

THE BREAD AND WINE

BREAD represents that which sustains life. It is used as an offering and represents the basic needs for life. "Give us this day our daily bread" (Matthew 6:11NIV). It was a sign of hospitality to set out bread and wine for your guests: "Then Melchizedek King of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High" (Genesis 14:18); "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies" (Psalm 23:5a).

The **BREAD** represents the perfect body of Jesus Christ. "But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body [the **BREAD**] through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation" (Colossians 1:22).

WINE is the blood of the grape. It represents the giving of life and the shedding of blood. "(W)ithout the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness" (Hebrews 9:22b). "(A)nd the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin" (1 John 1:7b). "Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself" (Hebrews 7:27). (See Hebrews 2:17, and Leviticus 16:1-22).

Break thou the Bread of Life

Mary A. Lathbury

Thou art the bread of life, O Lord, to me,
Thy holy Word the truth that saveth me;
Give me to eat and live with Thee above,
Teach me to love Thy truth, for Thou art love.



Nothing but the blood of Jesus

Robert Lowry

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

JESUS THE PERFECT SACRIFICE: In the Old Testament we learn the story of Passover: They slaughtered a lamb (a male without defect) and placed some of its blood on the top and sides of the door frame of their houses. When the destroyer came to kill the first born of Egypt, he saw the **BLOOD**, and he passed over. "It is the Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over... our homes when he struck down the Egyptians" (Exodus 12:27a). They were **SAVED** because they were **UNDER THE BLOOD**. Jesus was fully God and fully man, only without sin. It was John the Baptist who said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29NASB). "For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him [Jesus] and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the **CROSS**" (Colossians 1:19-20NIV).

Jesus said, "Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover" (Luke 22:8). - Jesus became that Passover Lamb. "And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you"" (Luke 22:19-20).

Remember, in Matthew, the loaves that Jesus multiplied to feed 5,000 (14:13-21); the manna (**BREAD** from Heaven) "For the **BREAD** of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world" (John 6:33). Remember how the disciples recognized Jesus, on the road to Emmaus, when he broke the bread? (Luke 24:13-35).

As Elisabeth Elliot said, "If my life is broken when given to Jesus, it is because **pieces** will feed a multitude, while a **loaf** will satisfy only a little lad." Jesus is the Universal Food. Remember Him today. There is life eternal for all who will come to Him.