

**Daily Bread with Brother Hwa-Chi (Not reviewed by the speaker, for personal use only)**

**Luke 22:14-23**

Brothers and sisters, peace be with you, this is Hwa-Chi. Thank the Lord, it's time to read the bible again. We continue to read Luke chapter 22. Today we read verses 14 to 23.

**Verses 14-15: "When the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. Then He said to them, 'With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.'"**

Here, Jesus Himself put His suffering and the Passover together; because on the Passover of that year, on Friday morning at nine o'clock, Jesus was going to be crucified on the cross. Therefore, before He suffered, He also desired to eat the Passover feast together with His disciples.

We know that the origin of the Passover is in Exodus 12. At that time, when Moses was leading the congregation of Israel to leave Egypt, Pharaoh would not let the children of Israel go. Therefore, through the hand of Moses, God brought nine plagues upon the land of Egypt. Before the most severe, tenth plague came down, God commanded Moses to have the congregation of Israel prepare the Passover; that is, they were to kill the lamb, put the blood of the lamb on the doorposts and on the lintel, and tell the households of Israel to gather together, family by family, and eat the Passover lamb together.

That night, when the angel of death came, as soon as he saw the blood put on the doorposts and on the lintel, he passed over that house, so it was called the Passover. As a result, that night, all the firstborn in the land of Egypt were struck down by the angel of death. Only in the homes of Israel, where blood was put on the doorposts and on the lintel, the angel of death passed over. After this plague,

Pharaoh allowed Moses to lead the congregation of Israel out of Egypt. Egypt typifies the world, and Pharaoh typifies the sinful power of the world.

From then on, it was recorded in the Pentateuch that this was to be a statute for the Israelites throughout their generations: every year, on the fourteenth day of the first month, they were to keep the Passover. This custom continued to be passed down. By the time of Jesus, at the last Passover of Jesus' earthly life, Jesus very clearly connected His own imminent suffering with the Passover.

When Jesus came out to minister and first encountered John the Baptist, John the Baptist once pointed to Him and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" John's prophecy at that time was about to be fulfilled in this coming Passover. Therefore Jesus said, with fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. Here Jesus strongly emphasized, with fervent desire. Because the purpose of His coming to the earth was to go to the cross for the sins of all people. And during the past six months, Jesus had repeatedly told His disciples that when He went to Jerusalem, He would suffer. Now the hour had indeed come, and He was eating the final Passover feast with His disciples.

**Verse 16: "for I say to you, I will no longer eat of it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."**

Here Jesus pointed far ahead to the day when He will come again. When He comes again, there will be a wedding feast of the Lamb, and that will be a rich feast. At the final Passover of Jesus' earthly ministry, He said that after this feast, He would no longer eat it until one day He returns, when the Lamb will come to take His bride, who has made herself ready; at that great feast, He will enjoy it fully together with His disciples.

**Verses 17-18: “Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, ‘Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.’”**

In the Jewish Passover, they would share four cups of the fruit of the vine during the feast. What Jesus did here should have been the first cup; the first cup was shared by the host with his guests after he had given thanks to God. At this time, Jesus once again told His disciples, from now on, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes. According to tradition, after this, they would eat bitter herbs together. After they had eaten the bitter herbs, they would share the second cup, which was the bitter cup. After drinking the bitter cup, the host would take the bread, break it, and distribute it to the guests to eat. Usually this bread was dipped in a sauce made of apples, dates, and pomegranates, and they would eat it by dipping the bread.

In the record of the Gospel of Luke, after verse 18, verses 19 and 20 directly record Jesus instituting the Lord’s Supper, which is what He commanded us to do today when we break bread on the Lord’s Day. Then verses 21, 22, and 23 record Judas betraying the Lord. Here Luke did not completely follow the order in which the events happened at that time. Matthew and Mark also did not explain it very clearly. The most detailed record is in the Gospel of John, whose purpose was to supplement what was lacking in the first three Gospels.

In John 13, after Jesus washed the disciples’ feet, they began their Passover supper. At this feast, they should have finished drinking the first cup. After the second bitter cup, when the bread began to be distributed, Jesus was troubled in spirit and very clearly said to the disciples, most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me. The disciples began guessing among themselves, not knowing who it was. In John 13:23, it records, “Now there was leaning on Jesus’ bosom one of His disciples, whom Jesus loved,” that is, John himself. Then he asked the Lord who it was. Jesus said, “It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped it.” “And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon.” After Judas received those pieces of bread, he immediately left. So if we come back to Luke 22 here, according to the sequence, after Jesus gave thanks and prayed in verse 18,

and after they had eaten the bitter herbs, they should have begun to distribute the bread. Therefore, what should come next is verse 21.

**Verses 21-22: “But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!”**

Jesus came to the earth according to God’s determined purpose and foreknowledge. He was to become the Lamb for sin, to save the people of the world from the power and bondage of sin. Therefore, Jesus’ death was predetermined by God, and it was also Jesus Himself who laid down His life. But here Jesus said, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed! Jesus seemed to be warning Judas: although I came precisely to go to the cross, if you become the one who betrays the Son of Man, woe to you. In many things, God has His determined will; but from man’s side, man still must bear his responsibility. We cannot do evil things and then say, this is God’s will. You still have to pay the price and bear responsibility for the evil things you have done.

**Verse 23: “Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing.”**

Luke does not record it here. According to the record in the Gospel of John, Jesus dipped some bread and gave it to Judas. After Judas ate it, he left them and went to find the chief priests, scribes, and elders, preparing to betray Jesus. After all these things were finished, we then return to verse 19. Usually, after they had eaten the bread and the lamb, they would drink the third cup, which was usually called the cup of blessing. It was at this time that Jesus instituted the Lord’s Supper, which is our Lord’s Day breaking of bread today.

**Verse 19: “And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.’”**

Originally, this was the Old Testament Passover feast. But at the last Passover of Jesus’ earthly life, Jesus changed the traditional Passover feast into the Lord’s Supper, the Lord’s table, or what we today call the Holy Communion service. At this time, the bread on the table typified the body of Jesus Christ. It was originally a complete body, but it was given for the sins of all of us and broken. The Lord Jesus not only began the first Lord’s Supper at that time, but He also said, do this in remembrance of Me. Therefore, it was not only that they finished partaking of the Lord’s Supper that night; afterward, every child belonging to God must come often to partake of the Lord’s Supper, remembering that Jesus’ body was broken for us and divided for us.

**Verse 20: “Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.’”**

After eating the bread, they also had to drink the cup. To Jesus, this cup was the bitter cup, but to us, it is the cup of blessing. This cup is the new covenant established by Jesus with His blood; this cup typifies the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Once we partake of His precious blood, God no longer remembers our transgressions, because Jesus has already paid the price for these transgressions on our behalf with His precious blood.

At the final Passover of Jesus’ earthly life, Jesus and His disciples, apart from Judas who betrayed the Lord, partook together of the first Lord’s Supper. In the supper there was bread, which typified Christ’s body broken for us; in the supper there was also the cup, which typified Christ’s precious blood shed for us. And eating the bread and drinking the cup have become something that every Christian needs to come together often to partake of, for the purpose of remembering our Lord. Therefore, the next time you partake of the Lord’s Supper together with the saints in the church, you must recognize that this was personally instituted by the Lord

Jesus, and it was also personally commanded by the Lord Jesus for His children to practice often, so that they may remember Him.

Let us pray together: Lord, thank You. You are the redeeming Lamb for our sins, who was hung on the tree for us. But before You suffered, You still remembered our need and personally instituted the Lord's Supper, so that we who belong to You may often come together in Your house with Your children and share it together. Thank You that what You drank was the bitter cup, but what we drink is the cup of blessing. Through regularly eating the bread and drinking the cup, on the one hand, we remember You; on the other hand, may this also enable us to have strength, to be able to be delivered from the sinful world and the control of the flesh, so that we may live a holier life to follow You. Bless my living today. I pray in the holy name of Jesus Christ.