

WESTERN WISDOM BIBLE STUDY

Culmination of the Ministry

The Sublime Rite of the Eucharist
(Continued)

Reference: *Mark* 14:17-21.

The ceremony of the Last Supper represents the complete transmutation of the lower nature into the higher; consequently Judas, the lower, could not remain. *It is one of the twelve that dippeth with me in the dish.* The awakened Christ within works upon mortal man and uses this redeemed power in building the new golden chalice of the soul. Chapters XIV to XVII of John's Gospel contain the most profound spiritual work given the Disciples. This work was revealed at the conclusion of the Holy Supper, *after the disappearance of Judas*, and is recorded only in John.

Christ sent Peter, who represents the faith which has become a dynamic quality in life, and John, who represents the power of love, into *the city*, or a new state of consciousness. The man with a pitcher of water, whom they were destined to meet, is the androgynous man of the Aquarian Age. The *guest chamber* is the new body that each must build through the spiritual attainment termed Initiation. The *upper room*, all furnished and prepared, symbolizes the organs in the head awakened through the transmutation of the life force. Only through these different steps mentioned in the Bible can we make ready for Him to enter and celebrate the Holy Supper within our own bodies.

These truths also have their outer significance. The *upper room* is said to have been the home of Mary, the mother of the writer of the Gospel of Mark, namely, John Mark. Here the risen Lord met with His Disciples, and later in this holy place they experienced the sacred mystery of Pentecost.

When the hour was come, refers to about 6 P.M. "The early evening stars

were visible, and the threefold blast of the silver trumpet from the temple mount announced to all waiting Jerusalem that the Pascha had begun again."

"With desire I have desired," is a Hebrew expression meaning, "I have desired earnestly." Christ Jesus used this because He knew they could not partake of the Last Supper until they had made themselves worthy. This was no mere outward ceremonial of eating bread and drinking wine, but consisted of the deepest esoteric work in preparation for the inner Mysteries.

The observance of this sacrament possessed much greater spiritual potency in Bible times than at present, due to the greater spiritual attainment both of those who administered the rite and those who took part in it. The celebrants of that early Christian period were Initiates; they were holy men and women consciously preparing for Initiation.

"Take this and divide it among yourselves." This points to preparatory work toward the ultimate establishment of an order of true brotherhood and fellowship.

Wine represents the masculine or head principle; bread the feminine or heart principle within man. Christ Jesus was teaching them to build the Philosopher's Stone within themselves. The body is the workshop of the Spirit, and contains all the elements necessary to produce the *elixir vitae*.

We must learn to make the cup within ourselves. It must be constantly filled with the waters of eternal life. When the disciple is able to drink in full understanding from this cup, which also includes the act of its replenishment, his love of and desire for the personal life are finished. He has found the entrance to a new and larger life that is immortal and eternal.

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