

STUDY NOTES

IMPORTANT THINGS

A SERIES AT NEW CITY CHURCH

www.newcityphx.com/sermons

The following content is based on the message “Communion: More than Grapes and Grain” spoken on 10/02/16 by Brian Kruckenberg at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. The following is not meant to be a full synopsis of the message but rather a brief look at the main ideas. To use this Study Guide effectively you must listen to the message found at <http://newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

Leaders using these Study Notes for group study and reflection should read the Biblical text thoroughly before beginning, using this resource as assistance and not relying solely on this material for insight. We encourage all leaders to pray and ask the Spirit for revelation as they lead their respective communities.

PRAYER

Pray and ask God to lead the discussion as everyone gets to share.

THE SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 26:17-30

THE FIRST PASSOVER

As a Jewish person, Jesus celebrated the passover every year. This feast was a remembrance of how the Lord passed over the Jewish families during the final plague when he rescued the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Every year the Jewish people traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate this exodus. **Read Exodus 12:5-15.**

- *Every year, the Jewish people made the pilgrimage to Jerusalem to remember the exodus. What things do you show similar levels of dedication to?*

JESUS BEGINS A NEW EXODUS

Jesus was taking his execution and turning it into an offering—a passover offering in which he was instituting a **New Exodus** (more information for study in resources section). This means there needed to be a:

1. *New Moses*
2. *Making of a New Covenant*
3. *Building of a New Temple*
4. *Journey to a New Promised Land*

- *Talk about what the original exodus looked like, and how a New Exodus by Jesus in the life of a believer is parallel.*

A NEW PASSOVER

Now, to this night of the Last Supper or the Final (New) Passover for Jesus. There were some things about that night that were the same as the first passover and some things that were different.

SAME:

- They ate the passover right after the sacrifices. (Matthew 26:17)
- They ate in Jerusalem and not in Bethany where they had been staying.
- It was observed at night (Deuteronomy 16:6) and with wine.
- Jesus explained the bread, just like a Jewish father would explain the bread.

DIFFERENT:

- They normally ate with family, but Jesus ate with his new family this was a new family!
- Instead of speaking about the past exodus, Jesus talked about his future suffering and death.
- Instead of explaining the meaning of the passover lamb, **Jesus identified the bread and wine on the upper room as his own body and blood and commanded the disciples to eat and drink.** Imagine it—when Jesus started talking about being the passover lamb, he **KNEW** what it meant!

- *Hearing about what the passover lamb meant, why is it significant that Jesus became the new passover lamb?*

- *Why is taking communion with others so important? What does it signify?*

JESUS SETS US FREE

In Matthew 27:51, the veil to the temple was torn in two, giving us full access to the Holy One. Jesus reinstated us as priests. We are a royal priesthood.

Jesus came to set us free and give us life.

- *Why do you think it is important to receive communion when we gather on Sundays?*
- *How should communion change the way that we worship?*
- *How can we practically live out these principles when we partake in communion?*

SCRIPTURE FOR REFERENCE AND DEEPER STUDY

THE ORIGINAL PASSOVER

1. **Choose an unblemished Male Lamb.** This lamb was supposed to be male, in its prime, and unblemished. It was supposed to be free of defects. It was supposed to be perfect! (Exodus 12:1-16)
2. **Father of each household was supposed to sacrifice the lamb. Exodus 12:6** They were not supposed to break a bone in the body. (Exodus 12:46) This started with the father doing it, but later it had to be done by a priest due to the sin that marred the other tribes of Israel (Exodus 32)
3. **They put the blood of the lamb on the entryways** of the home as a sign (**Exodus 12:7**). In 12:21-23, they were supposed to stain the wood using a Hyssop branch by dipping it in the blood and touch the lintel (top) and the two door posts. They were delivered from death through the blood of the lamb.
4. **They ate the flesh of the lamb.** (Ex 12:8-12) When roasting the lamb, they would put a wooden rod between the shoulders and from neck through the buttock, forming a cross. (From a Jewish commentary on the Scripture—Pesharim 5:9 and 7:1)
5. **Every year they were supposed to keep the Passover as a “Day of Remembrance”** (Exodus 12:14). Tell them why ... every year in the spring on the 14th day of the month Nisan

THE SIGNS OF A NEW EXODUS

NEW MOSES

Moses - Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand. (Exodus 4:20)
Jesus - Rode into Jerusalem on a donkey

Moses - fasted 40 days and 40 nights (Exodus 34) before when He received the law
Jesus - 40 days and 40 nights when the Spirit (new law) fell on Him (Jeremiah 31!!!)

Moses - water to blood (Exodus 7)
Jesus - water to wine (John 2)

Moses - blood covenant (Exodus 24)
Jesus - New Covenant in His Blood (Matthew 26)

NEW COVENANT

Jesus in the upper room Matthew 26:28 “A new covenant I give you ... sealed in my blood.”

This covenant was prophesied about in Jeremiah 31:

*“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. **Jeremiah 31:31-33***

NEW TEMPLE

The Temple had been destroyed and rebuilt multiple times in Jerusalem. They talked about a coming New Temple to be built in the age of salvation at the time of the new exodus. They believed that God would set his sanctuary (his temple) in the midst of Israel and the Gentile shall convert to worship the Lord. (**Ezekiel 37**)

*So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” 19 Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” 20 The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” 21 But he was speaking about the temple of his body. **John 2:18***

Jesus said, “something greater than the temple is here.” - **Matthew 12:41**
Greater than the TEMPLE! That is where God dwells! How can it be greater than that?!

NEW PROMISED LAND

Isaiah 65:17-25 promises a new kingdom—a new heaven and earth. In John 18:36, Jesus claimed, “my kingdom is not of this world”. In **Revelation 21**, the fullness of that kingdom is realized in the New Heavens and New Earth.

COMMUNION



7 Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the **Passover**?” 18 He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, My time is at hand. I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.’ ” 19 And the disciples did as Jesus had directed them, and they prepared the Passover. 20 When it was evening, **he reclined at table with the twelve.**



21 And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” 22 And they were very sorrowful and began to say to him one after another, “Is it I, Lord?” 23 He answered, “He who has dipped his hand in the dish with me will betray me. 24 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.” 25 Judas, who would betray him, answered, “Is it I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “You have said so.”



26 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” 27 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, 28 for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 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.”

Matthew 26:17-29 (ESV)



5 Your lamb shall be **without blemish**, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, 6 and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight. 7 **“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. 8 They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it.**



9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. 10 And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. 11 In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. **And you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover.** 12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt



both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord. 13 The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. **And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.** 14 **“This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast. 15 Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread.**

Exodus 12:5-15 (ESV)



A new Exodus means a new Passover and a:

1. New Moses.
2. New Covenant.
3. New Temple.
4. New Promised Land.



Moses - Fasted 40 days and 40 nights before when He received the law (Exodus 34)

Jesus - Fasted 40 days and 40 nights when the Spirit (new law) fell on Him (Matthew 4)

Moses - Water to blood (Exodus 7)

Jesus - Water to wine (John 2)

Moses - Blood covenant/Sacrifice (Exodus 24)

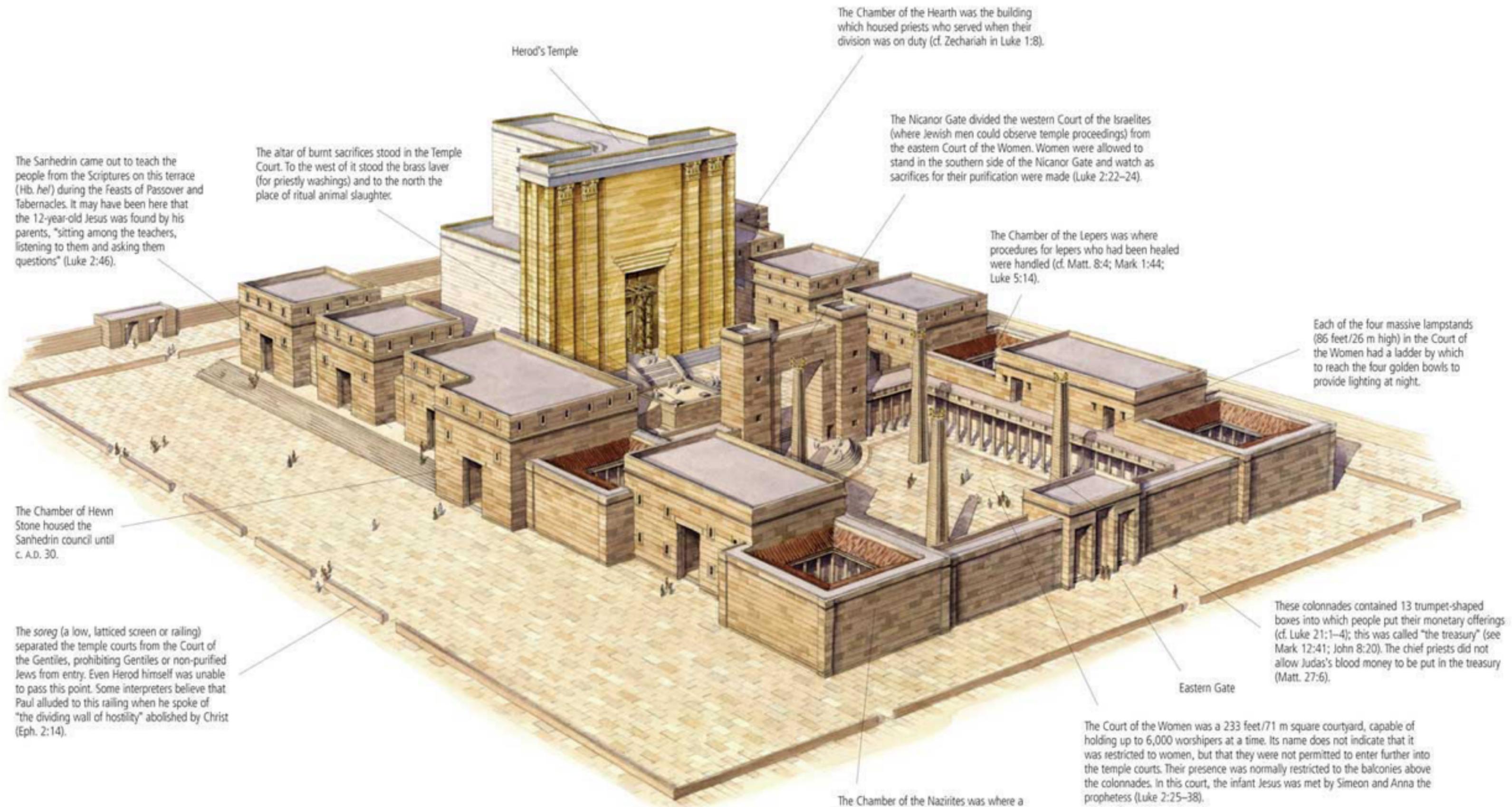
Jesus - New Covenant in His Blood/Sacrifice (Matthew 26)



“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a **new covenant** with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. 33 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: **I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts.**

Jeremiah 31:31-33 (ESV)





Herod's Temple

The Chamber of the Hearth was the building which housed priests who served when their division was on duty (cf. Zechariah in Luke 1:8).

The Nicanor Gate divided the western Court of the Israelites (where Jewish men could observe temple proceedings) from the eastern Court of the Women. Women were allowed to stand in the southern side of the Nicanor Gate and watch as sacrifices for their purification were made (Luke 2:22-24).

The Chamber of the Lepers was where procedures for lepers who had been healed were handled (cf. Matt. 8:4; Mark 1:44; Luke 5:14).

Each of the four massive lampstands (86 feet/26 m high) in the Court of the Women had a ladder by which to reach the four golden bowls to provide lighting at night.

These colonnades contained 13 trumpet-shaped boxes into which people put their monetary offerings (cf. Luke 21:1-4); this was called "the treasury" (see Mark 12:41; John 8:20). The chief priests did not allow Judas's blood money to be put in the treasury (Matt. 27:6).

Eastern Gate

The Court of the Women was a 233 feet/71 m square courtyard, capable of holding up to 6,000 worshipers at a time. Its name does not indicate that it was restricted to women, but that they were not permitted to enter further into the temple courts. Their presence was normally restricted to the balconies above the colonnades. In this court, the infant Jesus was met by Simeon and Anna the prophetess (Luke 2:25-38).

The Chamber of the Nazirites was where a Nazirite would bring his sacrifices upon completion of his vow.

The altar of burnt sacrifices stood in the Temple Court. To the west of it stood the brass laver (for priestly washings) and to the north the place of ritual animal slaughter.

The Sanhedrin came out to teach the people from the Scriptures on this terrace (Hib. *hef*) during the Feasts of Passover and Tabernacles. It may have been here that the 12-year-old Jesus was found by his parents, "sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions" (Luke 2:46).

The Chamber of Hewn Stone housed the Sanhedrin council until c. A.D. 30.

The *soreg* (a low, latticed screen or railing) separated the temple courts from the Court of the Gentiles, prohibiting Gentiles or non-purified Jews from entry. Even Herod himself was unable to pass this point. Some interpreters believe that Paul alluded to this railing when he spoke of "the dividing wall of hostility" abolished by Christ (Eph. 2:14).

18 So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” 19 Jesus answered them, “**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**” 20 The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” 21 But he was speaking about the temple of his body.

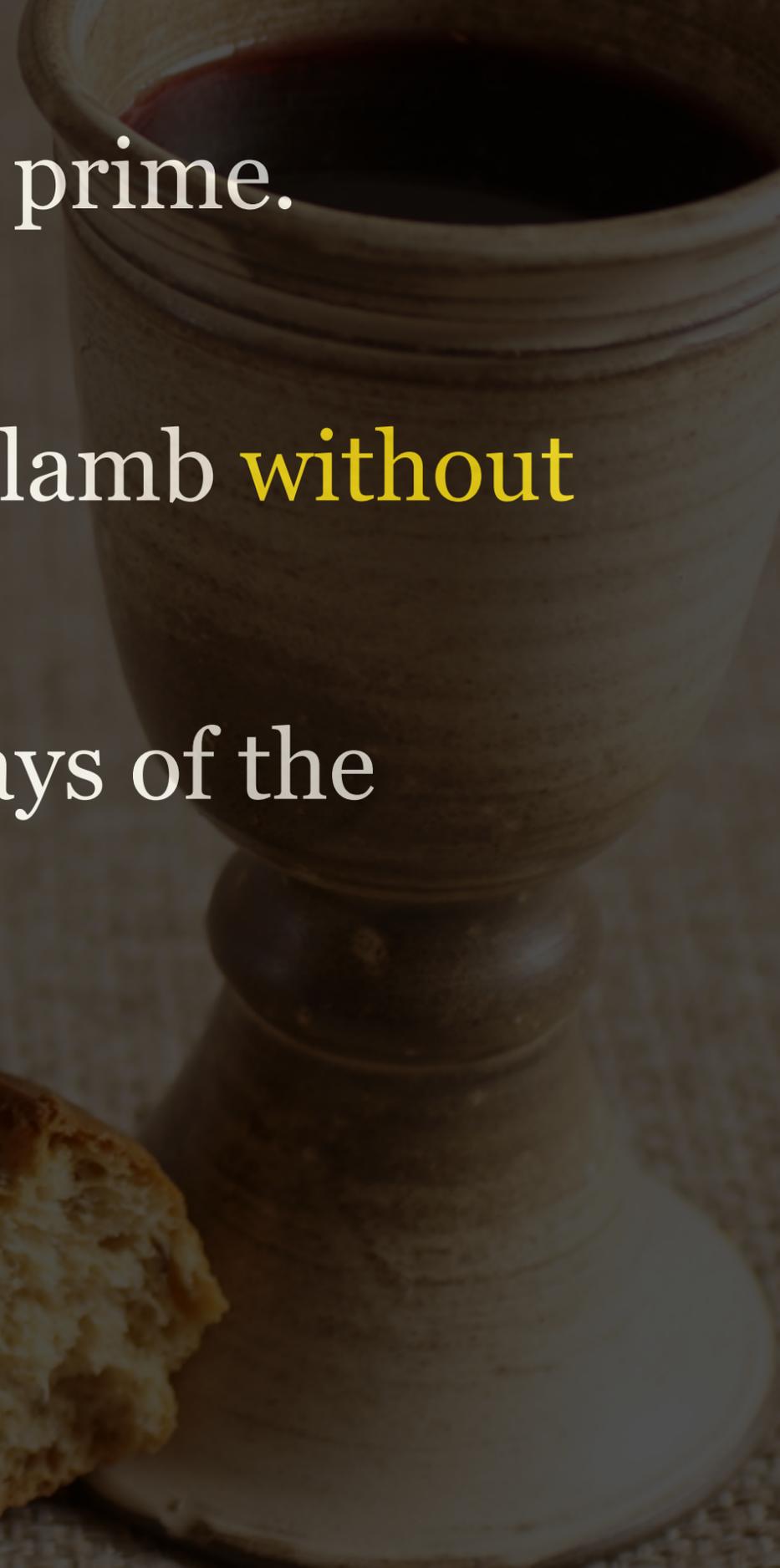
John 2:18-21 (ESV)



1. Choose an **unblemished male lamb** in his prime.
(Exodus 12:1-16)

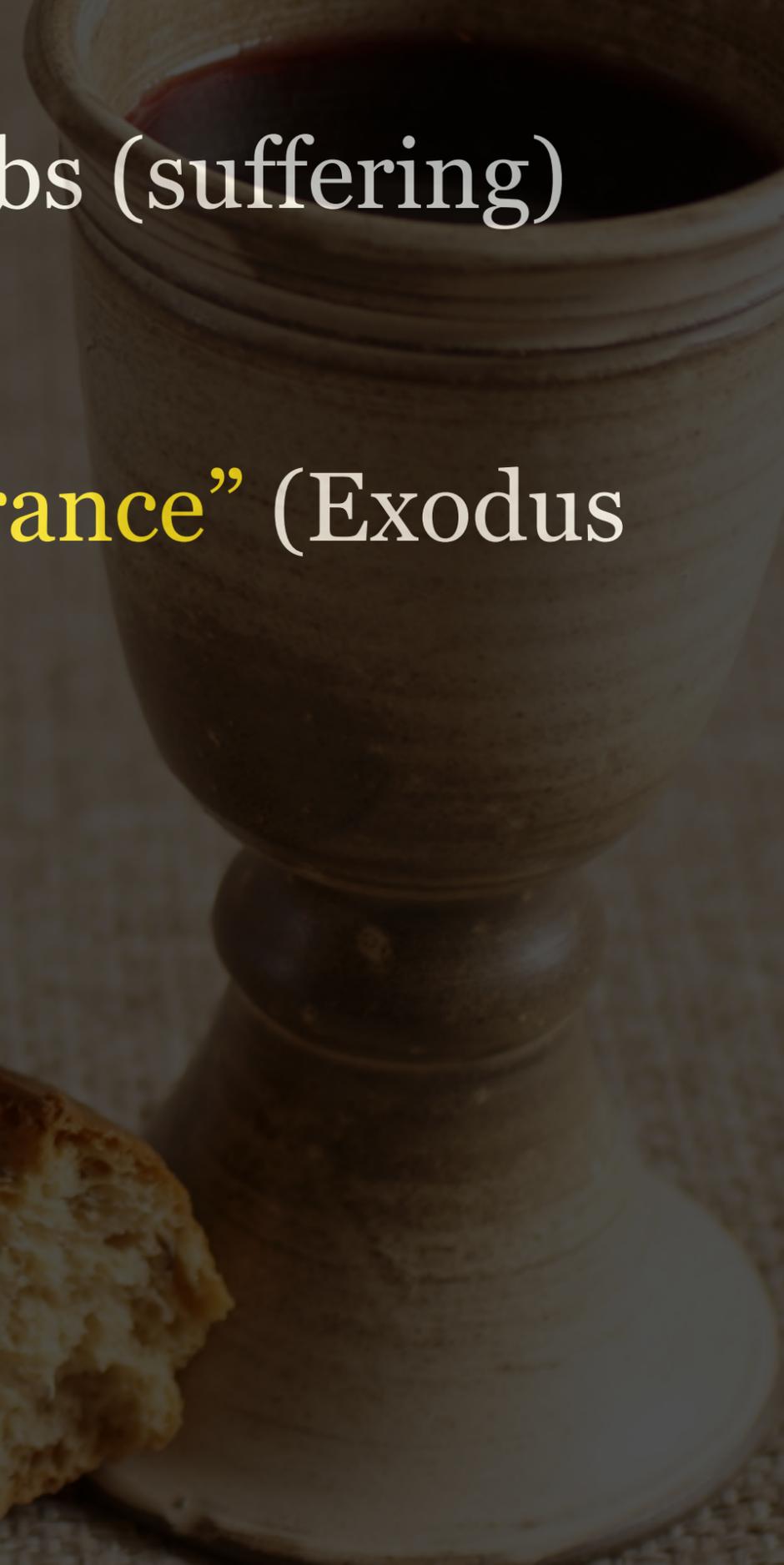
2. Father of each household to sacrifice the lamb **without breaking a bone in it.** (Exodus 12:46)

3. Put the **blood of the lamb** on the entryways of the home, as a visible sign of the sacrifice.



4. **Eat the lamb** (Ex 12:8-12) with bitter herbs (suffering) and unleavened bread; eat it quickly.

5. Keep the Passover as a “**Day of Remembrance**” (Exodus 12:14)





Matthew 26:26 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke **it** and gave it to the disciples, and said, **“Take, eat; this is my body.”**

John 2:35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. ... 38 **For I have come down from heaven.**



1. Cup of Sanctification

“Blessed are you , O Lord our God, king the the universe, who created the fruit of the vine.”



2. Cup of Proclamation

Exodus 13:8 You shall tell your son on that day, 'It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.'



*Exodus 4:22 Then say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what the Lord says: **Israel is my firstborn son**, 23 and I told you, “**Let my son go, so he may WORSHIP me.**”*



*Exodus was not so much about giving Israel land or even delivering them from political slavery, but it was primarily about **worship**.*



3. Cup of Blessing

“Blessed are you, Lord God, who brings forth bread from the earth.”



Matthew 26:26 Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, **“Take, eat; this is my body.”**



John 6:35 Jesus said to them, “**I am the bread of life;**
whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever
believes in me shall never thirst. ... 38 **For I have come**
down from heaven.



4. Cup of Praise

Psalm 118: 5 Out of my distress I called on the Lord; the Lord answered me and set me free. 6 The Lord is on my side; I will not fear. What can man do to me? 7 The Lord is on my side as my helper; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me. ...17 I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of the Lord.

28 After this, Jesus, knowing that all was now finished, said (to fulfill the Scripture), “I thirst.” 29 A jar full of sour wine stood there, so they put a sponge full of the sour wine on a hyssop branch and held it to his mouth. 30 **When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, “It is finished,”** and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

John 19:28-30 (ESV)



23 For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” 25 In the same way also he 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.**”

1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (ESV)

“Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.”

For the life of the flesh is in the blood.

(John 6:53; Leviticus 17:11)

