

**Context**

1] On His approach to Jerusalem for the last time He has warned His disciples of His impending death in Jerusalem, the Gentiles will flog the Son of man, kill Him and on the third day He will rise. (18:33)

2] He has been ecstatically welcomed in triumph as Messiah on the Sunday (19:38)

3] Having taught in the Temple (rather than ousted the Romans) He concluded His teaching with warnings of the destruction of the Temple / Jerusalem and His return in glory (21:5-36)

4] The day of Passover comes (Thurs) and he supernaturally provides a place for the celebration. (7-13)

? Christmas dinner - no turkey....? European cup final - no cup. Passover meal with no Passover lamb?

**The meal (14-16)****1] and ... (14)****a) when the hour came**

*i.e. (The hour when) I may eat the Passover (22:11)*

*nb a crucial time - This is your hour and the power of darkness (22:53)*

*\*God purposes 'an hour' – His timing is perfect\**

**b) He reclined at the table**

*Nb formal meal, cf reclining with the pharisees (7:37; 11:37; 14:15)*

**c) and the apostles with Him**

*ie Apostles - His chosen 12 to fulfil His mission(6:13)*

**2] and he said to them....., (15)****a) "I have earnestly desired to eat the Passover with you**

*cf being in agony He prayed more earnestly (22:44)*

*nb this is a key moment that Jesus has longed for*

*\*Jesus earnestly desires to share the benefits of His death with us\**

*\*Be amazed that God should earnestly desire to have fellowship with you\**

**b) before I suffer**

*Nb given a mark of sacrifice at this baptism - Holy Spirit descended on Him in the form of a dove (3:22)*

*Christ our Passover lamb is sacrificed for us (1 Cor 5:7)*

*Cf anticipated throughout His ministry (9:22; 17:25; 18:31-34)*

**3] For I tell you ... (16)****a) I will not eat it until it is fulfilled**

*nb Eat again – He took bread, blessed it, and broke it with Cleopas and friend in Emmaus (24:30)*

*Fulfilled - the times of the Gentiles are f (21:24) scripture must be f (22:37) Moses prophets, Psalms, must be f (24:44)*

*– a constant focus throughout Jesus' ministry (4:43)*

*i.e. The lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world (Jn 1:29)*

*In Christ God was reconciling the world to Himself (2 Cor 5:19)*

*All the promises of God find their Yes in Him (2 Cor 1:20)*

**b) in the Kingdom of God (16)**

*nb the unchallenged rule of God. Not a space / time 'place' (Until Jesus came, most Jews thought it would start when the Messiah was crowned in Jerusalem) but a reality in Spiritual world*

*Kingdom of God/ come in Jesus "if I cast out demons, the Kingdom of God has come upon you (11:20)*

*God fulfils all His promises\* - all God's promises find their 'yes' in (Jesus) (1Cor 1:20)*

## **The first cup (17,18)**

1] **and He took a cup and when He had given thanks He said, “take this and divide it among yourselves (17)**

\*Jesus was fully a man – He gave thanks as a man\*

*(He emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men (Phil 2:7))*

\*Be amazed that God should want you to participate in the coming of the Kingdom of God\*

2] **for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom comes (18)**

*Cf the Lord’s prayer - Your kingdom come (11:2)*

## **The bread (19)**

1] **and He took the bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them saying (19a)**

*Nb breaking bread + the normal start of a meal*

2] **this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me (19b)**

*Cf remembrance of me (1 Cor 11:24)*

\*Jesus gives His body to us\*

\*Jesus commands us to remember Him / His death for us. \*

\*Receive the body of Christ given to / for you\*

## **Another cup (20)**

1] **and likewise the cup after they had eaten saying (20a)**

*I.e. after the meal*

2] **This... (20b)**

**a) cup that is poured out for you**

? 3<sup>rd</sup> cup of redemption from the Egyptians through the Red Sea.

4<sup>th</sup> cup = constitution of a nation at Siania

**b) is the new covenant in my blood (20b)**

*cf Covenant = a promise / binding agreement between parties*

*New Covenant promised see Ex 24:8; Is 42:6; Jer 31:31-34; Zech 9:11; 2 Cor 3:6; Hebs 8:6; 9:15*

*Nb The life of the flesh is in the blood (Lev 17:11)*

\*Receive the blood of Christ sealing / guaranteeing His new covenant\*

## **The betrayal (21-23)**

1] **Behold the hand of him who betrays me is on the cup (21)**

*Cf Even my close friend in whom I trusted who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me (Ps 41:9)*

\*God knows the beginning and the end\*

2] **For the Son of Man goes as it has been determined but woe to that man by whom he has been betrayed (22)**

*Nb Son of man = OT title Jesus used of Himself, stressing His humanity*

*cf they will see the son of man coming in a cloud with power and glory (21:27; Dan 7:13)*

\* God is in control of all things\*

3] **And they began to question one another, which of them it could be who could do this. (23)**

\*Don’t focus on the wrong thing – ourselves rather than Jesus\*

??? No Passover lamb? **He** was present amongst them. Jesus is the lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (Jn1:29)!

## **Conclusion**

- 1] Not the ritual but the person – *He was giving them a meal to remember Him*
- 2] Every time they began the meal and ‘broke bread’ they remembered.
- 3] Us - every time we eat, picnic or a banquet, we remember Jesus - His body broken and His blood spilled for the forgiveness of our sins.

## **Summary**

*At the appointed time, He ate the formal Passover meal with just His apostles, desiring to do this before He suffered and fulfilled it in the Kingdom of God. (14-16)*

*He told them to share a cup as He would not drink wine till the Kingdom comes (17,18)*

*At the start of the meal He gave them bread to eat to remember His body given for them (19)*

*Similarly, after supper, He gave them wine symbolising His life blood, given for them, establishing a New Covenant (20)*

*He says that He knows one of them will betray Him. He will be held responsible, but God is in charge. They are flummoxed as to who would do it? (21-23)*

**KV** *In Jesus' imminent Passover God would complete the delivery of mankind*

**MP** *For I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God (18)*