

The Last Supper

Christ' life, death and resurrection is the foundation of Christianity¹. With this being the foundation of Christianity, it may lead to many who have studied the events up to resurrection questioning why the last supper was vehemently important to Christ' redemptive work. This encyclopedia entry seeks to answer this questioning in many hearts with focus on the Bible verses from Luke 22:15-16 (NIV). A dissecting of the passage will be made in this encyclopedia entry to gain a deeper understanding of the Last Supper's importance.

Luke 22:15 - "And He said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.'"²

Christ' eager desire in this verse shows His care, love and anticipation to share the meal with His disciples. Sharing this meal with His disciples was an inviting time to deepen His friendship with them and come together to share important news³. The important news consisted of Christ' suffering for them and all people. Christ used this simple sentence to convey His deity by speaking of the upcoming events to prove He is God when the event would come to fruition⁴. Additionally, verse 15 combines with verse 16 well as it explains why Christ was eager to eat with His disciples for the Passover.

Luke 22:16 - "For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God."⁵

¹ Stephen Sills, *The Basis For Christianity*. (E-book, Lulu. com, 2016), p. 193.

² *New International Version Of The Holy Bible*. (Great Britain, Hodder & Stoughton, 2011), p. 1057.

³ Bruce Chilton, *The Passover*. (The Netherlands, Brill, 1994), p. 94.

⁴ Ibid, p. 94.

⁵ *New International Version Of The Holy Bible*, p. 1057.

Jesus' authoritative words "For I tell you" displays His confidence, assuredness, and authority to speak regarding the kingdom of God. Thus, demonstrating His confidence in being the Son of God⁶. Alongside Christ' deity, Christ' human requirements are also displayed, He sets yet another example for us in that fasting should be something we do to come closer to the Father and discern His voice⁷. Fasting enables us to get rid of distractions and to focus on listening to the Father⁸. Due to Christ' requiring no distractions in the hours that were to come, He was to fast, thus why He would not eat until the fulfillment of the Passover lamb had come.

The fulfillment Christ spoke of in this verse was the fulfillment of the Passover lamb. It later became known that Christ is 'The Spotless Lamb' as we continue to study the New Testament⁹. This paired with verse 16 allows us to conclude that Christ being 'The Spotless Lamb' and being sacrificed then resurrected meant fulfilled the work in the kingdom of God to redeem His children¹⁰. The fulfilling work of Christ on the cross resulted in sinners' sins being forgiven and a relationship with the Father being possible when Christ' work is acknowledged and understood¹¹. Due to this revelation, the Passover lamb is no longer required, and Christ had fulfilled it on the cross.

To conclude - this encyclopedia entry, the last supper was vehemently important to the redemptive work of Jesus Christ as Christ' words were proven accurate when the events took place which proved His deity. Furthermore, a deeper understanding of Christ' nature is provided in these verses, while providing a

⁶ Chilton, *The Passover*), p. 93-108.

⁷ Ibid, p. 93-108.

⁸ Ibid, p. 93-108.

⁹ Ibid, p. 93-108.

¹⁰ Sills, *The Basis For Christianity*, p. 193.

¹¹ Ibid, p. 193.

deeper knowledge of why Christ is referred to as 'The Spotless Lamb' or 'The Lamb Who Was Slain' in Christianity.

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