

Night of Solemn Observance

Shared Dinner with Roast Lamb

Songs of Praise
Opening Prayer

Tonight we will continue on from the events we looked at related to the Last Supper. But first we will review the institution of Bread and Wine, and then take it as a commemoration of what Jeshua has done for us.

Introduction for taking the Bread and the Wine:

1Co 11:19 For there will also be contentions among you, that those who are approved among you may be known.

1Co 11:20 Therefore when you assemble, you do not eat and drink according to what is appropriate for the day of our Lord.

1Co 11:21 But one eats his own supper by himself in front of a hungry one and another one is drunk.

1Co 11:22 What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God and you shame those who have nothing for themselves? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you in this? I do not praise.

1Co 11:23 For I received from our Lord that which I also handed down to you: that our Lord Jeshua on the night in which He was betrayed, He took bread;

1Co 11:24 and He blessed and He broke it and He said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for yourselves; you shall do this for my memorial."

1Co 11:25 Likewise, after they had eaten, He also gave them the cup, and He said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Every time that you drink this cup, you shall do it for my memorial."

1Co 11:26 For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, it is our Lord's death you commemorate, until His coming.

1Co 11:27 Therefore whoever eats this bread of Lord Jah and drinks from His cup and is unworthy of it will be guilty of the blood of Lord Jah, and of His body.¹

1Co 11:28 Because of this, let a person search their soul, and then let them eat of this bread and drink of this cup.

1Co 11:29 For whoever eats and drinks while unworthy eats and drinks condemnation to his soul for not discerning the body of Lord Jah.²

1Co 11:30 Because of this many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

1Co 11:31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

1Co 11:32 But when we are judged to be chastened by our Lord, we are chastened lest we will be condemned with the world.

1Co 11:33 From now on, my brethren, when you assemble to eat, you shall wait for one another.

1Co 11:34 But whoever is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you assemble for condemnation. But the rest I will instruct you on when I come.

Let us meditate upon these things and our readiness for taking the Bread and the Wine.

[Quiet time for personal reflection and prayer.]

¹ As in the Peshitta.

² As in the Peshitta.

[Taking Bread and then Wine according to Luke 22:19-20 -using unleavened bread and red wine.]

Luk 22:19 And He took bread, and He gave thanks and He broke *it* and He gave *it* to them. And He said "This is My body which will be given for your sakes; you shall do this to commemorate Me."

[Raise up and offer the unleavened bread to Jehovah and give thanks for it, using Jeshua's words above. Then break the unleavened bread into pieces and pass them around. Wait for everyone to receive their bread and eat it.]

Luk 22:20 Then *He* also took the cup after they had dined. He said "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which shall be shed for your sakes.

[Raise up and offer the wine to Jehovah and give thanks for it, using Jeshua's words above. Then pour the wine into glasses and pass them around. Wait for everyone to receive their wine and drink it. Then thank Jeshua for offering us His body and blood for our healing, our salvation and our life, both now and for eternity.]

The Rest of the Crucifixion Day (the Passover), Reviewed from Dawn:

Joh 18:28 Then they brought Jeshua from the presence of Caiapha to the Praetorium, and it was dawn. But they did not go into the Praetorium, so they would not be defiled until they had eaten the Passover.

Joh 18:29 Then Pilate went outside into their presence and said to them, "What is your accusation against this Man?"

Joh 18:30 They answered and said to him, "If He were not an evildoer, we would not have delivered Him to you."

Joh 18:31 Pilate said to them, "You take Him and judge Him according to your Instructions." The Judeans said to him, "It is not lawful for us to kill anyone,"

Joh 18:32 that the saying of Jeshua might be fulfilled when He revealed by which death He would die.

Joh 18:33 But Pilate entered the Praetorium and he called for Jeshua, and said to Him, "Are You their Judean King?"

Joh 18:34 Jeshua said to him, "Are you asking for yourself about this, or have others spoken to you about Me?"

Joh 18:35 Pilate said to Him, "Am I a Judean? The children of your own nation and the chief priests themselves have delivered You to me. What have You done?"

Joh 18:36 Jeshua said to him, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would have fought, so that I would not have been delivered to the Judeans; but now My kingdom is not from here."

Joh 18:37 Pilate said to Him, "Therefore You are a king." Jeshua answered to him, "You say that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world: that I should testify concerning the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

Joh 18:38 Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?" And when he had said this, he went out again to the Judeans, and said to them, "I do not find even one fault against Him.

Joh 18:39 "But you have a custom that I should release one person to you at Passover. Therefore, do you want me to release to you this King of the Judeans?"

Joh 18:40 And all of them cried out and said, "Not this Man, but Barabbas!" Now this Barabbas was a robber.

Joh 19:1 Then Pilate scourged Jeshua,
Joh 19:2 and the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on His head, and they put purple garments on Him.
Joh 19:3 Then they said, "Peace to you, King of the Judeans!" And they struck Him on his cheeks.
Joh 19:4 Pilate went outside again, and said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him outside to you, that you may know that I find not even one fault against Him."
Joh 19:5 Then Jeshua went outside, while wearing the crown of thorns and the purple garments. And Pilate said to them, "Behold the Man!"
Joh 19:6 And when the chief priests and guards saw Him, they cried out, saying, "Impale Him. Impale Him!" Pilate said to them, "You take and impale Him, for I am not able to find a fault in Him."
Joh 19:7 The Judeans said to him, "We have our Instructions, and according to our Instructions He deserves death, because He made Himself the Son of God."
Joh 19:8 And when Pilate heard this word, he was all the more afraid,
Joh 19:9 and he went into the Praetorium again and said to Jeshua, "Where are You from?" But Jeshua did not give him a reply.
Joh 19:10 Pilate said to Him, "You do not speak with me? Do You realise that I have authority to release You, and authority to impale You?"
Joh 19:11 Jeshua said to him, "You would have no authority over Me whatsoever if it had not been given to you from above. Because of this, the sin of the one who delivered Me to you is greater than yours."
Joh 19:12 From then on Pilate sought to release Him, but the Judeans cried out, saying, "If you let this man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar."
Joh 19:13 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jeshua out and sat down in the judgement seat in a place that is called The Pavement of Stones, but in Hebrew, Giphtha.
Joh 19:14 But the evening of the Passover had turned, and it was about the sixth hour. And he said to the Judeans, "Behold your King!"
Joh 19:15 But they cried out, "Take him away! Take him away! Impale him! Impale Him!" Pilate said to them, "Should I impale your King?" The chief priests said to him, "We have no king but Caesar!"
Joh 19:16 So he delivered Him to them so they could impale Him. So they took Jeshua and led Him away.
Joh 19:17 And He, carrying His stake, went out to a place called The Skull, which is called in Hebrew, Gogoltha,
Joh 19:18 where they impaled Him, and two others with Him, one on one side and one on the other side, and Jeshua in between.
Joh 19:19 Now Pilate wrote a title and put it on His stake. And the writing was: This is Jeshua of Nazareth, The King of the Judeans.
Joh 19:20 Then many of the Judeans read this title, for the place where Jeshua was impaled was near the city; and it was written in Aramaic, Greek, and Latin.
Joh 19:21 Then the chief priests said to Pilate, "Do not write, 'He is the King of the Judeans,' instead, 'He said, "I am the King of the Judeans.'"
Joh 19:22 Pilate answered, "What I have written, I have written."
Joh 19:23 Then the soldiers, when they had impaled Jeshua, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier a part, and also the tunic. Now the tunic was without seam, woven from the top in one piece.
Joh 19:24 Therefore they said one to another, "Let us not tear it, but let us cast lots for it, to find whose it shall be," that the Scripture might be fulfilled which says: "They divided My garments among them, and for My clothing they cast lots."³ So the soldiers did these things.

³ Psa 22:18

Joh 19:25 And there near the stake of Jeshua stood His mother, and His mother's sister, and Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene.

Joh 19:26 Jeshua and the disciple whom He loved saw His mother standing there. He said to His mother, "Woman, behold your son!"

Joh 19:27 And He said to that disciple, "Behold your mother!" And from that hour that disciple took her with him.

Joh 19:28 After this, Jeshua, knowing that all things were now completed, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!"

Joh 19:29 Now a vessel full of vinegar was placed there; and they filled a sponge with vinegar, put it on hyssop, and brought it to His mouth.

Joh 19:30 So when Jeshua had taken the vinegar, He said, "Behold! It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.

Joh 19:31 And the Judeans, because it was late afternoon, said, "These bodies should not remain on the stakes because the Sabbath will soon begin." For that Sabbath would be a High Day, so they asked Pilate that the legs of those who were impaled might be broken, and that they might take them down.

Joh 19:32 Then the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and those of the other who were impaled with Him.

Joh 19:33 But when they came to Jeshua they saw that He was already dead and they did not break His legs.

Joh 19:34 But one of the soldiers stabbed His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out.

Joh 19:35 And the one who saw it has testified, and his witness is true; and he knows that he spoke the truth, that you may believe.

Joh 19:36 For these things happened so the Scripture would be fulfilled which said, "Not one of His bones will be broken."⁴

Joh 19:37 And again another Scripture says, "They shall look at Him whom they pierced."⁵

Joh 19:38 After this, Joseph from Arimathea, because he was a disciple of Jeshua, but secretly, for fear of the Judeans, begged Pilate that he might take the body of Jeshua; and Pilate gave permission. So he came and took Jeshua's body.

Joh 19:39 And Nicodemus, who had previously come to Jeshua by night, also came, and he brought with him spices, myrrh and aloes, about one hundred pounds.

Joh 19:40 Then they took Jeshua's body and the spices and bound them with linen, as is the custom of the Judeans when they bury.

Joh 19:41 Now there was a garden in the place where Jeshua was impaled, and in the garden was a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.

Joh 19:42 So they put Jeshua there, because the Sabbath was beginning and the tomb was nearby.⁶

Now our debts are paid, and our sins have died with our Messiah.

Dusk today marks the start of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the first day of which is an Annual Sabbath. This Sabbath evening is called The Night of Solemn Observance.

First, let us listen as Paul explains what Jeshua's death means for us:

⁴ Exo 12:43-46, Psa 34:20

⁵ Zec 12:10

⁶ Isa 53:3-9

Rom 5:8 But here God demonstrates His own sure love for us, that while we were sinning, the Anointed died in our place.

Rom 5:9 Therefore, how much more, having now been even more justified by His blood, we will be saved from wrath by Him.

Rom 5:10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God in the death of His Son, therefore, how much more, through His reconciliation, we shall live by His life.

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who were immersed into the Anointed Jeshua were immersed into His death?

Rom 6:4 We were buried with Him through immersion into death, that as Jeshua our Messiah rose from the dead through the glory of His Father, so we also shall walk in new life.

Rom 6:5 For if we have been planted with Him in the likeness of His death, in this way we shall also be in His resurrection,

Rom 6:6 for we know that our old person was impaled with Him, that the body of sin will be destroyed, so we shall not serve sin again.

Rom 6:7 For the one who has died has been freed from sin.

Rom 6:8 But if we died with the Anointed, we believe that we shall also live with the Anointed,

Rom 6:9 knowing that the Anointed, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death has no further dominion over Him.

Rom 6:10 For when He died, He died to sin once for all; but now that He lives, He lives to God.

Rom 6:11 So you also, count yourselves as dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in our Lord and Messiah, Jeshua.

Rom 6:12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, to obey it in its lusts.

Rom 6:13 Nor yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but yield yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

Rom 6:14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under the Instruction but under grace.

Rom 6:15 What? Shall we then sin because we are not under the Instruction but under grace? It cannot be so!

Rom 6:16 Do you not know that to whoever you present yourselves to obey, you are bonded as slaves to him who you obey, if your ear listens to sin or if to righteousness?

Rom 6:17 But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you obeyed from the heart that form of teaching to which you were delivered.

Rom 6:18 And having been freed from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

Rom 6:19 I say, as to the children of the house, because of the weakness of your flesh, that as you presented your members to serve defilement and evil, now also in this way present your members to serve righteousness and holiness.

Rom 6:20 For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

Rom 6:21 What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death.

Rom 6:22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life.

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is everlasting life in the Anointed Jeshua, our Lord.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread speaks of our new freedom from being slaves of sin.

Leaven can be a symbol of sin and hypocrisy:

Luk 12:1 And when a multitude of people had gathered together, so many that they began to trample one another, Jeshua said to His disciples, "First of all, beware of allowing the leaven of the Pharisees into yourselves, which is hypocrisy.

Luk 12:2 "For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known.
Luk 12:3 "Therefore everything you say in the darkness will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in the ear in inner rooms will be proclaimed on the roofs.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread talks of removing the leaven of sin and malice so we can become like Christ:

1Co 5:6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?
1Co 5:7 Therefore purge the old leaven out of you, that you may be a new lump, since you are unleavened. For the Messiah is our Passover, who was sacrificed for our sake.
1Co 5:8 Therefore let us keep the feast not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of bitterness or wickedness, but with the leaven of purity and holiness.

We are now to be spiritual:

1Co 15:45 And so it is written, "The first man Adam was a living soul." And the last Adam is the life-giving Spirit.
1Co 15:46 But the spiritual was not first, but the animal, and then the spiritual.
1Co 15:47 The first man was from the dust of the earth; the second Man is Lord Jah from heaven.
1Co 15:48 So just as he was a being from dust, so also are those of dust; and just as He is a being from heaven, so also are the heavenly.
1Co 15:49 And as we have borne the image of him from the dust, we shall also bear the image of Him from heaven.

Our new walk requires growth and commitment:

Rom 8:12 Therefore, my brethren, we are not debtors to the flesh, that we should walk according to the flesh.
Rom 8:13 For if you live according to the flesh you are going to die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you are living.
Rom 8:14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God, these are the children of God.
Rom 8:15 For you have not received the spirit of bondage to fear again, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as children, by whom we cry out, "Aba, our Father."
Rom 8:16 And that Spirit testifies to our spirit that we are children of God,

Even the Apostle Paul had to keep growing and persevering:

Phi 3:8 I also consider all these things a loss because of the majesty of the knowledge of Messiah Jeshua, my Lord, for whose sake I have lost everything, and consider them as a dung heap, that I may gain the Messiah,
Phi 3:9 and I may be found in Him, while not having my own righteousness which is from the Instruction, but that which is from the faith of the Anointed, which is the righteousness that is from God;
Phi 3:10 that through it I may know Jeshua and the power of His resurrection, and I may share in His sufferings, and I may be conformed with His death,
Phi 3:11 that perhaps I may be in the resurrection from the place of the dead.
Phi 3:12 Not that I have already received it, or that I am already perfect; but I run on, that perhaps I may obtain that which Messiah Jeshua has obtained for me.
Phi 3:13 My brethren, I do not think to myself that I have obtained it; but one thing I know; I have forgotten those things which are behind me and I reach out before me,
Phi 3:14 and I run toward the goal to take the victory of the high calling of God in the Anointed Jeshua.
Phi 3:15 Therefore let those who are perfected be governed by these things, and if you are governed by anything else, God will also reveal this to you.

Phi 3:16 However, so we may arrive at this one path, let us follow and be in one accord.

Phi 3:17 My brethren, imitate me, and you should observe those who walk in this way, according to the pattern you have seen in us.

Phi 3:18 For there are many who are walking differently, and there are many times I have said to you about them, and now I weep as I say that these are enemies of the stake of the Anointed.

Phi 3:19 For their end is destruction, those whose god is their belly, and their glory is in their shame; these whose minds are on earthly *things*.

Phi 3:20 For our enterprise is in heaven, and it is from there that we look for the Saviour, our Anointed Lord Jeshua,

Phi 3:21 for He will transform our humiliating body,⁷ to become the image of His glorious body, according to His great power by which He is able to subdue everything to Himself.

Phi 4:1 Therefore, my beloved and dear brethren, my joy and my crown, stand like this in our Lord, my beloved.

Phi 4:2 I request from Euodia and from Syntyche that they be of one mind in our Lord.

Phi 4:3 Also I request of you, true son of my yoke, that you will help these who labour with me in the Good News, with Clement and my other helpers, those whose names are written in the Book of Life.

Phi 4:4 Rejoice in our Lord always. And again I say, rejoice!

Phi 4:5 Let your humility be known to everyone. Our Lord is near.

Phi 4:6 Do not be concerned, but always⁸ be in prayer and in supplication, and let your requests be made known to God with thanksgiving;

Phi 4:7 and God, Who is greater than all minds, will guard your hearts and your minds with *His* peace through the Anointed Jeshua.

Phi 4:8 Therefore, my brethren, those things that are true, those things that are pious, those things that are righteous, those things that are pure, those things that are loved, those things that are praiseworthy and those that are works of glory or of praise; meditate on these things.

Phi 4:9 These things which you learned and received and heard and saw from me, these do, and the God of Peace will be with you.

In the Old Covenant, this night talks of the death of the firstborn and the eating of the Passover Lamb:

Exo 12:12 ‘For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from man and beast; and I will execute judgement on all the gods of Egypt: I *am* Jehovah.

Exo 12:13 ‘Now the blood shall be for a sign for you on the houses which you *are in*. And I will see the blood and I will pass over⁹ you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy *you* when I strike in the land of Egypt.

Exo 12:14 ‘So this day shall be a memorial for you; and you shall celebrate it as a feast to Jehovah throughout your generations. You shall celebrate it as an everlasting statute.

Exo 12:15 ‘Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. Indeed, on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses. For anyone *who* eats anything leavened from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

⁷ In the sense of being weak, feeble and physical compared to our promised new body.

⁸ Literally ‘at every time’.

⁹ This is the “pass over” from which the “Passover” acquires its name. As this happens during the “Night of Solemn Observance” on the First Day of Unleavened Bread, this is also why the First Day is also often called the Passover, as well as the preceding Preparation Day on which the Passover Lamb was sacrificed.

Exo 12:16 ‘On the first day there shall be a holy convocation, and on the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation for you. No manner of work shall be done on them; but that which every soul must eat; that only may be prepared by you.

Exo 12:17 ‘So you shall observe Unleavened Bread, for on this same day I will have brought your armies out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day throughout your generations as an everlasting statute.

Exo 12:18 ‘In the first new moon, on the fourteenth day of the new moon at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the new moon at evening.

Exo 12:19 ‘For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses, for anyone *who* eats anything leavened, that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is a stranger or a native of the land.

Exo 12:20 ‘You shall not eat anything leavened; in all your dwellings you shall eat unleavened bread.’”

Exo 12:21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and slaughter the Passover.

Exo 12:22 “And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, immerse it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning.

Exo 12:23 “For Jehovah will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, Jehovah will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you.

Exo 12:24 “And you shall observe this thing as a statute for you and your sons forever.

Exo 12:25 “It will come to pass when you come to the land which Jehovah will give you, just as He promised, that you shall keep this service.

Exo 12:26 “And it shall be, when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’

Exo 12:27 “that you shall say, ‘It is the Passover sacrifice of Jehovah, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt when He struck the Egyptians and delivered our households.’” So the people bowed their heads and worshipped.

Exo 12:28 Then the children of Israel went away and did so; just as Jehovah had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

Exo 12:29 And it came to pass at midnight that Jehovah struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock.

Exo 12:30 So Pharaoh rose in the night, he, all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not one dead.

As this Night moves on, we see the beginning of release from slavery:

Exo 12:31 Then he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, “Rise and go out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. And go, serve Jehovah as you have said.

Exo 12:32 “Also take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also.”

Exo 12:33 And the Egyptians urged the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste. For they said, “We shall all be dead.”

Exo 12:34 So the people took their dough before it was leavened, having their kneading bowls bound up in their clothes on their shoulders.

Exo 12:35 Now the children of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, and they had asked from the Egyptians articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing.

Exo 12:36 And Jehovah had given the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted them what they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

Exo 12:37 Then the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides children.

Exo 12:38 A mixed multitude went up with them also, and flocks and herds; a great deal of

livestock.

Exo 12:39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they had brought out of Egypt; for it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not linger, nor had they prepared provisions for themselves.

Exo 12:40 Now the dwelling of the children of Israel who dwelt in Egypt and in the land of Canaan was four hundred and thirty years.

Exo 12:41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years; on that very same day; it came to pass that all the host of Jehovah went out from the land of Egypt.

Exo 12:42 It is a night of solemn observance to Jehovah for bringing them out of the land of Egypt. This is that night of Jehovah, a solemn observance for all the children of Israel throughout their generations.

Tonight is truly a night of solemn observance, as it commemorates both the freeing of the Israelites from slavery through the death of all of the Egyptian first-born and the freeing of all Christians from their death sentence through the sacrifice of Jehovah God's First-born and only true Son, Jeshua the Anointed. There was a heavy price to be paid for their and our liberation.

This seven day Feast of Unleavened Bread talks to us of our ongoing journey of learning to obey and walk with our Father, Jehovah God and with His Anointed Son, our Lord Jeshua. We will learn more about this tomorrow, in the day portion of this Holy Sabbath. And on the Wave Sheaf Offering, we will discover the joy of Jeshua's resurrection.

Closing Prayer

Prepared by the Central Highlands Church of God www.chcpublications.net
Using the CHCoG translation based on the Aramaic New Covenant (the Peshitta).