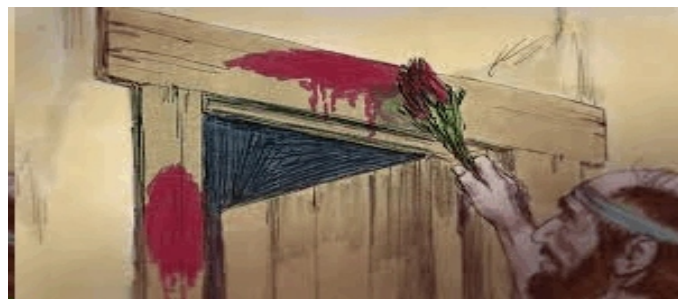


midnight of the 14th). And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as He hath promised, that ye shall keep this service. And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? 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. And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. 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." This took place at midnight of the 14th. The passing over-the houses that had the lamb or goats blood on the door post represented the protection from the death angel. This ensured the first born would not



die when the death angel passed over at midnight! As God's called we are to partake of the wine as a symbol of Christ's sacrificed blood on the stake for us. The sacrificed life's blood of Jesus Christ is what the Passover (blood on the door posts) represented in the days of Moses. It takes blood to cover sin. Blood represents life. "For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that make an atonement for the soul" (Lev. 17: 11).

Only the blood of our Savior Jesus the Christ, the very Son of God can pay for the sins of all mankind. The blood of bulls and sheep could never pay for the sins of the whole world! "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by His own blood He entered in once into the holy place, having obtained

eternal-redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctify to the purifying of the flesh: how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause He is the mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance" (Heb. 9: 11-15).

The point that seems to be missing when following the teachings of Judaism is that the death angel passed over at midnight of the 14th not the 15th! "In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD's Passover" (Lev. 23:5). Remember only one midnight per 24 hour day ! This is why in the New Testament, Christ and His disciples kept the Passover meal one day prior to the Jews traditional Abib15th !

Note what was involved in the killing, roasting and eating of the 'lamb or goat? How long did it take to kill, roast and eat of it? According to several commentators the cutting, bleeding, dressing and preparing for the passover meal a lamb or goat of young age would take no longer than about forty-five minutes. Cooking twenty to thirty pounds of young tender animal flesh would probably take about four and half to five hours! Eating a meal like this in haste would take about a half of hour. They were told to "eat the flesh in that night" (Exo. 12:8). (Night--Strong's #3915 implies obscurity). "God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day" (Gen. 1 :5). The rest of that night would have given the Israelites time to burn up what was commanded!

The teachers' of Judaism never obeyed the whole law of Moses. "For had ye believed Moses ye would have believed Me; for he wrote of Me. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe My words?" (John 5:46-47). They added to God's Word by using man-made Babylonian practices, mixing religions and traditions. Christ realized that the Judaism of His day practiced man's traditions. "And He said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition" (Mark 7:9). This is why Christ kept Passover with His disciples at the beginning of the 14th of Abib. "And He sent Peter and John, saying Go and prepare us the Passover, that we eat" (Luke 22:8).

The killing of the Passover' lambs was observed by the Jews on the late afternoon of the fourteenth and the Passover meal was, eaten on the fifteenth. If this were true then the death angel passed over at midnight of the fifteenth. This is not scriptural!! The death angel passed over at midnight of the fourteenth, after the blood was placed on the door post. "In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD's Passover (at midnight of the fourteenth). And on-the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread" (Lev. 23:5-6).

Judaism does not keep the correct day for the Passover. They do not recognize nor accept Jesus, the Christ as the Messiah. Judaism never received God's Holy Spirit. By following the tradition of Judaism we would miss the true Passover and the protection that occurred at midnight on the 14th in Egypt!

We must keep our eyes on the simplicity of God's Word. God shows us through His Holy Word the way to keep the Passover and all of His Holy Days. Judaism does not know there is a plan of salvation! Judaism does not know that each Holy Day represents another step in God's plan. We, as the people of God must follow God's Word in spirit and in truth. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seek such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:23-24). Remember there is only one midnight per 24 hour day!!

Lets observe now, Christ instituting the new symbol for Passover services. "Supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him; Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He was come from God, and went to God; He riseth from supper, and laid aside His garments; and took a towel, and girded Himself. 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" (John 13:2-5). Reading more to this story in verses 12 - 17. "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? Ye call Me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 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. 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. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them" (John 13:12-17).

Christ knew that Judas Iscariot was going to betray Him. That is why He said 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. For He knew who should betray Him; therefore said He, Ye are not all clean. I speak: not of you all: I know whom I have chosen: but that the scripture may be fulfilled, He that eats bread with Me hath lifted up his heel against Me" (John 13:10-11,18). Christ knew those who would remain humble and faithful to Him.

Judas Iscariot ate the Old Testament Passover meal with. Christ and fulfilled prophesy as Christ said in verse 18, "Yea, Mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, which did eat of My bread, hath lifted up his heel against Me" (Psa 41:9). John's eyewitness account indicates that Jesus dismissed Judas Iscariot before instituting the new Passover symbols, After this event, Jesus Christ passed the bread and the wine to the eleven remaining Apostles and told them to eat and drink.

Afterward, Christ spoke-to them and indicated that Judas had already been dismissed. "Ye are they which have continued with Me in My temptations. And appoint unto you a kingdom as My Father hath appointed unto Me; That ye may eat and drink at My table in My Kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel" (Luke 22 :28- 30).

Judas Iscariot partook of the Old Testament Passover meal and the foot washing as John 13 :21 makes clear. However he did not partake of the symbols of the newly instituted "bread and wine". Once Jesus gave the sop to Judas Iscariot, he left the room (John 13:21-32).

You and I are going to be kings and priests. We must be clean in order to partake of Christ' sacrifice. "And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean" (Lev 10:10). "Her priests have violated My law, and have profaned Mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, neither have they showed

difference between the unclean and the clean, and have hid their eyes from My Sabbaths, and I am profaned among them" (Eze.22:26).

Anyone that was unclean and determined by the law was forbidden to eat a commonmeal sacrifice. The offender knew and was knowledgeable about God's law of being cut off from God. "But the soul that eats of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, that pertain unto the LORD, having his uncleanness upon him, even that soul shall be cut off from his people. Moreover the soul that shall touch any unclean thing, as the uncleanness of man, or any unclean beast, or any abominable unclean thing, and eat of the flesh of the sacrifice of peace offerings, which pertain unto the LORD, even that soul. shall be cut off from his people" (Lev 7:20-21).

Foot washing pertains to renewing or reviewing our baptismal vows. Foot washing is symbolic of the sacraments of baptism, it conveys a lesson in humility. Christ washed the feet of His disciples in connection with the Last Supper. He left them with an example of true humility and admonished them to follow His example. "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. "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. If ye know these things, happy are ye if you do them" (John 13:14-17).

Judas Iscariot was not clean. He was unqualified to partake of the New Testament Passover symbols that were instituted at that time. "And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly. He then having-received the sop went immediately out: and it was night. Therefore, when he was gone out, Jesus said, Now is the Son of man glorified, and God is glorified in Him" (John 13:27,30-31). We are to be clean before taking the Passover of Christ's body and blood. "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you" (John 15:3). 📖

James Russell

A Psalm of David: Psalm 109: 1 - 5, 25 - 31

Ps 109:1-5

Hold not Thy peace, O God of my praise;

*2 For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me: they have spoken against me with **a lying tongue.***



*3 They compassed me about also with **words of hatred;** and fought against me without a cause.*

4 For my love they are my adversaries: but I give myself unto prayer.

*5 And they have rewarded me **evil for good, and hatred for my love.***

Ps 109:25-31

25 I became also a reproach unto them: when they looked upon me they shook their heads.

26 Help me, O LORD my God: O save me according to thy mercy:

27 That they may know that this is Thy hand; that Thou, LORD, hast done it.

28 Let them curse, but bless Thou: when they arise, let them be ashamed; but let Thy servant rejoice.

*29 Let mine adversaries be clothed with shame, and let them cover themselves with **their own confusion,** as with a mantle.*

30 I will greatly praise the LORD with my mouth; yea, I will praise Him among the multitude.

31 For he shall stand at the right hand of the poor, to save him from those that condemn his soul.

