

Sermon by: Rick Myatt

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The Best Meal in History

Matthew 26:17-30

Matthew 26:17-22

¹⁷ On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?”

¹⁸ He replied, *“Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, ‘The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.’”* ¹⁹ So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

²⁰ When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve.²¹ And while they were eating, he said, *“Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me.”*

²² They were very sad and began to say to him one after the other, “Surely you don’t mean me, Lord?”

Matthew 26:23-27

²³ Jesus replied, *“The one who has dipped his hand into the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man will go just as it is written about. But woe to that man who betrays the Son of Man! It would be better for him if he had not been born.”*

²⁵ Then Judas, the one who would betray him, said, “Surely you don’t mean me, Rabbi?”

Jesus answered, *“You have said so.”*

²⁶ While they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, *“Take and eat; this is my body.”*

²⁷ Then he took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, *“Drink from it, all of you.”*

Matthew 26:28-32

²⁸ "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you, I will not drink from this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

³⁰ When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Chapter Overview

- Jesus was anointed by Mary
- Jesus taught his men with a meal
- Jesus faced a terrifying future
- Jesus was arrested and tried
- Jesus was denied by his friend

Jesus' "special meal" teaches us much

- It was about our rescue
- We could not rescue ourselves
- We simply receive our rescue

John 6:53-54

⁵³ Jesus said to them, *“Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴ Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.*

John 6:47-48

⁴⁷ Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life.

Jesus' "special meal" teaches us much

- It was about our rescue
- We could not rescue ourselves
- We simply receive our rescue
- Our rescue was costly

Implications

- Our rescue guarantees life

John 6:35

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, *“I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”*

John 4:13-14

¹³ Jesus answered, *“Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again,¹⁴ but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”*

Implications

- Our rescue guarantees life
- Our rescue is complete

Colossians 2:13-14

¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,¹⁴ having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross.

Implications

- Our rescue guarantees life
- Our rescue is complete
- Our rescue establishes our worth
- Our rescue is central to our identity
- Our rescue should fill us with gratitude