me—one who is eating with Me." (ref: John 13:20-21)

-Jesus' words drew their understanding to Psalm 41:9

-In pulling from this OT picture of treachery and betrayal, Jesus is revealing to His disciples, that there is one among them that is like Ahithophel

IV. The Sovereign Selection (17-20)-cont.

"They began to be grieved and to say to Him one by one, "Surely not I?"(19)

-Mark indicates that immediately the disciples are disturbed by Jesus' words and they individually begin to protest in grief and come to Him to ensure it is not them (John 13:22, Luke 22:23, Mark 14:19)

-At this point in the meal, there is no answer given.

-As they were dipping the bread into the charoset, Jesus tells Peter who his betrayer is (John 13:24-29)

-The disciples are not able to identify who His betrayer is (Sovereignly and because he blended in)

V. The Sovereign Sentence (21)

-His death connects both the Son of Man and the Suffering Servant of Isaiah as the same person.(Daniel 7; Isaiah 52, 53).

-Confirmed His need to die and God's prophetic message that He would...*"just as it is written"*

"Jesus, the One who via the path of humiliation attains to glorification, and in fact was glorious from the very beginning, goes, that is, lives on earth, suffers, dies, all this not as a victim of circumstances, but "as it is written concerning him," hence as predicted by the prophets (Isa. 53, etc.) and established in God's eternal decree. It was necessary for the Master to emphasize this truth once again, for it was so very difficult for the disciples to reconcile themselves with the idea of a Messiah who would die." -William Hendriksen and Simon J. Kistemaker, Exposition of the Gospel According to Mark

V. The Sovereign Sentence (21)

Judas' Responsibility and Punishment:

"but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born."

Implications

Even up to Judas' condemnation, our Lord was gracious and expressed His love towards Judas.

It is a warning against apostasy

29 How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay." And again, "The Lord will judge His people." 31 It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God.-Heb 10:29–31.