

THE LAST SUPPER AND GETHSEMANE

BIBLE TEXT : Matthew 26:17-46; John 13:1-17; I Corinthians 11:23-30

LESSON 62 Senior Course

MEMORY VERSE: "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come" (I Corinthians 11:26).

BIBLE TEXT in King James Version

Matthew 26:17-46

¹⁷ Now the first *day* of the *feast* of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover?

¹⁸ And he said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples.

¹⁹ And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.

²⁰ Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve.

²¹ And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.

²² And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?
²³ And he answered and said, He that dippeth *his* hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.

²⁴ The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.

²⁵ Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.

²⁶ And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed *it*, and brake *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

²⁷ And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

BIBLE REFERENCES:

I The Last Passover

1. The disciples prepare for the feast, Matthew 26:17-19; Mark 14:12-16;

Luke 22:7-13

⁷ Then came the day of unleavened bread, when the passover must be killed.

⁸ And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat.

⁹ And they said unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare?

¹⁰ And he said unto them, Behold, when ye are entered into the city, there shall a man meet you, bearing a pitcher of water; follow him into the house where he entereth in.

¹¹ And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?

¹² And he shall shew you a large upper room furnished: there make ready.

¹³ And they went, and found as he had said unto them: and they made ready the passover.

2. Jesus announces His betrayal, Matthew 26:20-25;

Mark 14:18-21

¹⁸ And as they sat and did eat, Jesus said, Verily I say unto you, One of you which eateth with me shall betray me.

¹⁹ And they began to be sorrowful, and to say unto him one by one, *Is it I?* and another said, *Is it I?*

²⁰ And he answered and said unto them, *It is one of the twelve, that dippeth with me in the dish.*

²¹ The Son of man indeed goeth, as it is written of him: but woe to that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! good were it for that man if he had never been born.

Luke 22:21-23

²¹ But, behold, the hand of him that betrayeth me *is* with me on the table.

²² And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he is betrayed!

²³ And they began to enquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing.

John 13:21-30

²¹ When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.

²² Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake.

²³ Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.

²⁴ Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake.

²⁵ He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it?

²⁶ Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped *it*. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave *it* to Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon.

²⁷ And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly.

²⁸ Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him.

²⁹ For some of *them* thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy *those things* that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give

²⁸ For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

²⁹ But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

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

³¹ Then saith Jesus unto them, All ye shall be offended because of me this night: for it is written, I will smite the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock shall be scattered abroad.

³² But after I am risen again, I will go before you into Galilee.

³³ Peter answered and said unto him, Though all *men* shall be offended because of thee, *yet* will I never be offended.

³⁴ Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

³⁵ Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.

³⁶ Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.

³⁷ And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy.

³⁸ Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me.

³⁹ And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou *wilt*.

⁴⁰ And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep,

something to the poor.

³⁰ He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night.

II The Lord's Supper Instituted

1. The life-giving bread is broken, Matthew 26:26;

John 6:51

⁵¹ I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.

Mark 14:22

²² And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake *it*, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body.

Luke 22:19

¹⁹ And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake *it*, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

I Corinthians 11:24

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.

2. The cup is symbolical of the Blood of the new covenant, Matthew 26:27-29;

Mark 14:23-25

²³ And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave *it* to them: and they all drank of it.

²⁴ And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.

²⁵ Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.

Luke 22:20

²⁰ Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.

Hebrews 9:16-23

¹⁶ For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator.

¹⁷ For a testament *is* of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.

¹⁸ Whereupon neither the first *testament* was dedicated without blood.

¹⁹ For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people,

²⁰ Saying, This *is* the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you.

²¹ Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry.

²² And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

²³ *It was* therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.; I Corinthians 11:25, 26.

3. The solemnity of the ordinance necessitates inward examination, I Corinthians 11:27, 28.

4. "He that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself," I Corinthians 11 29, 30.

III The Washing of the Disciples' Feet

1. "Supper being ended," Jesus washes the disciples' feet, John 13:1-5.

2. "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me," John 13:6-11.

3. "I have given you an example," John 13:12-16.

4. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them," John 13:17.

and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour?

⁴¹ Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak.

⁴² He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

⁴³ And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy.

⁴⁴ And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.

⁴⁵ Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take *your* rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

⁴⁶ Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.

John 13:1-17;

¹ Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

² And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, to betray him;

³ Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;

⁴ He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

⁵ After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel wherewith he was girded.

⁶ Then cometh he to Simon Peter:

IV In the Garden

1. Jesus prays "thy will be done," Matthew 26:36-42;

Mark 14:32-36

³² And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray.

³³ And he taketh with him Peter and James and John, and began to be sore amazed, and to be very heavy;

³⁴ And saith unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful unto death: tarry ye here, and watch.

³⁵ And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.

³⁶ And he said, Abba, Father, all things *are* possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.

Luke 22:39-42

³⁹ And he came out, and went, as he was wont, to the mount of Olives; and his disciples also followed him.

⁴⁰ And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation.

⁴¹ And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed,

⁴² Saying, Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

2. "His sweat was as it were great drops of blood,"

Luke 22:44

⁴⁴ And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

3. An angel strengthens Him,

Luke 22:43

⁴³ And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him.

4. "Why sleep ye? Rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation,"

Luke 22:46

⁴⁶ And said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation.

Matthew 26:40-46;

Mark 14:37-42

³⁷ And he cometh, and findeth them sleeping, and saith unto Peter, Simon, sleepest thou? couldest not thou watch one hour?

³⁸ Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly *is* ready, but the flesh *is* weak.

³⁹ And again he went away, and prayed, and spake the same words.

⁴⁰ And when he returned, he found them asleep again, (for their eyes were heavy,) neither wist they what to answer him.

⁴¹ And he cometh the third time, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take *your* rest: it is enough, the hour is come; behold, the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

⁴² Rise up, let us go; lo, he that betrayeth me is at hand.

NOTES:

The First Passover

The Passover was inaugurated in Egypt on the night that the Children of Israel were to be delivered from bondage. The Lord gave Moses explicit instructions as to how it was to be kept (**Exodus 12** ¹ And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, ² This month *shall be* unto you the beginning of months: it *shall be* the first month of the year to you. ³ Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth *day* of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of *their* fathers, a lamb for an house: ⁴ And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take *it* according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your

and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

⁷ Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

⁸ Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

⁹ Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head.

¹⁰ Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash *his* feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.

¹¹ For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

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?

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

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

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

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.

¹⁷ If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

I Corinthians 11:23-30

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread:

²³ For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread:

count for the lamb. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take *it* out from the sheep, or from the goats: ⁶ And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. ⁷ And they shall take of the blood, and strike *it* on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it. ⁸ And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it. ⁹ Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast *with* fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof. ¹⁰ And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire. ¹¹ And thus shall ye eat it; *with* your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD'S passover. ¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I *am* the LORD. ¹³ And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you*, when I smite the land of Egypt. ¹⁴ And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever. ¹⁵ Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel. ¹⁶ And in the first day *there shall be* an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save *that* which every man must eat, that only may be done of you. ¹⁷ And ye shall observe *the feast of* unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever. ¹⁸ In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even. ¹⁹ Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land. ²⁰ Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread. ²¹ Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. ²² And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip *it* in the blood that *is* in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that *is* in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. ²³ For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite *you*. ²⁴ And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. ²⁵ And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service. ²⁶ And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? ²⁷ That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped. ²⁸ And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. ²⁹ And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that *was* in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. ³⁰ And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for *there was* not a house where *there was* not one dead. ³¹ And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, *and* get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said. ³² Also

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.

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.

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

²⁷ Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup.

²⁹ For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

³⁰ For this cause many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also. ³³ And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We *be* all dead *men*. ³⁴ And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders. ³⁵ And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: ³⁶ And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them *such things as they required*. And they spoiled the Egyptians. ³⁷ And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot *that were* men, beside children. ³⁸ And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, *even* very much cattle. ³⁹ And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual. ⁴⁰ Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, *was* four hundred and thirty years. ⁴¹ And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. ⁴² It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations. ⁴³ And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This *is* the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof: ⁴⁴ But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof. ⁴⁵ A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof. ⁴⁶ In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof. ⁴⁷ All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. ⁴⁸ And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof. ⁴⁹ One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you. ⁵⁰ Thus did all the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. ⁵¹ And it came to pass the selfsame day, *that* the LORD did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.). Each family was to take a male lamb without blemish and keep it separated from the flock from the tenth to the fourteenth day of the month. The whole congregation of Israel were to kill the lamb on the evening of the fourteenth day. The blood was to be sprinkled on both sides and above the door. This blood was a sign unto the death angel to spare those of that household from the destruction that was to be visited upon Egypt. Each lamb that was slain that night saved the life of at least one person. How many are the lives that have been saved through Christ our Passover Lamb! (**I Corinthians 5:7** ⁷ Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:).

So perfect was this a type of Christ, and so marvellous the deliverance, that the Lord commanded that this day should be a memorial forever (**Exodus 12:14** ¹⁴ And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.). "It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations" (Exodus 12:42).

The Perfect Sacrifice

On the tenth day of the month, Jesus made His last trip to Jerusalem. On the fourteenth day of the month, Jesus observed the Passover with His disciples. Jesus fulfilled the Passover for us through His death. We as Christians do not celebrate the day

Israel was delivered from Egypt, for a greater deliverance has been made. Jesus gave us the ordinance of the Lord's Supper that every Christian might remember the great deliverance that Jesus wrought when He died that we might live.

Jesus often ate with sinners; but this sacred evening He assembled with His disciples. One of the laws concerning the Passover was that no stranger should eat thereof (**Exodus 12:43** ⁴³ And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof:).

Eligible Partakers

The Lord's Supper should be taken only by those who are truly born again and are living Christian lives. "Let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body" (I Corinthians 11:28, 29).

There are some who wonder about these words concerning unworthiness to participate in the Lord's Supper. The truth is clear. Paul had been rebuking them for not being solemn in the Lord's house, and for divisions among them. He was reminding them of the solemnity of partaking of the ordinance established in memory of Christ's death on the cross and in looking forward to His coming. If we are saved and walking in the light with a purpose in our heart to follow the Lord, then we are not eating or drinking unworthily of the emblems of the Lord's Supper.

God wants us to enter into His holy presence with reverence, and realise that we are partaking of this in remembrance of the Lord's death. Of all the solemn times in the ministry of Jesus Christ the most solemn moments, no doubt, were those spent that night in the Garden of Gethsemane when He prayed in agony, "If it be possible, let this cup pass from me." It was the cup of suffering; it was the cup of death. So when we gather around the Lord's table to partake of the emblems of the bread and the wine, symbolizing the body and blood of Jesus, our minds should be stayed on Him and our hearts lifted heavenward with a prayer of consecration and rededication of our lives to Him.

Symbolic of Christ's Body and Blood

We do not believe in transubstantiation. When these emblems are prayed over they are not literally transformed into the blood and body of Jesus, as some suppose. But they mean as much to us as the emblems over which Jesus prayed on the night of the last Supper. If we rightly discern the Lord's body we may look to God for healing virtue in the Blood. If we are sick in body, if there is an affliction upon us, if we are sorely tried, let us discern the Lord's body -- realise that He died that we might live -- and we shall receive the power of God for that which we stand in need of.

It is contrary to the Word of God to use water in place of wine. We should use unfermented grape juice. Christ and His disciples used the "fruit of the vine" (Matthew 26:29; **Mark 14:25** ²⁵ Verily I say unto you, I will drink no more of the fruit of the vine, until that day that I drink it new in the kingdom of God.; **Luke 22:18** ¹⁸ For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come.). Nowhere in the Word can we find that Jesus used water when He instituted the Lord's Supper. God wants us to follow the Word.

The Ordinance of Foot Washing

After inaugurating the Lord's Supper, Jesus laid aside His garments and took a towel and girded Himself. He then poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet. It is clearly set forth in the very words of Jesus that the washing of the disciples' feet is essentially included as one of the Christian

ordinances. Peter said unto Christ, "Thou shalt never wash my feet" (John 13:8). The answer of Christ was sufficient: "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me." After Jesus had washed the feet of the disciples, and was set down again He said, "Know ye what I have done to you?" Then He set forth the instructions concerning the observance of this ordinance.

Jesus said, "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." There are many excuses made for disobedience to this Word; and one of the predominating excuses is that it was a custom in those days to wash feet before coming into the house, because they wore sandals. But they, no doubt, had already observed that custom, as they had already entered the house and eaten.

Foot washing is more than a custom. Jesus was setting an example; He was committing to them an ordinance that should be observed down through the years by the sincere and faithful followers of Christ. One of the commendations of the saints by Paul was that they had "washed the saints' feet." It is our privilege to obey the ordinances of Jesus. He has promised us happiness for obedience. "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13:17). Many people are missing the happiness that Jesus promised, by failing to observe the ordinance of foot washing.

Alone in Prayer

Although this night was the last opportunity Jesus had to be with His disciples before His death, He took time to be alone in prayer. It is easy to let many duties rob us of time to pray; but it is prayer that gives us power to withstand temptation and to accomplish things for God. Jesus was surprised at the weakness of Peter and exclaimed, "What, could ye not watch with me one hour?" "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation." Peter slept when he should have watched. As a result, when temptation came, he was not fortified. He failed and denied his Lord. Jesus held on in agonizing prayer. We read: "There appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground" (Luke 22:43, 44). Through the victory gained in Gethsemane He was able to accomplish the triumphant deliverance on Calvary's Cross.

QUESTIONS

1. What is promised for obeying the ordinance of foot washing?
2. What excuse is often given for not obeying this ordinance, and how can you answer it?
3. What is meant by "transubstantiation"? Do you believe this takes place?
4. What is meant by eating and drinking the Lord's Supper unworthily?
5. Should sinners partake of the Lord's Supper?
6. When was the first Passover?
7. What is represented by the bread and wine in the Lord's Supper?
8. Why did Peter change his mind about letting Jesus wash his feet?
9. Why do we partake of the Lord's Supper?
10. How long after this observance of the Passover did Judas betray Christ?
11. What was the essence of Jesus' prayer in the Garden?
12. What were Peter, James, and John doing during the time that Jesus was praying in the Garden?