

THE PSOMION CEREMONY

We are currently studying the seven Truly, Truly messianic doctrines taught by Jesus at the Last Supper (Jn.13-17). In our last lesson we studied the second of the seven messianic doctrines of the Upper Room Discourse (Jn.13:16, 20, 21, 38; 14:12; 16:20, 21).

Psomion is the Greek translation of sop or morsel (to feed with morsels or fragments of something). Since this is occurring at the Passover Last Supper, the morsels were probably fragments of unleavened bread dipped in special sauce. The Psomion Ceremony of the Last Supper is recorded in all four Gospels (Matt.26:19-25; Mark 14:16-21; Luke 22:13-23; and John 13:21-30).

This lesson will study five aspects of the importance of the Psomion Ceremony of Last Supper.

1. We will begin by examining our lesson text by four homiletic points (John 13:21-30).

- (Jn.13:21) **Spirit**
 - Troubled by fulfillment of messianic doctrine of betrayal (Ps.41:9)
- (Jn.13:22-25) **Sign of betrayer**
 - The Psomion Ceremony - Judas Iscariot
- (Jn.13:26-27) **Satan (not demon)**
 - The Indwelling of Judas - Left Last Supper
- (Jn.13:28-30) **Speculations**
 - The Disciples missed the sign – failure of inhale-exhale (2 Tim.3:16; 2 Cor.5:7) [sight]

Note how the disciples describe the perceived character of Judas (Jn.13:29) [5 things] (John 6:64, 70-71).

2. During this Psomion Ceremony, Jesus gave His disciples a sign of the Betrayer (Jn.13:21-25).

Peter and John engaged in a private conversation following Jesus' second comment of a Betrayer

- **(first)** (Jn.13:18) "I am not referring to all of you; I know those I have chosen. But this is to fulfill this passage of Scripture: 'He who shared my bread has turned^[a] against me. (Ps.41:9).
- **(second)** (Jn.13:21-25) After he had said this, Jesus was troubled in spirit and testified, "Very truly I tell you, one of you is going to betray me." His disciples stared at one another, at a loss to know which of them he meant. One of them, the disciple whom Jesus loved, was reclining next to him. Simon Peter motioned to this disciple and said, "Ask him which one he means." Leaning back against Jesus, he asked him, "Lord, who is it?"

Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot. As soon as Judas took the bread, Satan entered into him. (Jn.13:26-27)

Note: The two parts to the sign are the **morsel and the man** at the Psomion Ceremony.

3. The Psomion Ceremony involved those seated at the Passover meal (Nisan 14) where and when a piece of unleavened bread was dipped into a special sauce in fellowship.

The Lord's Passover goes back to the Exodus from Egypt (Ex.12:11-14). It celebrated the joy of fellowship of the redeemed from the 400 years of bondage in Egypt (Acts 7:6; 1 Cor.10:16-18).

It was the joy of entering God's rest of grace through Christ (1 Cor.5:7; John 1:29).

(Heb.4:11) "Therefore **let us be diligent to enter that rest**, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience."

4. It was an honor for the host to acknowledge someone personally at the Psomion Ceremony by giving that person the first sop.

- It was given to Judas by Jesus as the sign of the betrayer (Jn.13:26).
- It was Jesus' last personal grace appeal to Judas (2 Pet.3:9; John 18:5-6, 11; Mark 10:32-34).

When Judas accepted the sop, he became a Betrayer rather than a follower of Jesus. At this moment, he became the Son of Perdition (apoleia) [destruction].

(Jn.17:12) "While I was with them, I was keeping them in Your name which You have given Me; and I guarded them and not one of them perished but the son of perdition, so that the Scripture would be fulfilled." (Ps.41:9) (Acts 1:16)

5. At this moment, Satan indwelt Judas.

(Jn.13:27) "After the morsel, Satan then entered into Him. Therefore, Jesus said to him, 'What you do, do quickly.'"

Previously, Judas had made a deal with the Sanhedrin to betray Jesus for 30 pieces of silver (Ex.21:23) (Matt.26:14-16, 25; 27:1-10/ Zech.11:12-13; Acts 1:19).

By the way, Judas did not repent (metanoia), but did feel remorse (Matt.27:3) (metamelomai) [regret] about betraying Jesus.

The Bible records two people indwelt by Satan. Both indwelling's occur in the Jewish Age (JA).

- The first one was Judas Iscariot during the First Advent (Incarnation) of Jesus Christ in the JA (Jn.13:27; 17:12).
- The second one will be the Dictator of Revived Roman Empire during the Tribulation, during the 70th week of Daniel, also in the JA (Rev.13:1-10; 2 Thess.2:1-12).

Both are called "Sons of Perdition" (Jn.17:12; 2 Thess.2:3) and (Mark 14:20-21; Rev.19:20; 20:10).