

**Title:** The King's Table

**Passage:** Mark 14:12-26

### **Overview**

- I. Get Ready for the King's Table (v.12-15)
- II. Not all who are here belong at the King's Table (v.17-21)
- III. Feast by Faith at the King's Table until He returns (v.22-26)

**Passage:** Mark 14:12-26

And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

## **EXPOSITION**

### **Overview**

- I. Get Ready for the King's Table (v.12-15)
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### **I. Get Ready for the King's Table (v.12-15)**

**Mark 14:12a**

***And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb,***

*Passover + Unleavened Bread*

- Passover: sacrificing the life of a lamb that began a 7-day period without leaven in Israel (Unleavened Bread)
- Symbolized the eradication of sin.

**Mark 12:12b**

***his disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?"***

- Disciples' angst: disciples were concerned because they hadn't prepared any particular place
- Jerusalem had become filled with travelers.
- "where will you have us go?" = asking Jesus for direction.

**Mark 14:13-15**

***And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?" And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us."***

- Which two disciples? John and Peter (see Luke parallel passage)
- Why Peter? Peter's repeated failures
  - Ch 8: rebuked Jesus and called Satan
  - Ch 9: silliness at Transfiguration
  - Ch 10: boasts foolishness
  - Ch 11: blurts the obvious
  - Ch 14: embellishes loyalty, sleeps at garden, denies Christ
- Application: Do we forget our own sinfulness and fantasize our successes?
  - Or see Christ as the Champion that we desperately need?
- "A man carrying a jar of water"
  - Unusual sign as usually women carry jars of water to the well
  - Compare Mark 11 (Jesus sent disciples ahead to prepare ahead of Triumphal Entry)
  - Meaning? Jesus is in control.
- "Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?"
  - Who's guest room? Jesus truly possesses authority and position over all.
- "And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us."
  - Despite religious leaders searching to trap Jesus, Jesus already had a room prepared that was ceremonially clean and prepared for feast
  - See Psalm 23 ("You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.")

**Mark 14:16**

***And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.***

- In faith, the disciples proceeded to go and follow Jesus' instructions.
- True saving faith obeys
  - Key: Responsive obedience to God's instructions

John 14:15

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

## **II. Not All Who Are Here Belong at the King's Table (v.17-21)**

### ***Mark 14:17-18***

***And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."***

*And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. And as they were reclining at table and eating,*

- Jesus was feasting with men who were irritable, proud sinners.

*Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."*

- Previously, Jesus said that the Jewish leaders would betray Him into the hand of Gentiles
  - Here, Jesus reveals that one of the disciples would
- Notice context of this statement:
  - v. 21-22: one of you will betray me
  - v. 17-25: I am going to die for you
  - v. 26-30: each and every one of you will desert me
  - Meaning? Jesus still chose to die despite forthcoming betrayal and abandonment by the disciples

Romans 5:6-8

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die—but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Luke 22:15

And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.

- Jesus mind was fixed and committed to die for us.

### ***Mark 14:19-20***

***They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me.***

- Why didn't Jesus explicitly identify Judas as the betrayer?
- Passover meal (structured liturgy filled with symbols)
  - Drink 1 of 4 cups of wine as free men

- Washing ritual before ate
- Bitter appetizers of parsley and radishes dipped in salt water
- Then leader of meal would break bread
- Here: 3rd step of bitter appetizers dipped into salt water.
  - All the disciples were dipping their bread into the salt water.
  - Here, at the same time, each of the disciples were asking themselves "Is it I?"
    - Is it I? = Am I capable of betraying Jesus?

1 Corinthians 11:28

Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

- likewise, self-examine yourself before God.

2 Corinthians 13:5

Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

- Humble, true saving faith = clear awareness of one's own propensity to sin
- Blaise Pascal: there are only two types of people 1) righteous people who think they are sinners, and 2) sinners who think they are righteous.
- Here: each disciple suspected oneself as Jesus referring to himself.
- Application: Do you stand before God as lost and self-justified? Or self-condemned and saved?
  - Repent and trust in the free grace of God in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

**Mark 14:21**

***For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."***

- Jesus was comforting the 11 but also cursing Judas

Key Truths:

- God is sovereign. Man is responsible.
- God willed this to happen. Judas did too.
- God predestined the betrayal. Judas planned it.
- God controls everything in the universe. Judas is guilty.

*For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed!*

Daniel 7:13-15

"I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

"As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious, and the visions of my head alarmed me.

- the Son of Man to have such great authority and position to go before God for His eternal kingdom.

*It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."*

- Jesus grieves over Judas Iscariot
- Warning: hell / eternal condemnation for sin is real. If you die outside of Christ, you will suffer wishing never had been born because God is holy.

Isaiah 6:5

And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Matthew 25:46

And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

### **III. Feast by Faith at the King's Table Until He Returns (v.22-26)**

#### **Mark 14:22**

***And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body."***

- Passover meal
  - Bread broken into three pieces. The second piece of bread is seen, touched, broken, and buried.
  - Symbolism: Holy Trinity - God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit
    - Only God the Son was slain and died for us.
- "Take, this is my body" = symbolism of bread as Jesus' body.
  - Jesus extends His body as ready to die.

#### **Mark 14:23-24**

***And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many."***

- Passover meal
  - Four cups are drunk during meal
  - Here: third cup - Cup of Redemption
  - Jesus drank this cup of judgment to death for our salvation. Those in Christ drink this cup symbolizing acceptance of gift of eternal life.
- Covenant = "to cut a covenant"
  - Covenant's were never bloodless
  - See Moses = he cut an animal and threw animal blood onto the people.
- Here, Jesus made clear that it is His blood that will be poured out.

Isaiah 53:12

Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

- God dealt the fatal blow to sin through Jesus death on the cross.
- Compare:
  - Buddhism: avoid suffering
  - Islam: Allah never came down to die

Zechariah 12:10

“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

Zechariah 9:9

On that day the LORD their God will save them, as the flock of his people; for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on his land.

#### **Mark 14:25**

***Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.***

- Passover meal
  - Referring to the fourth cup, which left out.
  - Cup of Promise
- Meaning? Save the last cup until Jesus comes again and fully establishes His kingdom in Jerusalem

#### **Mark 14:26**

***And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.***

- Which Hymn? Psalms 113-118

Psalms 118:29

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!