

“FOLLOWING JESUS: THE NEW COVENANT”

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1. TWO FREQUENTLY USED WORDS THAT MAKE US SUSPICIOUS: UNLIMITED AND UNCONDITIONAL.

“Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him.” (John 11:57)

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” (John 12:12-13)

2. JESUS WOULD FULFILL GOD’S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM AND REPLACE GOD’S COVENANT WITH ISRAEL.

He went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers how he might betray him to them. And they were glad, and agreed to give him money. So he consented and sought an opportunity to betray him to them in the absence of a crowd. (Luke 22:4-6)

3. THE KINGDOM OF THIS WORLD WOULD TRY TO DEFEAT THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

A. THE PASSOVER MEAL WAS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR JESUS.

And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of **me**.” (Luke 22:19)

And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup that is poured out for you is the **new covenant** in my blood.” (Luke 22:20)

B. THREE TYPES OF COVENANTS THAT DOMINATED THE CULTURE

- i. **Bilateral parity treaty (business contract)**
- ii. **Bilateral suzerainty treaty (curfew)**
- iii. **Promissory covenant (middle school crush)**

C. JESUS IS SAYING, “IT’S FOR YOU AND IT’S ON ME!”

MEMORY VERSE

“for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the **forgiveness of sins**.”
(Matthew 26:28)

4. “LOOK, THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD!” (John 1:29)

A. UNLIMITED AND UNCONDITIONAL. (John 3:16)

B. AND AFTER SAYING THIS HE SAID TO HIM, “FOLLOW ME.” (John 21:19b)

GOING DEEPER

- 1. Have you ever experienced unconditional love? If not, do you think unconditional love is possible? Why or why not?
- 2. What are some things you worry Jesus might take away if you allowed him to be king in your life?
- 3. Read Luke 22:19–20. It must have been very difficult for the disciples to understand that Jesus was replacing a system that had defined their entire relationship with God. What is one thing you can do this week to more fully embrace your Heavenly Father’s unconditional love and unlimited forgiveness?