

Gospel of John Chapter 13

Key verse: **John 15:4**

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

John 13(ESV)

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²During supper, when the devil had already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him, ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, ⁴rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, do you wash my feet?" ⁷Jesus answered him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but afterward you will understand."⁸ Peter said to him, "You shall never wash my feet." Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no share with me."⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰Jesus said to him, "The one who has bathed does not need to wash, except for his feet, but is completely clean. And you are clean, but not every one of you."¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; that was why he said, "Not all of you are clean."

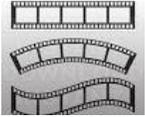
¹²When he had washed their feet and put on his outer garments and resumed his place, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? ¹³You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for so I am. ¹⁴If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you. ¹⁶Truly, truly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. ¹⁸I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But the Scripture will be fulfilled, 'He who ate my bread has lifted his heel

against me.' ¹⁹I am telling you this now, before it takes place, that when it does take place you may believe that I am he.²⁰ Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever receives the one I send receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me."

²¹ After saying these things, Jesus was troubled in his spirit, and testified, "Truly, truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." ²² The disciples looked at one another, uncertain of whom he spoke. ²³ One of his disciples, whom Jesus loved, was reclining at table at Jesus' side ²⁴ so Simon Peter motioned to him to ask Jesus of whom he was speaking. ²⁵ So that disciple, leaning back against Jesus, said to him, "Lord, who is it?" ²⁶ Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I will give this morsel of bread when I have dipped it." So when he had dipped the morsel, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. ²⁷ Then after he had taken the morsel, Satan entered into him. Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly." ²⁸ Now no one at the table knew why he said this to him. ²⁹ Some thought that, because Judas had the moneybag, Jesus was telling him, "Buy what we need for the feast," or that he should give something to the poor. ³⁰ So, after receiving the morsel of bread, he immediately went out. And it was night.

³¹ When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. ³² If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. ³³ Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.'³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. ³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

³⁶ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, where are you going?" Jesus answered him, "Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward." ³⁷ Peter said to him, "Lord, why can I not follow you now? I will lay down my life for you." ³⁸ Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me? Truly, truly, I say to you, the rooster will not crow till you have denied me three times.



Scene it

1. **Summary** of Events: Write down what happened in each scene of this chapter and how it relates to the theme of the book.

Scene	Passage	Location	Characters	What Happened?
39				

2. This is the 3rd time mentioned in the Gospel of John that Jesus went to Jerusalem for the Passover Feast. What do you learn about the Passover Feast from Exodus 12?

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and 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. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In 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. ¹²For 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. ¹³The 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. On the first day you shall remove leaven out of your houses, for if anyone eats what is leavened, from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel. ¹⁶ On the first day you shall hold a holy assembly, and on the seventh day a holy assembly. No work shall be done on those days. But what everyone needs to eat, that alone may be prepared by you. ¹⁷ And you shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day, throughout your generations, as a statute forever. ¹⁸ In the first month, from the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread until the twenty-first day of the month at evening. ¹⁹ For seven days no leaven is to be found in your houses. If anyone eats what is leavened, that person will be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is a sojourner or a native of the land. ²⁰ You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your dwelling places you shall eat unleavened bread.”

²¹ Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go and select lambs for yourselves according to your clans, and kill the Passover lamb. ²² Take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. ²³ For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when he sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you. ²⁴ You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons forever. ²⁵ And when you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this service. ²⁶ And when your children say to you, ‘What do you mean by this service?’ ²⁷ you shall say, ‘It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.’” And the people bowed their heads and worshiped.

- a. **Who** was to celebrate?
- b. **When** were they to celebrate?
- c. **What** specifics were involved in their celebration?
- d. **How** were they to celebrate? And for **how long**?
- e. **Why** were they to celebrate?

Now, this was an eight-day festival. The Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread were combined. The Feast of Unleavened Bread lasted one week, from the 15th of Nisan until the 21st, as prescribed by the Old Testament. That was a seven-day feast. The day before was the Passover. So, the combination was an eight-day festival. In fact, they were connected in the minds of the people so much so that the Feast of Unleavened Bread could be a term describing the whole eight days, or the Passover could be a term describing the whole eight days.

So, they would celebrate the Passover meal on the 14th of Nisan and then for seven days, the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And, of course, we remember what it was for. The Passover celebrated God's delivering Israel out of bondage in Egypt where they'd been for over 400 years. And you remember, God began to send plagues on the Egyptians, and the last plague was the death of all the firstborn in every family in Egypt. And God said to them, "If you will kill a lamb and a spotless lamb, and put the blood of that lamb on the doorposts and the crosspiece, when the angel of death comes to slay all the firstborn of Egypt, if he sees the blood on your door, he will pass over." And that's the Passover. He will pass over your house, pass beyond your house and spare your life. And as a result of that, Pharaoh said, "Get out, I've had it. That's all I can take." And he sent the Jews out and God ultimately delivered them.

So, the Passover was commemorating the sacrificial lamb whose blood caused them to escape the judgment of God. And it was a symbol of God's ultimate Passover Lamb, whose blood would cause them eternally to escape the judgment of God. And so, God instituted in Exodus 12 the continual feast of the Passover. It was a meal, and it was held the night before the beginning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Ancient times, it came in the first month of the year called Abib. But after the exile it was celebrated in the month of Nisan and Passover was the 14th day of Nisan and on the 15th day, they began the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

By the way, you might be interested to note that the lamb, according to Exodus chapter 12, was to be selected on the tenth of Nisan. And I have been telling you as we've been studying the book of Matthew that I believe Jesus entered the city of Jerusalem on Monday. His triumphal entry was Monday. There are several reasons for that. One, it fits the chronology of events better than a Sunday entrance. Two, it eliminates the problem of what has been called through the years "a silent Wednesday." If you have Christ entering on Sunday, then there's nothing happening on Wednesday of the Passion Week; it's a vacuum that's hard to fill. But thirdly, and perhaps very significantly, Monday was the tenth of Nisan in the year 33 AD in which our Lord died. And that means that the Monday on the tenth was the day in which everyone in the city of Jerusalem was selecting their Passover lamb.

The lamb had to be selected on the tenth, taken in and live with the family until it was slaughtered so that when that lamb was slaughtered, it was slaughtered as a friend, if you will, almost as a pet, so they understood the price of sin. And it's significant because if Jesus entered the city on that Monday, He entered into the hearts of those people as their Passover lamb on the proper day. And He fulfills the symbolism of the Passover lamb in every way. Arriving into the city on the tenth of Nisan to offer Himself as the Lamb of God to take away the sin of the world, dying on the 14th of Nisan, rather, as the Passover sacrifice for the sins of the world.

So, the Jews already had selected their lamb as we approach this text. They had done that on Monday. Now, the Passover we understand. They sacrificed the lamb to commemorate the lamb of old. They sacrificed a lamb to remind them of the price of their sin. And you remember, don't you, that Josephus tells us that there were over a quarter of a million lambs slain at one Passover time? It's just amazing to believe that. The impact of that would be profound. Two and a half million people, at least, in the city of Jerusalem, the massacre of a quarter of a million lambs, lambs which had lived in the

home of those people. They had to be in the house so that the people grew to have affection for them so that they saw the price of their sin and the terrible result of it in the death of that lamb.

And then, the slaughter was absolutely remarkable as all of those lambs were being slaughtered. And as we shall see in a moment, they were slaughtered within a two-hour period, which makes the massacre almost mind boggling. And a river of blood ran out the back of the temple and down the slope of the hill into the Kidron Valley that filled up the brook, and it ran red with blood right down toward Bethlehem. So, it was a very dramatic time of the year for them, a time when they were face to face with sin, and the sacrifice that was demanded by sin and so forth. And the Lord had instituted all of this in Exodus 12 and it was repeated many, many times in the Pentateuch that they should follow through and keep the Passover. (<https://www.gty.org/resources/sermons/2382/The-Last-Passover-Part-1>)

3. Do you learn anything about **God the Father** or the **Holy Spirit** in John 13? Write it below.

4. What do you observe about our Lord, **Jesus Christ**?

a. What do you learn about His *character*?

b. How does he interact with *people*?

c. How does Jesus conduct *ministry*?

d. What *names/titles* of Jesus are mentioned, if any?

5. Pray: As you just took time to observe your Lord, now take time to praise God for the person and work of Jesus Christ. Be sure to thank God that Christ's perfect life has been credited to your account as if you lived it.



GROWING IN RESPECT TO SALVATION

6. What did you learn about being a disciple from the people in this chapter?
7. Place a check in the circle if you **said** the memory verses below:
- John 20:30-31
 - John 3:35-36
 - John 6:35

Write from Memory the verses below:

John 8:24

John 13:34-35

John 15:4



8. Create an artistic expression of this chapter (ie. prayer, poem, picture, acrostic, etc.).