

also intended to be evangelistic. The Scripture clearly states that we preach the Gospel by declaring the Lord's death until he returns.

*"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 you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."* (1 Corinthians 11:25-26)

**Communion serves as a reminder of the Great Commission!** Until Jesus returns, we are to proclaim His death, and the Lord's Supper calls us to remember Jesus and preach Him to the world!

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### Passover And The Lord's Supper Comparisons

#### Passover:

- Was to be done in **REMEMBRANCE** of God's deliverance from Egypt (see Exodus 12:13-14 quoted previously)
- Was a look **BACK** at the Lord's faithfulness to His people
- Was to be an **ANNUAL** feast of remembrance and hope
- **ANNUALLY**, lambs must be sacrificed

#### The Lord's Supper:

- Is to be done in **REMEMBRANCE** of Jesus (see 1 Corinthians 11:25 quoted previously)
- Is to be an **ongoing** proclamation of the deliverance of the Lord Jesus Christ (Gospel)
- Is to be an **"AS OFTEN AS YOU DO IT"** act of remembrance and proclamation (not just annually)
- **ONLY ONCE AND FOR ALL** the Lamb of God was sacrificed

As is evident, the Passover was a pale shadow

of the glory of the fulfillment. We are no longer legally required to keep a once-a-year feast that foretells a coming completion. We now have the fulfillment and should always remember and proclaim Jesus.

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#### Conclusion:

*"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil."* (Matthew 5:17)

*"For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law."* (Hebrews 7:12)

*"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:"* (1 Corinthians 5:7)

Jesus came to fulfill the law, and He succeeded! The Passover, as with all the law, has CHANGED.

Jesus IS the Passover for believers! As the death angel passed over the homes of the children of Israel with the blood of a lamb on their doorposts, the judgment of death passes over those of us who have embraced Jesus, the Lamb of God, slain for our sins.

**We keep the Passover (Christ our Passover) ALL the time...FOREVER!**

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#### Passover

*"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."* (Exodus 12:13-14)

The original Passover took place the night that God delivered the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt. The death angel **PASSED OVER** the homes of everyone who put the blood of the Old Covenant lamb on the posts and lintels of their homes. Every firstborn male in the land was put to death if their house did not display the covenant blood.

God inaugurated this annual memorial as a reminder of His great work of salvation and as a foreshadowing of His promised Lamb of God!

Notice that the children of Israel were

## PASSOVER AND THE LORD'S SUPPER

instructed to keep this ritual **annually throughout their generations - forever**. We will look at this more at the end of this document.

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### The Last Supper

While the phrase “**The Last Supper**” is not found in the Bible, it refers to both Jesus’ last meal with His disciples before His crucifixion and that it was a Passover observance.

It was also the last Passover commemoration that was NECESSARY according to the law of Moses. Why was it the last mandatory Passover feast? Because Jesus, the fulfillment of that which was foreshadowed, was soon to become the Passover Lamb of God!

*“Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to **a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.** (17) **These are a shadow** of the things that were to come; **the reality, however, is found in Christ.**” (Colossians 2:16-17)*

The Jewish feasts were **ONLY SHADOWS**. Jesus **IS THE REALITY** of that which the law and the prophets foreshadowed. **Jesus is now our Passover!**

*“Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. **For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.**” (1 Corinthians 5:7)*

What we call the “Last Supper” was a transitional point from the Passover of Moses to Jesus being our Passover! We see Jesus saying that He longed to eat the Passover with His

disciples (see Luke 22:15 below)...then we see Him calling them to **REMEMBER HIM** (NOT the deliverance of Moses from Egypt.) Later, we will see that Paul does not refer to this as “Passover” but rather the “Lord’s Supper.”

*“And he said unto them, With desire **I have desired to eat this passover** with you before I suffer:” (Luke 22:15)*

*“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.**” (Luke 22:19)*

When Jesus and His disciples ate the “Last Supper,” it was both the final mandatory Passover feast and the first Communion.

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### It Is Finished

*“When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, **It is finished:** and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.” (John 19:30)*

Soon after the Last Supper, Jesus said, “It is finished.” At that moment, the **REAL** Passover Lamb of God was slain for the sins of the world. The Passover that spoke of God’s faithfulness to Moses and the children of Israel, the same Passover that foreshadowed the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world...**was fulfilled in Jesus!**

After the Resurrection, the Apostles referred to the Passover of Moses as a “**Feast of the Jews.**”

*“And the **passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh.**” (John 6:4)*

But Jesus Christ, our Passover, is for **EVERYONE** equally. In Christ... **it is ALL about Jesus!**

*“Where there is neither **Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all.**” (Colossians 3:11)*

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### The Lord’s Supper

*“When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the **Lord’s supper.**” (1 Corinthians 11:20)*

Unlike the phrase “Last Supper,” the term “Lord’s Supper” IS in the Bible. It is found in Paul’s instructions regarding proper observance of what is commonly referred to as taking “Communion.” Communion is mentioned in the previous chapter of 1 Corinthians...

*“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the **communion** of the body of Christ?” (1 Corinthians 10:16)*

In chapters 10 and 11 of 1 Corinthians, this commemoration is spoken of as “Communion” and the “Lord’s Supper.” Interestingly, the believers’ remembrance of Jesus’ death, burial, and resurrection is **never** referred to as “Passover” in the New Covenant.

- Passover was the **shadow** of what was to come
- The Last Supper was the transition from the **foreshadowing** to the **fulfillment**
- The Lord’s Supper/Communion is what believers commemorate now

Our times of Communion serve many purposes. We remember Jesus and His sacrifice for our sins. We rejoice in the salvation He offers to all humanity. But the Lord’s Supper observance is