The New Covenant Passover

The Bridegroom has made an offer of Betrothal to the Bride. He is now waiting for the Bride, to accept – or not accept – His Betrothal offer. That acceptance is to be made by drinking of the same Passover cup the Bridegroom drank from, both literally and figuratively. The Bridegroom has stated this very clearly:

And as they were eating, Yahushua took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink **ye all** of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. (Matthew 26:26-28)

And as they did eat, Yahushua took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: <u>this is my body</u>. And he took <u>the cup</u>, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and <u>they all</u> drank of it. And he said unto them, <u>This is my blood of</u> the new testament, which is shed for many. (Mark 14:22-24)

And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, <u>This is my body</u> which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also <u>the cup after supper</u>, saying, <u>This cup is the new testament in my blood</u>, which is shed for you. (Luke 22:19-20)

In each of these passages, Yahushua is revealing to His Disciples the *prophetic* meaning (the 'now' meaning) of the well-known Passover meal, practiced for centuries by all of YHWH's people. Yahushua did not institute anything new, or change anything. He merely revealed the true meaning of Passover.

The Blood Sprinkles the Tabernacle

The great importance of our participation in the Passover meal can be seen in the following passage:

For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and <u>sprinkled both the book, and all the people, Saying, This is the blood of the testament which Elohim hath enjoined unto you.</u> Moreover he <u>sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle</u>, and all the vessels of the ministry. (Hebrews 9:20-21)

First, we see that the original offer of Betrothal came at Mt. Sinai, where the Covenant Promise of Betrothal was sealed in the 'Blood of the Testament' which prefigured the Blood of Messiah. (To see this account in Scripture of the Betrothal Agreement, see Two Witnesses of Devarim by Brick Parrish.) Most importantly, the blood was sprinkled on the Tabernacle and all the vessels of the ministry. Beloved, this pictures the physical Blood touching the physical items of the tabernacle.

We are now in the Tabernacle of this fleshly body, the dwelling-place of YHWH (1Co 6:19). We also are required to be sprinkled by the physical Blood of the Covenant, by that which represents Messiah's Blood. This covenant-sprinkling is done when we participate in the Body and Blood of the Passover meal. When we drink of the Passover cup, the Blood of Yahushua goes down into this tabernacle of our body (2 Co 5:4). Our drinking of the Passover cup, just as the Bridegroom did, becomes *our half* of the Betrothal agreement.

This participation is so important, that Yahushua tells us a frighteningly important bit of news:

Then Yahushua said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. (John 6:53-54)

Beloved, unless we accept the Betrothal offer of the Bridegroom, by taking the Passover Body and Blood, we have no eternal Life in us; indeed, it is "Messiah-in-us" who prompts us to participate in the Passover!

It is likewise the <u>lack of Messiah-in-us</u>, that causes us to reject this <u>Passover</u> participation. This rejection of the True Passover is perhaps the origin of the <u>counterfeit Passover</u>, called 'communion' and 'Lord's <u>Supper</u>' that most of us in the Evangelical world have embraced, as a substitute for the True. It is time to put away the many counterfeits – and the Doctrines of Men that promote them – and take the True!

But what is the significance of Passover? Let's look.

The Significance of Passover

When Israel was in Egypt, it was the Passover blood on the doorposts that saved the firstborn of Israel from death (Heb 11:28). From that time on, all of YHWH's people are commanded to observe the Passover as a memorial forever, so they might remember that YHWH saved them through the Blood of the Lamb (Exodus 12:13-14).

When Yahushua was on earth, He participated in the Passover meal with His disciples. Since Yahushua was to be the Firstborn of many bretheren, His participation in Passover was also the pattern for the 'many brethren' (Col 1:18; Rom 8:29).

Yahushua has told us that the Blood of the Passover is His Blood, and is represented in the Passover wine (Luke 22:20). His Blood that was spilled 2,000 years ago is the Blood of the Everlasting Covenant, and it was through this spilled Blood that Yahushua was brought back from death as the Firstborn of many Brethren (Col 1:18; Rom 8:29; Heb 13:20). This same Blood spilled 2,000 years ago likewise saves us from death (Heb 13:20), as we too are a kind of firstfruits unto Him (James 1:18; Heb 12:23).

The keeping of Passover includes the eating of the Passover meal, the representation of eating of His *Flesh* (speaks of His 'Life' according to John 6:51), and the drinking of His *Blood* (speaks of His 'Life' according to Leviticus 17:11). When His *life* is in us, we have the inward desire to walk in obedience to *all* His Word, and to be a "DO-er" of *all* that He did when on earth. It is His *life* in us that moves us to keep the Passover in obedience to the Scriptures!

Yahushua is telling us: "No Passover, no Life."

Moreover, it is a Scriptural Passover meal <u>only</u> if it is done at the time prescribed by YHWH in the Scriptures — <u>on the 14th day of either the first or second Biblical month</u> (Lev 23:5;Num 9:10-11). Any other time is a counterfeit.

The Final Opportunity

The Feast of Passover is such an important event for Yahushua's Born-Again children, that He gives us two distinct dates each year, and two opportunities to keep the Passover.

The **First Passover** of the year occurs on the fourteenth day of the *First* Biblical month. The **Second Passover** of the season is the final opportunity for the Bride, and it occurs on the 14th day of the *Second* Biblical Month. The calendar dates are determined in mid- to late- March of each year when the new moon is seen.

Beloved, the Bridegroom wishes you to become Betrothed!! Find several others, or have the Passover alone.

Let us keep the Feast! (1Co 5:7-8).

Conclusion

Unless the Bride Candidate takes the Flesh and Blood of Passover, she demonstrates she has no Life in her. Participation in the True Passover demonstrates the presence of the Life of Messiah-in-us, who gives us the Grace for the obedience (Rom 1:5; 1Pet 1:2) we need to enter in to the presence of the King.

For Pastors and Leaders

Pastors, direct yourself <u>and</u> your people <u>toward</u> the Scriptures, and <u>away</u> from practices and Doctrines of Men that you may have picked up in your Theological Cemetery, Bible School or Denomination. We will each be held accountable for our respective works! (Rev 2:23).