

FOUR SPECIAL SUPPERS

INTRODUCTION

- I. The word “supper” is an interesting word in the Bible.
 - A. It is not used in the Old Testament at all, but found 14 times in the New Testament.
 1. We long used the word for our evening meal in our homes, but such is now referred to as “dinner.”
 - a. The word “dinner” is sometimes used in the N.T. Matt. 22:4-5; Luke 11:38
 - b. The word for “supper” refers to the CHIEF MEAL of the day, usually towards evening.
 2. The word “sup” is often used along with the context of a Supper, which simply means “to partake.” Luke 17:8; 1 Cor. 11:26; Rev. 3:20
 - B. There are Four Special Suppers named in the Bible: (1) The Passover Supper; (2) The Lord’s Supper; (3) The Marriage Supper; and (4) The Great Supper.
- II. Now let’s look at these FOUR SPECIAL SUPPERS.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, let’s consider the PASSOVER SUPPER.

- A. The Passover Supper had it’s roots in the Old Testament.
 1. The Jews in bondage in Egypt were told to prepare a feast for their exit, as the Lord would “pass over” the houses of Israel and spare the life of the firstborn where the blood was applied. Exo. 12:1-13 (Read or explain)
 - a. The Supper was to become a permanent celebration for Israel. v. 14
 - b. It involved the use of a LAMB, UNLEAVENED BREAD and FRUIT OF THE VINE.
 - c. The supper was observed for some 1500 years from the departure of Israel from Egypt till the time of Christ.
 2. The Passover had it’s end or fulfillment in another supper of the N.T., and is used figuratively for the *spiritual feast* we have with Jesus. Luke 22:15-16; 1 Cor. 5:7-8
 - a. The example of Christ partaking of the Passover does NOT mean that we are to follow His example and partake of it today, as it was a part of the Jewish religion, which has now been taken away at Jesus’ death.
 - b. The Passover was fulfilled **in Christ**, in that HE now passes over our sins, that the Passover portrayed.
- B. The Passover Supper was observed by Jesus—especially in the last week of His life. Matt. 26:17-20; Luke 22:7-16 (Read or Explain as desired)

II. 2nd, let’s consider the LORD’S SUPPER.

- A. It was AT a Passover Supper that the Lord instituted HIS supper, which is called “the Lord’s Supper.” (1 Cor. 11:20).
 1. The Passover ended before the Lord’s Supper was instituted. John 13:2-4
 2. Jesus spoke of one who would betray Him. John 13:18-30
 3. Then, Jesus instituted HIS Supper. Matt. 26:15-29
- B. The Lord’s Supper became a *weekly* observance in the early church. Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:17-22 (23-26)
 1. The elements of the Lord’s Supper were then used by Christ the LAMB were unleavened bread and fruit of the vine, or juice of the grapes.
 2. These 2 elements represent the the lifeless body, and the shed blood of Jesus who gave Himself for our salvation.

III. 3Rd, let’s consider the MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB.

A. This referred to in the book of Revelation.

1. It is a figure of the church, the Lord's bride, meeting Him in heaven to climax the marriage relationship.
2. We are said to be married to Christ NOW (in one figure). Rom. 7:4
3. However, the marriage feast and celebration will be in HEAVEN. Eph. 5:25-27

B. One beatitude of Revelation is in Rev. 19:6-9. (Read)

1. We learn of those planning to be a part of the marriage supper must be dressed properly. Cf Matt. 22:1-14
2. We, as the BRIDE, must certainly be properly attired in righteousness. Rev. 19:8
 - a. Our adornment of "righteousness" is that of being MADE righteous by the gospel when it is obeyed. Rom. 1:16-17; 5:19
 - b. Our adornment is KEPT properly by "righteous" living, in view of meeting the Lord when He comes. Tit. 2:11-13; Rev. 7:13-17; 22:14

IV. 4th, let's consider the GREAT SUPPER.

A. This supper is GREAT because it is the Supper of the "great God", consisting of a great multitude of souls from the beginning of time, who missed out on the Supper of the Lamb.

B. This Supper describes the final destiny and ruin of those who refused to go to the Supper the Lamb. Rev. 19:17-20

CONCLUSION

I. These 4 suppers all have meaning to us.

A. The Passover Supper reminds us of Christ, our Passover, who passes over our sins in forgiveness.

B. The Lord's Supper is for our weekly reminder OF Christ the Lamb who died for us.

C. The Marriage Supper points to eternal life in heaven.

D. The Great Supper points to eternal ruin and corruption.

1. The Marriage Supper has saints as the bride in heaven.
2. The Great Supper has the wicked as food for vultures.

II. Are you ready to meet the bridegroom?

Don Tarbet