

The Passover Wedding Feast

Have you believed something and then realised you had got it so very wrong? Palm Sunday is a bit like that. Jesus rode a donkey colt into Jerusalem. Traditionally, when a king conquered a nation, he rode a donkey into the city to tell the people he would not harm them but would bring them peace. Many from Jerusalem believed that Jesus was their deliver from the Romans and peace would come at last. They came out and lined the streets, rejoicing and praising God. Jesus brought the same message that God has always brought to Israel for over two thousand generations and through so many prophets, and they missed it. His message has never changed; If you love and obey me then you will have peace, even if there is trouble. When their peace did not come, they killed Jesus.

“This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.”

He humbled Himself and became obedient to death— even death on a cross.

Jesus shared his last Passover meal with the disciples just before his arrest. In the Jewish marriage tradition, a Father would hand his son a cup of wine. The son, in turn, would offer it to his future wife and say, “This cup I offer you.” In effect he was saying, “I love you and I offer you my life.” If she drank of the cup, she was accepting His life and giving Him her life.

In the Passover feast, the last cup to be drunk from was called the cup of salvation. It was with this cup that Jesus said, “This is my blood of the new covenant.” He was saying, “I give you my life, will you give me yours?” Then He literally did give His life for us.

Now, every time we have communion, we are renewing our love vow to God and in effect we are saying, “I accept your gift, and I give you my life in return. The sacramental power is not in the Priest’s prayer, but in the moment when both vows come together to create the most incredible covenantal love relationship.