

Health and Wholeness Part 3 Jesus' Body Symbolizes



Let's start this lesson with an object lesson. The bread, which represents, Jesus' body.

The flat bread eaten during Passover is excellent for symbol of what Jesus' body symbolizes. There is a special bread that is to be eaten during Passover and the instructions on the preparation of this bread comes from the Mishnah or Jewish oral law. These instructions should be of great interest to us, as believers whose eyes have been open to the truth of the Messiah, Jesus the Christ.

According to the laws, the bread was to be unleavened, baked, pierced with holes and striped. No leaven was used because leaven in the Bible represents sin, and Jesus is the perfect, sinless Son of God. That is why He is able to take our sins upon Himself.

His body, the bread, was burnt because the full fury of God's wrath against our sins fell on Him. This fire was supposed to fall on us and our families, but it fell on Jesus instead. His side was pierced and He bore those merciless stripes on His back so that our bodies could be made whole.

So, when you come to the Lord's Table, make sure that you discern His body. When you partake, believe Jesus took bread and broke it because His body was going to be broken. And as you partake of His broken body, know that His body was broken so that yours can be whole. When you partake in this spirit of faith, something happens to your body. You become strong, healthy and you will live a long life.

Hopefully, by now it is clear that the blood and the body have two different applications. This is consistent through the Bible. The prophet Isaiah said, "Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." (Isaiah 53:4-5) Take a moment and look at the Young's Literal Translation which give a more accurate translation of the words "grief's" and "sorrows", which simply states that "Surely our sicknesses He hath borne, and our pains – He had carried them..."

Let's also look at Matthew 8:17 which references this Old Testament scripture "that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses." And in the Greek, "infirmities" or *astheneia* means bodily weaknesses.

So, we can see that Isaiah was saying that the Messiah would take upon His own body, our bodily weaknesses, sicknesses and pains. Jesus bore not just our sins, but also our bodily weaknesses, sicknesses and pains. This is what some hymn writers of the past called the "double cure".

This double cure is evident in the Passover, which was translated into the Lord's Supper. Which was first celebrated on the same day as the Passover because it is the true Passover. AMEN.

Luke 22-15-20 "And he said unto them, with desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer: for I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, take this, and divide *it* among yourselves: for I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come. And he took

bread, and gave thanks, and brake *it*, and gave unto them, saying, this is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, this cup *is* the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.”

The Old Testament is the foreshadowing, the New Testament is the real deal. Jesus is the true, perfect, unblemished, holy Lamb of God. The Passover is a type of the Lord’s Supper.

During the first Passover, they killed the lamb and put the blood on the doorposts. Why? Because God said, “And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you*, when I smite the land of Egypt.” (Exodus 12:13) The blood was for the people’s forgiveness. The blood covered the people’s sins and appeased the righteous requirements of God.

But, what did they do inside their dwelling?

Exodus 12:8 “And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it.” They ate the roasted lamb and the unleavened bread. This was to give them strength for the journey. It was not natural strength that they received. It was supernatural. That is why there were “...*there was not one feeble person among their tribes*”. (Psalm 105:37) It take a supernatural work of God for 2.5 million people to all be healthy.

We know that this lamb was just a mere foreshadow of the real lamb to come. So if the body of a “symbolic lamb of God” could bring such supernatural results, how much more the body of the true “lamb of God”, our Lord Jesus Christ!

Here again, the double cure was a work. The blood was for forgiveness, and the body and bread were for divine strength. No wonder when they left Egypt, there were not feeble. Yes, Yes, Yes. Are you getting this? None were feeble, none were sick and neither do you have to be.

David described it this way: “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;” (Psalm 103:2-3) Look at that scripture, His benefits include forgiveness of our sins as well as healing of our diseases. When Jesus took our punishment on the cross, it did not just bring us forgiveness, it brought us healing too.

At the cross, Jesus bore our sins and our sicknesses. And so healing, like forgiveness, is not a promise. It is the blood-bought right of Christians! Because of what Jesus did at the cross, we do not just have forgiveness, we also have healing. Forgiveness and healing go hand in hand. The faith that you have for forgiveness is the same faith that will bring your healing.

Praise the Lord! Thank you Jesus!

Heavenly Father I pray right now in the name of Jesus Christ that the ones listening or reading this message will have faith arise within them to believe the whole truth of the cross and receive their healing today. Thank you Jesus for forgiving all your iniquities and healing all our diseases. Amen.

Hymn Rock of Ages Augustus Toplady (1740-1778)

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy **riven side** which flowed,
Be of sin **the double cure**;
save from wrath and make me pure.*

*Not the labour of my hands
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.*

*Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die!*

*While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyes shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgement throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.*