



MATT BLACK, Sun, April 15, 2018
livinghopechurch.net

2 | JOHN 1:29-34

BEHOLD THE LAMB: PASSOVER IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

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Announcements

1. Welcome visitors!
2. We want to invite you back tonight at 5pm for our evening service.
3. We will be celebrating the Lord's table at the end of our service this morning.
4. April 21, Sat 8am – Evangelism training, 10am outreach. 6pm Rap evangelistic concert, **free**. Rap is really a powerful way to get the message of the Gospel out.
5. April 28, 11am to 2pm Ladies' tea. Don't miss it.

Open your Bible if you will to **John 1:29**. We are in a series called “The Feasts of Israel.” Today we are looking at the first feast, and our message is entitled: “Passover in the Life of Jesus.”

John 1:29-34, “The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ 31 I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.” 32 And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. 33 I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

Outline

1. The Problem Passover deals with
2. The Celebration of Passover in Jesus' day
3. The True Lamb of Passover
4. Will God pass over you? i.e. Are you justified?

1. BEHOLD THE LAMB: THE PRINCIPLE OF JUSTIFICATION

R.C. Sproul has said, “Our biggest problem is that God is holy, and we are not.”¹

JUSTIFICATION DEFINED

Justification, according to theologians, refers to the declaration of a holy God declaring sinners righteous based on the sacrifice of Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:21, “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”

This principle is found throughout Scripture. We are guilty! We need forgiveness. How can a just and holy God receive unjust sinners? His holy wrath must be satisfied. So God the Father in perfect justice and infinite mercy crushes his only Son on the cross. Instead of crushing sinners like you and me, he crushes his only Son, Jesus. God accepts his Son's sacrifice in our place and declares us righteous in his sight for all those who surrender their lives to Christ. That's the good news, the Gospel of Christ.

¹ R.C. Sproul. *The Holiness of God: 25th Anniversary edition* (Ligonier, PA: Ligonier Ministries, 2010), 1.

THE ULTIMATE LAMB

The word gospel means: “good news.” We need good news don’t we? The good news is good because the bad news is so bad. The bad news was emphasized for thousands of years as year after year God’s people celebrated Passover.

John the Baptist saw Jesus walking by the Jordan River during the Passover pilgrimage, and John announced, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” Hundreds of thousands are gathered in Jerusalem for the Passover, and here John says: here is the ultimate Lamb. Here is the divine Lamb. This is the Lamb that all the sacrifices point to. Here he is.

Why a lamb? Why a sacrifice? What are all the animal sacrifices all about? What’s with all the blood? And why does God the Son have to come to earth and die as the divine Lamb?

“GOD’S LAMB”

John the Baptist points Jesus out as ‘God’s lamb’. And with that he indicates, at the very start of the gospel story, how things are going to end, and why. Jesus is to die a sacrificial death for the sins of the world.²

For centuries Israel’s consciousness had been programmed with the idea of the sacrificial lamb. With John’s statement, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”³

SACRIFICES POINTED TO JUSTIFICATION

Every year, at Passover, blood flowed down the Kidron Valley like a river. The Jewish historian Josephus reported there were more than 250,000 of these Passover lambs killed in Jerusalem in the first century.⁴ And that blood flow reminded every Israelite that there is a devastating price for our sins. It says a couple of things: (1) Judgment day is coming. This is covenant blood. If you are outside the covenant, you are going to die. God’s covenant is one of mercy. If you are outside of God’s covenant you have no mercy. (2) Mercy is available. The statement of Passover is God is merciful. Make sure you avail yourself of God’s mercy.

THE GRACE OF JUSTIFICATION

Throughout the Bible, God describes himself as a God of mercy and grace, a God of unrelenting love and faithfulness. When God appeared to Moses, he clearly revealed himself as a God of mercy.

“The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him [Moses] there [on Mount Sinai], and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, **a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness,** 7 keeping steadfast love for thousands, **forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the**

² N.T. Wright, *John for Everyone, Part 1: Chapters 1-10* (London: Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, 2004), 10–11.

³ R. Kent Hughes, *John: That You May Believe*, Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 1999), 45.

⁴ Josephus, *The Wars of the Jews in The Works of Josephus* (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1980).

fourth generation.” 8 And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped” (Exo 34:5-8).

EXAMPLES OF THOSE WHO NEED JUSTIFICATION

Uzziah the King – Defilement (2 Chron 26:16-19)

Finally, we see Uzziah the king. Remember he tried to offer incense in the Temple? His skin turned leprous. “When he [King Uzziah] was strong, he grew proud, to his destruction. For he was unfaithful to the Lord his God and entered the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense. 17 But Azariah the priest went in after him, with eighty priests of the Lord who were men of valor, 18 and they withstood King Uzziah and said to him, ‘It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the Lord, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense. Go out of the sanctuary, for you have done wrong, and it will bring you no honor from the Lord God.’ 19 Then Uzziah was angry. Now he had a censer in his hand to burn incense, and when he became angry with the priests, leprosy broke out on his forehead in the presence of the priests in the house of the Lord, by the altar of incense” (2 Chron 26:16-19).

The king of Israel could not cleanse himself. He was angry. He wanted to “burn incense to the Lord” (26:18). It’s for the priests to do so. They are representing Christ. Uzziah illustrates the stench of our own self-righteousness. We cannot atone for our sins. “We are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags” (Isa 64:6, KJV). We are all unclean. We are all stained and defiled. Who can help us?

Isaiah the Prophet – Substitution (Isa 6:1-6)

Then we see Isaiah the prophet. He finds himself trembling in the presence of God. “In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. 2 Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. 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!” 6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. 7 And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for” (Isa 6:1-6).

Joshua the Priest – Imputation (Zech 3:3-4)

There’s a high priest in Zechariah 3 that is a striking picture of justification. “Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. 4 And the angel said to those who were standing before him, ‘Remove the filthy garments from him.’ And to

him he said, ‘Behold, I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments’” (Zech 3:3-4).

A DAY OF RECKONING

When Jesus comes again, we see a very different picture. He comes on a white war horse, and his garments are splattered with blood. Look at this frightening vision from **Revelation 19:11-16**, “Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. 12 His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. 13 He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. 14 And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. 15 From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.”

2. BEHOLD THE LAMB: THE PICTURE OF JUSTIFICATION

CARAVANS

The pilgrims came in caravans, numbering hundreds of participants, sometimes thousands. The caravan leaders would awaken the travelers each morning with the following loud wake-up call, “Arise, and let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God” (Jer 31:6). The festival pilgrims faced many dangers as they made their journey to Jerusalem. Robbers waited to ambush them, for they knew of the money the pilgrims carried for the temple in Jerusalem. Accordingly, the Jews traveled in large, armed groups. Some traveled for many weeks, while the residents of Jerusalem busied themselves with preparations for the arrival of the great throngs of pilgrims.

DANGERS

The festival pilgrims faced many dangers as they made their journey to Jerusalem. Robbers waited to ambush them, for they knew of the money the pilgrims carried for the temple in Jerusalem. Accordingly, the Jews traveled in large, armed groups. Some traveled for many weeks, while the residents of Jerusalem busied themselves with preparations for the arrival of the great throngs of pilgrims.⁵

Jesus celebrated the Passover even from the time he was a child. We have the record of his pilgrimage to Jerusalem when he was just 12 years old (Lk 2:41-52).

OVENS

With so many people coming to Jerusalem, it was necessary to set up ovens throughout the city. After the sacrifice was offered, it was taken by each family and group, roasted in a special manner, and then eaten in the evening. It took months to prepare these ovens.⁶

⁵ Richard Booker. *Celebrating Jesus in the Biblical Feasts Expanded Edition: Discovering Their Significance to You as a Christian* (Shippensburg, PA: Destiny Image, Inc., 2016), 38.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 39.

SINGING

The Passover celebration⁷ was a time of great joy, praise, and worship to God. As they **sacrificed** at the temple, the Levites would lead the people in singing the Psalms of David, specifically Psalms 113-118. They began by all singing the first line of each Psalm. Then the Levites would sing the second line of each Psalm, and the people would respond by saying, “Hallelujah” or “Praise the Lord.” The singing was accompanied with musical instruments of trumpets, harps, flutes, tambourines, cymbals, and other instruments. It reached its peak as the worshipers lifted their voices to God and sang, “This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it” (Psa 118:24).⁸

“As they are sacrificing the lambs they would be singing:

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

27 The Lord is God,

and he has made his light to shine upon us.

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords,

up to the horns of the altar!

28 You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

you are my God; I will extol you.

29 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

for his steadfast love endures forever!” (Psa 118:26-29).

THE PLOTLINE OF THE BIBLE

The Israelites of old are not the only ones that should rejoice over Passover. We all should rejoice. This is the plotline of the Bible. The only way to be cleansed is by the blood of another. They had to be reminded of it over and over and over. We also through the Lord’s table are reminded of the Cross of Christ. We need to see that lamb, not on a roasting spit, but a cross. Paul says, I will boast in nothing else cross of Jesus. This the storyline of the Bible.

Every time a sinner repents heaven rejoices. Since Jesus came into the world, there has been constant rejoicing.

3. BEHOLD THE LAMB: THE **PERSON** OF JUSTIFICATION

Jesus is living out prophecy as the Lamb of God. He is examined as the spotless lamb. For 1,500 years the Jewish people had been celebrating the Feast of Passover by killing a lamb and offering it as a sacrifice to God. They knew about lambs. But the blood of an animal could only cover their sins; it could not take them away.

⁷ The basic source for the ancient Passover ceremony is the tractate Pesachim (from which the Greek word pascha is derived and which is translated as ‘paschal’ in the RSV of 1 Cor 5:7, ‘passover’ in most other modern translations) in the Mishnah, a document that was written down in c. A. D. 200 by Rabbi Judah ha-Nassi. Judah had received it via oral tradition dating back to the great Rabbi Hillel, who lived in the century before Christ.

⁸ For a description of how Passover was celebrated in the first century, see Daniel B. Wallace, “Passover in the Time of Jesus,” Bible.org, May 28, 2004, <https://bible.org/article/passover-time-jesus>.

LOOK AND LIVE

Jesus compared himself to the bronze serpent in the wilderness. Remember when the people were bit by snakes and Moses fashioned a bronze serpent for the people to look to.

Jesus had to become like one of us. He had to become like a snake. He had to be the sin offering even though he knew no sin. And anyone who looked to that bronze snake lived.

Jesus said in **John 3:14**, “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, 15 that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.” Look and live.

OT SACRIFICES POINTED TO A PERSON

“But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. 4 For it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins” (Heb 10:3-4).

In view of this, God sent prophets to explain to the people that, one day in the future, a human lamb would come who would deal with the problem of sin and death once and for all. The prophet Isaiah spoke of the suffering this human lamb would experience. He wrote a very clear, graphic description, which is recorded in **Isaiah chapter 53**.⁹

“Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

2 For he grew up before him like a young plant,

and like a root out of dry ground;

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,

and no beauty that we should desire him.

3 He was despised and rejected by men,

a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;

and as one from whom men hide their faces

he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely he has borne our griefs

and carried our sorrows;

yet we esteemed him stricken,

smitten by God, and afflicted.

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions;

he was crushed for our iniquities;

upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,

and with his wounds we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray;

we have turned—every one—to his own way;

and the Lord has laid on him

the iniquity of us all” (Isa 53:1-6).

THE SPOTLESS LAMB

Nisan 10—Selection of a lamb: A one-year-old unblemished male lamb is chosen for the Passover by a member of the household. (In 33AD, Nisan 10 fell on ‘Palm Sunday,’

⁹ Richard Booker. *Biblical Feasts*, 39.

the day Jesus made his **triumphal entry** into Jerusalem. Jesus entered Jerusalem to be set aside as the human Lamb of God on **the exact date** that God told the Jews to set aside their lambs back in Egypt. Jesus was fulfilling in himself the ultimate reality of the Feast of Passover.

The **people** examined him and found no fault in him.

“The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. 13 So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” (Jn 12:12-13).

As we have mentioned, the purpose of setting the lamb aside was to observe it to make sure it was without spot or blemish. This lamb was to be offered to God. Since God is perfect, you certainly wouldn't offer Him a lamb that was blemished. So the Jews observed and tested the lamb for five days to make sure that it was faultless.

The next day on Palm Monday, Jesus entered the **Temple** and began **clearing it out**. (It is evident that he was presenting himself as the unblemished sacrifice for the nation on that day.)

This all happened in the five-day period from the 10th to the 14th when the Jews were checking the lambs for sacrifice.

Leaders:

Jesus was examined by the Pharisees and priests. Jesus himself would have gone to the porticos there at the temple and purchased a lamb each year at Passover, but this year, he is the Lamb – the “Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world” (Jn 1:29, 34). Jesus, the human lamb, was observed and tested for five days by the religious leaders. They questioned His authority (see Matthew 21:23-27). They asked Him trick questions hoping He would somehow give a wrong answer that they could use against Him (see Matthew 23). They did everything they could to point an accusing finger at Him. They wanted to discredit Him so that He would not be an acceptable sacrifice. But Jesus always responded to them perfectly. They could not find anything wrong with Him. Finally in desperation, they took Jesus to the Roman governor, whose name was Pilate, hoping he could find something wrong with Jesus.

That lamb had to be observed and deemed as spotless by the Spotless Lamb. It is during this week that Jesus not only cleanses the Temple, but he is examined by the Jewish leaders. He presents himself as the end-times Messiah in Matthew 24-25. They arrest him and have kangaroo court proceedings through the night which is illegal. After all their examinations, they could not find any guilt in him. They finally convicted him of blasphemy, because he asked him under oath if he was the Christ. He said, “I am, and from now on you will see me coming in the clouds, seated at the right hand of Power (with the Ancient of days), judging the earth” (**Mt 26:64**, paraphrase). Jesus says, I'm divine. He told the truth.

Likewise, Jesus, the human lamb, was observed and tested for five days by the religious leaders. They questioned His authority (see Mt 21:23-27). They asked Him trick questions hoping He would somehow give a wrong answer that they could use against Him (see Mt 23). They did everything they could to point an accusing finger at Him. They

wanted to discredit Him so that He would not be an acceptable sacrifice. But Jesus always responded to them perfectly. They could not find anything wrong with Him. Finally in desperation, they took Jesus to the Roman governor, whose name was **Pilate**, hoping he could find something wrong with Jesus.¹⁰

Jesus:

“Then Jesus said to him, “Put your sword back into its place. For all who take the sword will perish by the sword. 53 Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then should the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must be so?” 55 At that hour Jesus said to the crowds, “Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I sat in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. 56 But all this has taken place that the Scriptures of the prophets might be fulfilled” (Mt 26:52-56).

“Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?” 62 And Jesus said, “I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven” (Mk 14:61-62).

Pilate:

“Pilate went out again and said to them, “See, I am bringing him out to you that you may know that **I find no guilt in him!**” (Jn 19:4).

FOOTWASHING

Nisan 14—(Thurs night) Foot washing: As guests and family members entered the home to celebrate Passover, a servant or slave would often be there to wash their feet. This was the task of the lowest class of people. (That Jesus did this in John 13, even though he was the head of the family, both symbolizes what he would later do for his disciples (*cf* Mk 10:45—“The Son of man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give my life as a ransom for many”) and embodies his principle that “If anyone wants to be **first**, he shall be **last** of all, and servant of all” (Mk 9:35; *cf* Jn 13:15).

PASSOVER MEAL

Nisan 14—(Thurs night) Passover Meal: Jesus and the disciples celebrated the Passover meal a day early, on the “Day of Preparation of the Passover” (Jn 19:14). Remember days began in the evening at around 6pm. They partook of the Passover meal together. Here he taught his disciples as well (Jn 13-16). After the Passover meal, our Lord went to Gethsemane.

CRUCIFIXION – KILLING OF THE LAMB

Nisan 14 (Friday day)—Jesus is hung on the cross around 9am in the morning. Jesus was set aside to be sacrificed, examined, and crucified on the exact month, day, and

¹⁰ Richard Booker. *Biblical Feasts*, 39.

hour that the Jews had been handling the lambs for 1,500 years in keeping the Feast of Passover.¹¹

Passover lambs were slain between 9am and 3pm on Nisan 14. With this many lambs, it was necessary for the Jews to prepare them for sacrifice at 9 o'clock in the morning on the 14th. They then killed them at 3 o'clock that afternoon so that the Passover could be completed before six o'clock, which would begin a new day. At the exact hour when the Jews were preparing their lambs for sacrifice, Jesus was nailed to the cross. Mark wrote, "Now it was the third hour (9am), and they crucified him" (Mk 15:25).

Remember from noon to 3pm, there were 3 hours of supernatural darkness, when Jesus was on the cross (Mk 15:33).

According to Josephus, in A. D. 70, the last year that the temple was still standing, 270,000 lambs were slain. The Kidron Valley was literally flowing with blood.

"And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. 34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" 35 And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." 36 And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." 37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. 38 And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. 39 And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!" (Mk 15:33-39).

When Jesus died, the temple curtain was torn in two, from top to bottom (Mk 15:38)—right when the last of the lambs would be on the altar in front of the sanctuary!

Then at 3 o'clock as the people were praising God and slaughtering the lambs, Jesus died. Mark was careful to note the time and wrote that it was the ninth hour (three o'clock Jewish time) when Jesus breathed his last breath (see Mark 15:33-37). Jesus gave his total self to be roasted and consumed in the judgment fires of God as He died for our sins. The spit shaped like a crossbar on which the lambs were spread open pointed to Jesus hanging on the cross. All the other details concerning the death of the lambs happened to Jesus—the real Lamb of God. For example, his bones were not broken. Remember, God said not to break any bones in the Passover lamb (*cf* Exo 12:46; Num 9:12; Psa 34:20).

The apostle Paul made this connection when he said, "For indeed Christ [Messiah], our Passover, was sacrificed for us" (1 Cor 5:7).

Conclusion

Will God pass over you because of Christ? We are broken, guilty, stained with sin. *Every evil deed, every bitter thought crowned his blood-stained brow.* Christ did it all for you! They put those nails in his hands and feet. For six hours on the Cross he suffered and then he died. He did it for you.

Paul says, "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Gal 6:14, NIV). "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (Jn 1:29).

¹¹ Ibid., 40.

LORD'S TABLE

Here we will celebrate the Lord's Table.

Celebration of the Lord's Table LHBC, April 15, 2018 Come Boldly

Lord's table – We often feel so unworthy we don't want to come to the Table. We need to be careful that we come with a serious heart, but some of you have misunderstood this.

If you feel unworthy, you need to come for grace. That's what this table is about. Perhaps you are struggling in the battle against sin. Perhaps it's something from your past. Listen celebrate who you are in Christ and come. In fact, the word tells us to "come boldly."

Heb. 4:15-16, "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Look at the compassion of the Savior. He sees your frame. He knows you are dust. He says, "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened down with sin, and I will give you rest."

He says "Come boldly" if you are in Christ. Let no barrier be put in his way. You may draw near with confidence and feel assured that the great Master of the banquet is delighted in you.

CELEBRATION OF THE TABLE

- Pastor: "**This is not the Table of the Living Hope Bible Church. This is the *Lord's Table*, and if you are saved, baptized, and walking with the Lord today, we invite you to partake with us.**"
 - Pastor calls for elders
- Pastor: "**I would ask that you please retain the elements until all have been served. We will partake together.**"
 - (*Instruments play softly while the elements are being served.*)

EMBLEM OF THE BREAD

- Pastor will hand the bread plates to the elders.
- **Elders serve the bread**
 - After serving, the elders will go to the back entry way and come forward together with the bread plates.
 - The pastor will take the plates one by one and put them back on the Table. With the last plate he will serve the elders and himself.
 - *Once everyone is served, Instruments pause the music.*

BREAD MEDITATION:

Come boldly. He says, "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price" (Isa 55:1). Partake of Christ's grace, you who are in a time of need of God's grace.

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- With everyone having been served the bread, Pastor will ask one the elders to **offer thanks** for the emblem of the bread and for Christ’s broken body.
- Pastor reads **1 Corinthians 11:24** *“When Jesus had given thanks, he broke the bread, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”*
- **All partake of the bread together.**
 - After all have partaken, (*Instruments play softly while the elements are being served.*)

CUP MEDITATION:

Are you thirsty? Come and drink. Jesus is the “water of life.” **Come boldly and drink of his grace.** He is a well that never runs dry. And we come unworthy, but we are worthy in Christ.

- Pastor hands the plates with the cups to the elders.
- **Elders serve the cup**
 - After serving, the elders will go to the back entry way and come forward together with the cup plates.
 - The pastor will take the plates one by one and put them back on the Table. With the last plate he will serve the elders and himself.
 - *Once everyone is served, Instruments pause the music.*
- With everyone having been served the cup, Pastor will ask one the elders to **offer thanks** for the emblem of the cup and for Christ’s blood.

Pastor reads **1 Corinthians 11:25** *“In the same way also Jesus took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”*

- **All partake of the cup together.**

Pastor: We see Jesus word’s in **Matthew 26:29-30**, “I tell you I will not drink again 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 a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.”

SING: JESUS THANK YOU

Dr. Andreas J. Kostenberger constructed the following chart to show the dates for Jesus’s final week in A.D. 33.¹²

April 2	Nissan 14	Thursday	Day of Passover preparation	Last Supper
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¹² Andreas J. Kostenberger. *April 3, AD 33 - Why We Believe We Can Know the Exact Date Jesus Died* (First Things, 3 April 14) <https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2014/04/april-3-ad-33>. Accessed 15 April 2018.

		(Wednesday nightfall to Thursday nightfall)		
April 3	Nissan 15	Friday (Thursday nightfall to Friday nightfall)	Passover; Feast of Unleavened Bread, begins	Crucifixion
April 4	Nissan 16	Saturday (Friday nightfall to Saturday nightfall)	Sabbath	
April 5	Nissan 17	Sunday (Saturday nightfall to Sunday nightfall)	First day of the week	Resurrection