



The Passion of the King - 1

When Jesus began His ministry His message was, "Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is near." Now the events that were to usher in His Kingdom had come. These events were His death and resurrection.

THE KING PREPARES FOR HIS DEATH

1. THE ANOINTING AT BETHANY **Matthew 26:6-13**

Bethany was a small town only _____ from Jerusalem. Jesus often visited as He passed by and spent time with His special friends, _____, _____, and _____ who lived there. On this occasion He was at the house of _____. This man was probably a well-known leper whom Jesus had healed.

We see in John 12 that _____ was the woman who anointed Jesus' head and feet. The perfume she used was an alabaster jar, which she broke so the oil could be poured out. There would have been about _____ of perfume, which was _____ years' wages. Although visitors were often anointed at feasts, this was far beyond what was usually done.



The disciples, especially Judas, didn't appreciate what this woman had done. Compare the actions and attitudes of Judas with those of Mary.

	Scripture references	Actions	Attitudes
JUDAS	John 12:4-6 Matthew 26:14-16 Matthew 26:48-50		
MARY	John 12:3 Luke 10:39, 41-42 John 11:28-29, 32-33		

Although Judas' words sounded so right and good, they were spoken from wrong motives. Mary's actions came from love and Jesus said it was a beautiful thing. What we do will only be beautiful in the Lord's eyes if it comes from right motives.

As Mary poured perfume on Jesus' head it helped prepare Him for His _____. Usually a body was _____ before death, and Jesus says that Mary had done that for her. What is our response to Him?

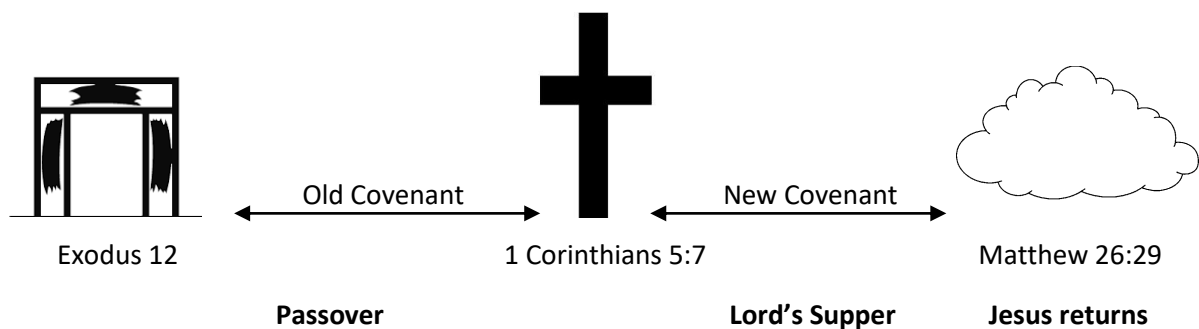
2. THE LAST SUPPER

Matthew 26:17-30

The Feast of Unleavened Bread lasted for _____. The first day of that feast was called _____. Passover was the most important feast the Jews celebrated. It was to remember how God had delivered the Children of Israel from the _____.

Just as the Jews had to take a spotless _____ and sprinkle its' _____ on the doorposts, now Jesus was to become the Lamb whose blood would be shed for us. The Passover pointed _____ to God's deliverance from Egypt, and _____ to the death of Christ.

As Jesus and His disciples were celebrating the Passover together, Jesus instituted a new covenant. See v28. We usually call this the 'Lord's Supper'. When we take the bread and the wine we are looking _____ to what Jesus has done on the cross, and also looking _____ to the day when we will celebrate with Him in His Father's Kingdom when He returns again.



Let's look at the significance of the bread and the wine which Jesus used, as we celebrate the Lord's Supper together.



What does the BREAD mean to you?

What does the WINE mean to you?

When God made His covenant with the Children of Israel animals were sacrificed and the blood sprinkled on the people. The people responded by saying, "We will do everything the Lord has said."

Jesus now establishes a new covenant with all who believe in Him. He became the sacrifice and His blood was shed to seal that covenant. We can now receive the wonderful blessings of that covenant: the forgiveness of our sin and freedom from the power of Satan. Our response must be like that of Mary: to give Him our love, devotion and obedience.