

# Lord's Supper

*This tract has been created to introduce those who are searching for truth set forth in God's word. This tract is not based on the traditions of men and pagan religions.*

As children of God, we must look for the truth in what the scriptures teach us on the Lord's Supper. It was first introduced as the Passover by God to Moses when he was brought out of the land of Egypt. Now we call it the Lord's Supper to acknowledge the changes our Saviour made. Jesus first introduced the Lord's supper to his apostles before his crucifixion.

Luke 22:14, 15

**Verse 14** And when the hour was come, he sat down, and the twelve apostles with him.

**Verse 15** And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this passover with you before I suffer:

These verses show us that Jesus desired to eat this last Passover with his apostles, to go through the emblems that he wanted them to keep, Jesus starts with the washing of their feet.

John 13:12 - 16

**Verse 12** So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you?

**Verse 13** Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.

**Verse 14** If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

**Verse 15** For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

**Verse 16** Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

Jesus shows us the greatest act of humility that we can show to one another by washing his apostle's feet. Teaching us that no one person is greater than another. After Jesus finished washing the apostle's feet, he introduced the next emblem, which is the breaking of the bread.

I Corinthians 11:24

**Verse 24** And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

Luke 22:16

**Verse 16** For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

We see here that Jesus takes the bread, which is a symbol of his body, gives thanks, then breaks the bread and hands it to his apostles. After this we move to the last emblem, which is the drinking of the fruit of the vine.

I Corinthians 11:25

**Verse 25** After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink *it*, in remembrance of me.

Luke 22:17, 18

**Verse 17** And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide *it* among yourselves:

**Verse 18** For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.

Jesus takes the cup, which is a symbol of his blood that he shed for us, he gives thanks and divides it among them. After the emblems were complete, they sung a hymn and went out to the mount of olives.

Matthew 26:30

**Verse 30** And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

All of these scriptures show us the changes made to the Passover by Jesus, these new emblems are to be kept today. Now we need to look at when we are to keep it and how often. The first thing we should look for is the season in which we are to partake in the Lord's Supper.

Genesis 1:14

**Verse 14** And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years:

Here we see that God has given us the lights in the firmament to be able to tell the different seasons, days, and years. So what season are we to keep the Lord's supper in?

Deuteronomy 16:1

**Verse 1** Observe the month of Abib, and keep the passover unto the LORD thy God: for in the month of Abib the LORD thy God brought thee forth out of Egypt by night.

Numbers 9:3

**Verse 3** In the fourteenth day of this month, at even, ye shall keep it in his appointed season: according to all

**the rites of it, and according to all the ceremonies thereof, shall ye keep it.**

Exodus 9:31, 32

**Verse 31 And the flax and the barley was smitten: for the barley was in the ear, and the flax was bolled.**

**Verse 32 But the wheat and the rie were not smitten: for they were not grown up.**

*Abib - an ear of corn, the month of newly-ripened grain; the first of the Jewish ecclesiastical year.*

We are to keep the Lord's Supper in the month of Abib, which is the first month of the Jewish year when all the crops are starting to ripen. So, we know what season and month we are to keep it in, we need to figure out the day. Leviticus 23:5

**Verse 5 In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD'S passover.**

This scripture tells us that we must keep the Lord's supper on the fourteenth day of the first month at even. So, we know that the year starts in the month of Abib, for this we need to wait for the crops to start to ripen then we need to look for the first new moon after the greening of the crops. Once we see that we can count fourteen days which will give us the date we are to hold the Lord's Supper.

Keeping the Lord's Supper repeatedly throughout the year diminishes the sacredness of it, so we need to know how often we are to keep it.

I Corinthians 11:26

**Verse 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.**

Exodus 13:10

**Verse 10 Thou shalt therefore keep this ordinance in his season from year to year.**

This scripture tells us that as often as we do it, that does not mean as many times a year as we want; but as many times as we do it throughout our life it is to be done this way. Should we not want to honour Jesus by making sure we keep the correct date?

Here is what Polycrates wrote in the book of Eusebius, Church History, book five chapter twenty-four:

"We observe the exact day; neither adding, nor taking away. For in Asia also great lights have fallen asleep, which shall rise again on the day of the Lord's coming, when he shall come with glory from heaven, and shall seek out all the saints. Among these are Philip, one of the twelve apostles, who fell asleep in Hierapolis; and his two aged virgin daughters, and another daughter, who lived in the holy spirit and now rests at Ephesus; and, moreover, John, who was both a witness and a teacher, who reclined upon the bosom of the Lord, and, being a priest, wore the sacerdotal plate.

He fell asleep at Ephesus.

And Polycarp in Smyrna, who was a bishop and martyr; and Thraseas, bishop and martyr from Eumenia, who fell asleep in Smyrna.

Why need I mention the bishop and martyr Sagaris who fell asleep in Laodicea, or the blessed Papius, or Melito, the Eunuch who lived altogether in the Holy Spirit, and who lies in Sardis, awaiting the episcopate from heaven, when he shall rise from the dead?

All these observed the fourteenth day of the Passover according to the gospel, deviating in no respect, but following the rule of faith. And I also, Polycrates, the least of you all, do according to the tradition of my relatives, some of whom I have closely followed. For seven of my relatives were bishops; and I am the eighth. And my relatives always observed the day when the people put away the leaven.

I, therefore, brethren, who have lived sixty-five years in the Lord, and have met with the brethren throughout the world, and have gone through every Holy Scripture am not affrighted by terrifying words. For those greater than I have said We ought to obey God rather than man." (Acts 5:29)

He then writes of all the bishops who were present with him and thought as he did. His words are as follows:

"I could mention the bishops who were present, whom I summoned at your desire; whose names, should I write them, would constitute a great multitude. And they, beholding my littleness, gave their consent to the letter, knowing that I did not bear my gray hairs in vain, but had always governed my life by the Lord Jesus."