

**Transforming Daily**  
**“... He took the cup ...”**  
*Matthew 26:27*

It is a common practice for many to give thanks to God for the meal they are about to receive. In some cases, we ask the Lord's blessing upon the dinner, or we bless the food in prayer. The whole idea is to give thanks to God for His provision in our lives. In the case of breakfast, lunch, and dinner, the recipients give thanks to God for providing physical sustenance. But what was it that Christ was giving thanks for, or that believers have been commanded to give thanks for, when participating in the Lord's Supper?

The spiritual provision for salvation through Christ Jesus is for which the believer offers thanksgiving when participating in the Lord's Supper. It was also for that which Christ had given thanks as well. He knew it was the Father's will for Him *to be* the Passover Lamb for the sins of the world. That's why, in part, it was eaten in association with the Exodus feast. The tradition Passover meal was what the Lord and His disciples met to celebrate at a certain man's house in the city. While still poised from the Passover, Jesus introduced the fuller concept and context of the “new” covenant with God, which was actually not new, just now more complete.

He was the meal symbolically, the spiritual substance literally, for our salvation. The Lord's Supper was both in commemoration and memorial of Christ's soon crucifixion. The believer recognizes that very sacrifice every time he or she comes to the communion table. Christ's body and blood, symbolized in the unleavened bread and grape juice, is the very evidence of His death – that which is required for the remission of sin. Just as a literal meal is required to satisfy the insatiable hunger of one's appetite, the appetite of sin's insatiable hunger required the death of the Passover Lamb. Therefore, it is customary and appropriate to offer thanksgiving for the meal that the believer is about to receive when he or she approaches the communion table.

Are you thankful to God for His provision of Jesus Christ as the Passover Lamb to quench the insatiable hunger of sin? Do you offer thanks to God when approaching the communion table? Do you offer your thanks now with the same enthusiasm that you did when you were first saved? If not, remember this, Jesus Christ didn't have to, but He took the cup.