

Jesus Celebrated a Passover Seder

Last Supper?

(Scripture from AENT – Aramaic English New Testament)

Matthew:

(Mat 26:17-19) “Now on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the disciples drew near to Y’shua and said to him, ‘Where do you want us to prepare for you to eat the Passover?’ And he said to them, ‘Go to the city, to a certain man and say to him,’ ‘Our master says my time, it has arrived. With you I will perform the Passover among my disciples.’

And his disciples did as he commanded them. And they prepared Y’shua, the Passover. And when it was evening, he was reclining among his twelve disciples.”

(Mat 26:26-29) “And while they were dining, Y’shua took bread and blessed it and broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, ‘Take, eat. This is my body.’ And he took the cup and gave thanks and gave it to them and said, ‘Take drink from it all of you. This is my blood of the renewed covenant, which for the sake of many is shed for the forgiveness of sins. And I say to you that I will not drink this fruit of the vine from now on until the day in which I drink it anew with you in the Kingdom of my Father, of Elohim.’ And they offered praise and went out to the Mount of Olives. “

(End of Passover Seder meal)

Mark:

(Mar 14:12-17) “And in the first day of unleavened bread in which the Judeans slay the Passover lamb his disciples were saying to him, ‘Where do you desire us to go for you to prepare the Passover to eat?’ And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, ‘Go follow him. And where he enters, say to the master of the house,’ ‘Our master said, ‘Where is the guest house where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ ‘And behold he will show you a large upper room that is furnished. Make (that room) ready and prepared, as that place for us (to eat).’ And his disciples went out and came to the city and found just as he had said to them. And they prepared the Passover. And when it became evening, he came with his twelve.”

(Mar 14:22-25) “Then while they were eating, Y’shua took bread and blessed it and broke it and gave it to them and said to them, ‘Take it. This is my body.’ And he took a cup and gave thanks and blessed it and gave it to them and all of them drank from it. And he said to them, ‘This is my blood of the renewed covenant, shed for the sake of many. I say truly to you that I will not drink from the fruit of the vine again until that day in which I will drink it anew in the Kingdom of Elohim.’ Then they offered praise and went out to the Mount of Olives.”

(End of Passover Seder meal)

Luke:

(Luke 22:7-20) “And the day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread arrived during which there was the custom that the Passover lamb be slaughtered. And Y’shua sent Peter and John and said to them, ‘Go. Prepare the Passover for us that we may eat.’ And they said to him, ‘Where do you want us to prepare it?’ He said to them, ‘Behold when you enter into the city you will meet up with a man who is bearing a skin of water. Go after him and where he enters say to the master of the house,’ Our master says, ‘Where is the lodging house where I may eat the Passover with my disciples? And behold he will show you a certain large upper room that is furnished. Prepare there.’ And they went and found it as he said to them. And they prepared the Passover. And when the time arrived, Y’shua came and reclined and the twelve disciples with him.

And he said to them, ‘I have greatly desired that I eat this Passover with you before I suffer. I say to you for that from now on I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the Kingdom of Elohim.’ And he took bread and gave thanks and broke it and gave it to them and said, ‘This is my body, which for your sake is given. Do this for my memorial.’ And likewise also concerning the cup, after they had eaten supper, he said, ‘This is the cup of the renewed covenant in my blood, which is shed for your sake.’”

(Luke 22:39) “And he departed and went as he was accustomed to the mountain of the House of Olives, and his disciples also went after him.”

(End of Passover Seder meal)

John:

(John 13:1-2) “Now before the feast of the Passover, Y’shua had known that the time that he would depart this world to his Father had arrived. And he loved his own who were in this world, and he loved them up until the end. And when supper was done...”

(Jesus has a lengthy discussion with the disciples starting in chapter 13 and in chapter 17 He ends the Seder meal with a prayer to the Father regarding the disciples.)

(End of Passover Seder meal)

(John 18:1) “Y’shua spoke these things and he went out with his disciples to the other side of the brook of Qidrun to a place which had a garden where he entered, he and his disciples.”

As the four readings above indicate, Jesus and the disciples attended a normal Passover Seder meal and then went to the Mount of Olives where the officials arrested Jesus. This resulted in Jesus’ execution on the stake the next afternoon on Passover. The texts indicate they participated in a Passover Seder meal with the exception of Jesus saying His body will be given up and His blood will be shed for our sake and that He would not partake of the last cup until He shares it with believers in heaven. As a part of future Passover Seder meals, Jesus injects, “Do this for My memorial.” In the future, as often as we eat the Passover Seder, we inject the memorial that Jesus took the place of the Passover Lamb.

Paul instructs believers to continue celebrating Passover. (1Co 5:7-8) “Purge out from you the old leaven that you may be a new mass, as you are unleavened. For our Passover is the Messiah who was slain for us. Therefore let us celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven of wickedness and bitterness, but with the leaven of purity and sanctity.”

Scripture is silent on giving believers authority to change Passover, therefore let's follow Paul's instructions and continue with the celebration of this Festival in which we honor the Lord Yeshua.