

# Day 5 - Maundy Thursday: The Shadow Meets the Substance

Thursday  
Pesach/Passover & Holy Week  
5786/2026

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# Maundy Thursday: The Shadow Meets the Substance

The word "Maundy" comes from the Latin *mandatum*, meaning "command" — referring to the New Commandment Jesus gave His disciples to love one another (John 13:34). On this night, the Old Covenant's shadow met the substance of the New.

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# Session Agenda: Unpacking Maundy Thursday



## The Upper Room

Discover the significance of Jesus' last Passover.



## Matzah: Striped, Pierced, Pure

Uncover the prophetic symbolism in the Passover bread.



## Shadow vs. Substance

Contrast the Old Covenant Seder with the New.



## Kingdom Principle

Learn about servant leadership in God's kingdom.



## Summary

Key takeaways for the believer today.



## The Bread: Body of the Lamb

Explore the meaning behind the broken bread.



## The Wine: Blood of the Covenant

Understand the new covenant sealed by His blood.



## The Basin and the Towel

Reflect on Jesus' act of humble service.



## Renewing Our Vows

Recommit to Christ at the Lord's Table.





# The Upper Room: A Revolutionary Passover

## The Setting

In the Upper Room, Jesus presided over a traditional Passover Seder — but He did something revolutionary: He took the ancient symbols of Israel's physical liberation and transformed them into the seals of humanity's spiritual redemption.

## Luke 22:14–16 (NLT)

"I have been very eager to eat this Passover meal with you before my suffering begins. For I tell you now that I won't eat this meal again until its meaning is fulfilled in the Kingdom of God."

**The Eagerness:** Jesus was eager to inaugurate the Covenant that would bridge the gap between God and man forever.

**The Fulfillment:** The Passover was always a "placeholder" for something greater.

# The Bread: The Body of the Lamb

"He took some bread and gave thanks to God for it. Then he broke it in pieces and gave it to the disciples, saying, 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.'" — Luke 22:19 (NLT)

## The Connection to Pesach

This was the Matzah — unleavened bread representing purity and the haste of the Exodus. It is "striped" and "pierced" during baking to prevent rising.

## Broken for You

Just as the Matzah was broken to be shared, Jesus' body would be "broken" by the Roman scourge and the nails of the cross.

## The Sinless Bread

Jesus is the only human "without leaven" — without sin. By eating this bread, the disciples symbolically participated in His perfect life.



## Matzah: Striped, Pierced, and Pure

The physical properties of Matzah were not accidental — they were prophetic. Baked without yeast (a biblical symbol of sin), striped and pierced to prevent rising, the Matzah bore the marks of the One it foreshadowed. Isaiah 53:5 declares: *"He was pierced for our transgressions... by His wounds we are healed."* Every Passover Seder for centuries had been quietly pointing to this moment in the Upper Room.

# The Wine: The Blood of the Covenant

"After supper he took another cup of wine and said, 'This cup is the new covenant between God and his people — an agreement confirmed with my blood, which is poured out as a sacrifice for you.'" — Luke 22:20 (NLT)

## The Connection to Pesach

Traditional Seders involve four cups of wine. Most scholars believe this was the Third Cup — the "*Cup of Redemption*" — commemorating God's promise in Exodus 6:6: "*I will redeem you with a powerful arm.*"

## The New Meaning

- **The Blood Agreement:** In the Ancient Near East, a covenant was "cut" with blood (Exodus 24:8). The Old Covenant written on stone is superseded by a New Covenant written on the heart.
- **Substitution:** The wine "poured out" represented His life force given in exchange for ours.

# The New Covenant Seder: Shadow vs. Substance

Every element of the Passover Seder was a prophetic rehearsal pointing forward to Christ. The table below maps the Old Shadow to the New Reality.

<b>Element</b>	<b>The Old Shadow (Exodus)</b>	<b>The New Reality (The Gospel)</b>
<b>The Requirement</b>	A physical lamb without blemish	Jesus, the sinless Son of God
<b>The Bread</b>	"Bread of Affliction" — remembrance of slavery	"Bread of Life" — remembrance of His sacrifice
<b>The Cup</b>	The Cup of Redemption from Pharaoh	The Cup of Redemption from Sin and Death
<b>The Command</b>	"Observe this as a lasting ordinance"	"Do this in remembrance of Me"



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## The Basin and the Towel

While Luke focuses on the meal, John 13 records that Jesus also washed the disciples' feet during this Seder — a servant's task. This act carries a profound moral teaching for every believer.

# The Kingdom Principle of Servant Leadership



## The Table of the Lord

You cannot partake in the Table of the Lord if you are unwilling to take up the Towel of the Lord. Receiving and serving are inseparable in the New Covenant.



## Cleansed to Serve

We are cleansed by His blood so that we can serve one another in love. The New Covenant is not just about receiving forgiveness — it is about a new way of living.



## The New Commandment

Jesus commanded: *"Love one another as I have loved you"* (John 13:34). The *mandatum* — the Maundy — is the very heart of what this night inaugurated.

# Renewing Our Vows at the Lord's Table

When we partake in Communion, we are not just eating a snack — we are renewing our vows to the King who gave His body to be broken so that we could be made whole.

Maundy Thursday teaches us that Jesus is the Host of the Table. He invites us into a formal, legal, and intimate agreement — a New Covenant sealed not by the blood of animals, but by His own divine blood, written not on stone, but on the heart.

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# Summary: What Maundy Thursday Means for the Believer

## He Is the Lamb

Jesus fulfilled every requirement of the Passover — sinless, sacrificed, and sufficient for the redemption of all humanity.

## He Is the Bread

His broken body, like the pierced Matzah, is given for us. We partake in His perfect, sinless life when we receive Him by faith.

## He Is the Cup

His blood poured out seals the New Covenant — replacing the old agreement of law with a living covenant of grace written on the heart.

## He Is the Servant

He took up the towel so we would know: true greatness in His Kingdom is measured by love and service to one another.

# We have covered...



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