

The Gospels

Unhappy Night (Maundy Thursday)

U

Components of Jesus' Last Night

"My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples."

— Matthew 26:18

Many churches have Maundy Thursday services to remember the Last Supper and what happened there.

"Maundy" comes from a Latin root that means "commandment."

It refers to the commandment of Jesus to His disciples at the last supper to love one another.

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this; to lay down one's life for one's friends."

— John 15:12-13

1. The Passover Meal (Last Supper) shared with His disciples. (Matthew 26:17-21; Mark 14:12-21; Luke 22:7-16)

God providentially coincides Jesus' last evening with the celebration of Passover, which commemorated God delivering the Israelites from Egyptian bondage when the first-born males throughout Egypt were killed except for the Hebrew sons. They were saved because Moses instructed the people to put blood on the door frames of their homes. When the angel of death *passed over* the land at midnight, the firstborn were saved because of that blood. Jesus is the "Lamb."



2. The First Communion. (Matthew 26:26-29, Mark 14:22-25, Luke 22:17-22)

"While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, 'Take it, this is my body!' Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and they all drank from it." (Mark 14:22-23)

3. The upper room Discourses. (John 13-17)

John fills five chapters with Jesus' last words to His disciples at the last supper. His tone is serious, intense and urgent. Below are some highlights:

"As I have loved you, so you must love one another." (13:34)

"I am the way and the truth and the life." (14:6)

"Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (14:27)

"You did not choose me, but I chose you." (15:16)

"I am the vine, you are the branches." (15:5)

"I am leaving the world and going back to the Father." (16:28)

"As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world." (17:18)

4. Jesus Predicts the Disciple's betrayal of Him

The Gospels	THE ABCS OF THE GOSPEL STORY	A - Z Review
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