**The Lord’s Supper**

The Names of the Meal

“The Lord’s Supper” (1 Cor 11:20)

“the table of the Lord” (1 Cor 11:21)

“Communion” or “partaking”(1 Cor 10:16)

“breaking of bread” (Acts 2:42, 46; 20:7, 11)

“Eucharist” (Luke 22:17, 19; 1 Cor 11:24)

*Roots: The Old Testament Feast of Passover*

Covenant bond meal

* Isaac’s covenant with Abimelech (Gen 26:6-33)
* Jacob’s agreement with Laban (Gen 31:54)

Exodus 24:6-11 – eating and drinking with God after covenant

Passover significance for Israel

* They were helpless in bondage to an unrelenting taskmaster bent on their destruction.
* An individual from among their own nation delivers them out of bondage.
* The power of God breaks the power of their oppressor.
* The final sign of power is the death of every first-born son.
* God provides a substitute sacrifice to Israel so that they do not experience death. This substitute is a lamb.
* When the lamb’s blood covers the doorposts of the house, the death angel passes over and does not bring death.
* God delivers Israel out of bondage and into a new identity as an elect people reflecting Him.
* Moses tells Israel to observe Passover in the Promised Land (Deut 16:1-8)
* Joshua observes Passover in the Promised Land (Josh 5:10-11)
* Josiah reveals Israel’s failure to keep Passover in the Promised Land (2 Kgs 23:21-23)
* Israel observes Passover in the Promised Land after exile (Ezra 6:19-22)

*The New Testament Last Supper*

Jesus, food, and Passover

* Mark 2:16-17 = Jesus eats with tax collectors
* Mark 6:30-44 = Jesus feeds 5,000
* John 6:22-59 = Jesus is the food for Passover
* Mark 8:1-10 = Jesus feeds 4,000
* Mark 8:14-21= Jesus warns about the “leaven” of the Pharisees
* Luke 14:12-24 = Jesus uses parables of banquets
* John 6-19 = preparation and teaching at Lord’s Supper
* Luke 2413-35 = Jesus reveals himself while breaking bread

*The practice of the early church*

**Acts 2:42, 46**

42And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

46And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

*What is the meaning of the Lord’s Supper?*

**The Presence of Christ**

Memorial Actual

of death ------------------------------ presence

* Identification with Christ
* Fellowship bond with other Christians
* Joyful anticipation of our future realization of salvation

**Matthew 26:29**

“I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.”