

“The blood of the Covenant, which is poured out for many.”

1. Under the Old Covenant, blood was significant. Moses sprinkled blood on the people, when confirming the Old Covenant. (Exodus 24:7-8, Zechariah 9:9-11)

Jesus is using this phrase: “the blood of the covenant”, where his blood shed is now the substance and the sign confirming the NEW Covenant!.

2. “many”: Another significant part of Jesus’ statement is the use of the word *many*. This would, for the disciples, have likely called to mind two things:

- A. Isaiah 53:11 - The suffering servant will allow “many to be accounted righteous”
- B. Mark 10:45 - Jesus used this word many in a very significant way not to long before the current statement; “to give his life as a ransom for *many*.”

Additionally, Jesus is also called the “2nd Adam” or the “last Adam”. Paul says it like this:

“Therefore as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by one man’s obedience the MANY will be made righteous.” Romans 5:18-19

Where Adam passed on the sin nature to all humanity, Jesus passes on His righteousness to all who trust in Him!

What Makes the New Covenant “better” than the Old? (Hebrews 10:6)

1. Internal Transformation: Where the Old Covenant/law dealt with external righteousness, the New Covenant promises that the LAW will be written on their heart (Jeremiah 31:33). The Holy Spirit dwells IN the Christian!

2. Knowledge of God: The Old Covenant put the high priest between God and the people. We can now know God personally (“for they shall all know me; Jer. 31:34)

3. Forgiveness of Sins: Hebrews 10:4 says the blood of bulls and goats cannot take away sins. Under the New Covenant God promises to “forgive their iniquity and I will remember their sin no more”.

This is WHY Jesus MADE SURE these things took place!

How is the Holy Spirit speaking to you through God’s Word today?

The New Covenant - You’ll Want to Hear This!

March 1, 2026

Mark 14:12-25

Introduction

There’s so much beauty, depth and GREAT news in this passage today!

There’s a lot of BAD news in the headlines, but this GOOD news is firmly established and is an unshakable reality.

1. Jesus Prepares for the Passover (v12-16)

“And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, “Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?” And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us.” And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.”

Mark 14:12-16

The Passover, which is immediately followed by the Feast of Unleavened Bread make up 2 of the 7 feasts that the Jewish people celebrate every year (Leviticus 23). (These feasts are often put together since they run back to back)

The Passover feast looks back to the time when God rescued Israel out of slavery in Egypt. More specifically, it refers to the 10th plague, the plague of the death of the firstborn. **God’s people would spread blood from a spotless sacrificed lamb onto their doorposts, so the Lord would pass over their house.**

The blood of the lamb provided protection from the judgement that was coming! (See John 1:29, 1 Cor. 5:7, 1 Peter 1:18-19, Revelation 5:6)

The Disciples don’t know where they are going to celebrate the most important feast of the year!

This is significant. It’s possible Jesus is keeping the disciples in the dark in order to



ensure what is about to happen *actually happens*. (See Mark 14:11)

Jesus carefully makes preparations for this most important meal.

Don't miss this.... there is something immensely important that is about to happen.

2. Jesus Predicts His Betrayer (v17-21)

And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

Mark 14:17-21

This moment has long been anticipated! This is important to Jesus.

Luke 22:15 "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer".

Jesus has already washed the disciples feet. (John 13:1-11)

The details of all of this passage scream at how significant this last meal was with His disciples.

He makes an authoritative statement "Truly, I say to you"..... and He is referencing Psalm 41:9 (See also John 13:18)

Jesus holds the tension between God's sovereignty and human responsibility. (See Acts 2:23)

This wasn't a mistake; Jesus didn't lose control or miscalculate!

Jesus, knowing what all was about to take place, continued to walk in love, even towards Judas. In John's gospel it says.... Jesus loved them to the end! (John 13:1)

3. Jesus Announces the New Covenant (v22-25)

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

Mark 14:22-25

Communion:

Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper or Communion. The bread is a picture of His body broken for you. The wine is a picture of His blood shed for you.

Baptism and Communion are the two "practices" Jesus established for the church to continue in.

Recognize that there are different views regarding the *bread* and the *wine*. Catholicism holds that it's Jesus literal body and blood. While others hold that Jesus' body is somehow present in the bread and wine. Anabaptism holds to the belief, that while there is great spiritual significance in the bread and wine, it is not in anyway Jesus' body or blood.

The New Covenant:

A Covenant is a binding, contractual and relational promise between people or groups.

The Old Covenant, given by God through Moses, includes the Ten Commandments and wide range of moral, civil and ceremonial laws.(Found initially in Exodus 19-24)

The Old Covenant was never intended to provide salvation, but was meant to illustrate God's holiness, the seriousness of sin, and the call for Israel to be a light to the nations. (Hebrews 10:1-14)

Jesus fulfills the Old Covenant (Matthew 5:17) and ended the need for sacrificial offerings.

When Jesus announces the NEW Covenant, he is not actually creating something new, but fulfilling what God spoke through the prophets (Jeremiah 31:31-34, Ezekiel 36:22-32)