THE QUESTION

Was the early church's love feast the same as communion, and did they wash feet each time?

Asked by a THF member on October 25, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 12 numbered quotations · the 30 early Christian passages and 160 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/was-the-early-churchs-love-feast-the-same-as-communion-and-did-they-wash

The short answer *Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words*

The early writers treat the love feast and the Eucharist as two different things. The Eucharist was holy food for the baptized, kept each Lord's Day. By the third century it was held in the morning, apart from the evening meal. These passages do not show foot washing as a regular part of communion.

LIBRARY ONLY	This study was written only from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible, never from the web. Every passage we kept from what the library gave is listed at the back, with a link to read it.
HOW IT WAS MADE	Compiled by machine learning from The Historic Faith's library of early-Christian writings and the Bible only. Every quotation was matched word for word against our stored text. Not yet reviewed by The Historic Faith.
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IN THIS STUDY

1	Jesus gave the bread and cup at supper	2
2	Ignatius names the love feast separately	2
3	The Eucharist was kept every Lord's Day	3
4	Communion was holy food, not a common meal	3
5	Justin describes communion without any supper	4
6	Later, communion moved to the morning	4
7	The agape meal still went on	5
8	Irenaeus reads foot washing as Christ's cleansing	5
	What these passages don't tell us	5
	The Sources: 30 early Christian passages and 160 Bible verses, with links	6

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POINT 1 OF 8

Jesus gave the bread and cup at supper

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Tatian's Gospel harmony tells how Jesus, during a meal, took bread and a cup and told his disciples to do this in his memory. At that same supper he rose and washed their feet. So the first Lord's Supper, the meal, and the foot washing all happened together.

1 "While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tatian,** *Diatessaron* 45 (c. 150–180 AD) **Source 12, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

2 "Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around his waist."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tatian,** *Diatessaron* 44 (c. 150–180 AD) **Source 11, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 8

Ignatius names the love feast separately

Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words

Ignatius lists baptism, the Eucharist and the love feast as different church acts. He says none of them should be done without the bishop. Naming the love feast beside the Eucharist suggests they were not simply the same thing.

3 "It is not lawful without the bishop to either baptize or celebrate a love-feast; but whatever he approves of is also pleasing to God, so that everything done may be secure and valid."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle to the Smyrnaeans* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 5, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

4 "It is not lawful to baptize, offer, present sacrifice, or celebrate a love-feast without the bishop."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle to the Smyrnaeans* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 3, page 6** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

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POINT 3 OF 8

The Eucharist was kept every Lord's Day

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The Didache tells believers to meet on every Lord's Day to break bread and give thanks. They were first to confess their sins and make peace with any brother they were at odds with, so that their offering would be pure.

5

> "But on every Lord's Day, gather together, break bread, and give thanks after you have confessed your sins, so that your sacrifice may be pure."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Didache,** *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 14 (c. 50–120 AD) **Source 2, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

Communion was holy food, not a common meal

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Justin says Christians did not receive the Eucharist as ordinary bread and drink. Only the baptized who lived as Christ taught could share it. The Didache gives the same rule. This sets the Eucharist apart from an ordinary shared meal.

6

> "We do not receive these as common bread and drink, but in the same way that Jesus Christ our Savior became flesh by the Word of God and had flesh and blood for our salvation, we have been taught that the food blessed by His word and prayer, which nourishes our blood and flesh through transformation, is the flesh and blood of Jesus who became flesh."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Justin Martyr,** *First Apology* (c. 130–165 AD) **Source 7, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

7

> "But let no one eat or drink of your Thanksgiving, or Eucharist, except those who have been baptized into the name of the Lord."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Didache,** *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 9 (c. 50–120 AD) **Source 1, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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POINT 5 OF 8

Justin describes communion without any supper

Our note · compiled by machine learning · Interpretation: our reading of the passages, not their words

Justin walks through a church gathering: prayers, the kiss of peace, then bread and a mixed cup brought to the leader. After thanksgiving, deacons hand out the bread and wine. He mentions no meal or foot washing as part of it.

8 “After finishing the prayers, we greet one another with a kiss. Then, bread and a cup of wine mixed with water are brought to the leader of the brethren.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Justin Martyr,** *First Apology* (c. 130–165 AD) **Source 10, page 6** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 8

Later, communion moved to the morning

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Cyprian explains that the whole church could not be called to an evening supper, so the sacrament was held in the morning, honoring the resurrection. Tertullian likewise says the Eucharist was received in meetings before daybreak, from the leaders' hands.

9 “But when we eat supper, we cannot call the people together to our meal, so that we may celebrate the truth of the sacrament in the presence of all the brothers.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Epistles* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 27, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

10 “We also receive the sacrament of the Eucharist in congregational meetings before daybreak, and from the hand of no one except the presidents.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *De Corona* 3 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 20, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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POINT 7 OF 8

The agape meal still went on

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

The account of Perpetua's martyrdom says that on the night before their deaths the prisoners shared an agape meal instead of an ordinary free supper. It shows the love feast was still known as a meal of its own.

11 “Moreover, on the day before, during that last meal, which they call the free meal, they were sharing, as much as they could, not a free supper but an agape meal.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tertullian,** *Passion of Perpetua and Felicitas* 5 (c. 196–220 AD) **Source 21, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

POINT 8 OF 8

Irenaeus reads foot washing as Christ's cleansing

Our note · compiled by machine learning · From the text: says what the passages say

Irenaeus sees Jesus washing the disciples' feet as a sign that he cleanses and makes holy the whole body of his people. He explains its meaning but does not say how often the church repeated it.

12 “He who washed the feet of the disciples sanctified the whole body and made it clean.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book IV* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 13, page 7** **Read it in the library ›**
THF's updated English

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages do not say whether a love feast was held every time the Eucharist was given.
- None of them describes foot washing as a regular church practice, so they do not settle how often it was done.
- A word-for-word match shows that a quotation really is in our text. It does not show that our reading of it is right, or who wrote each work.

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WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 30 early Christian passages and 160 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–30, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 31–125, in Bible order), then 65 more verses THF links to these passages, by reference. **Quote 1, page 2** beside a source shows where the study quotes it. Passages are in THF's updated English unless marked "1885 English" (the Roberts–Donaldson translation, public domain). "… [continues online]" marks a passage the library gave only in part. **On paper?** At **thehistoricfaith.com**, Bible verses are in the **Audio Bible** and early Christian writings in the **Library** (search for the title).

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITERS *30 passages from 11 writers*

Didache, *c. 50–120 AD · sources 1–2*

1 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 9 **Quote 7, page 3** "about the Thanksgiving, or Eucharist, give thanks in this way. First, about the cup: "We thank You, our Father, for the holy vine of David Your Servant, which You made… [continues online] **read ›**

2 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 14 (1885 English) **Quote 5, page 3** "every Lord's day gather yourselves together, and break bread, and give thanksgiving after having confessed your transgressions, that your sacrifice may be pure… [continues online] **read ›**

Ignatius of Antioch, *c. 98–117 AD · sources 3–6*

3 *Epistle to the Smyrnaeans* **Quote 4, page 2** "their office. Let no one do anything connected with the Church without the bishop. Let a proper Eucharist be considered as such when it is administered either by the bishop… [continues online] **read ›**

4 *Epistle to the Philadelphians* (1885 English; on point 2) "loaf also is broken to all [the communicants], and one cup is distributed among them all: there is but one altar for the whole Church, and one bishop, with the… [continues online] **read ›**

5 *Epistle to the Smyrnaeans* **Quote 3, page 2** "Let no one do anything related to the Church without the bishop. Consider that to be a proper Eucharist which is administered by the bishop or by someone he has… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Epistle to the Philadelphians* (1885 English; on point 2) "ye heed, then, to have but one Eucharist… [continues online] **read ›**

Justin Martyr, *c. 130–165 AD · sources 7–10*

7 *First Apology* **Quote 6, page 3** "Eucharist], and only those who believe that our teachings are true, have been washed with the washing for the remission of sins and renewal, and live as Christ instructed, are… [continues online] **read ›**

8 *First Apology* (1885 English; on point 3) on the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *Dialogue with Trypho* (on point 4) to be presented on behalf of those purified from leprosy, was a symbol of the bread of the Eucharist. This celebration, our Lord Jesus Christ established in remembrance of the… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *First Apology* (1885 English) **Quote 8, page 4** "when the president has given thanks, and all the people have expressed their assent, those who are called by us deacons give to each of those present to partake of… [continues online] **read ›**

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Tatian, *c. 150–180 AD · sources 11–12*

11 *Diatessaron* 44 **Quote 2, page 2** "the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world and go to his Father. He loved his own who were in… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *Diatessaron* 45 (1885 English) **Quote 1, page 2** "Mark 14:22a And while they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and divided… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 13–16*

13 *Against Heresies: Book IV* (1885 English) **Quote 12, page 5** "at last, by means of the New Man, all who from the beginning [were His] disciples, having been cleansed and washed from things pertaining to death, should come to the… [continues online] **read ›**

14 *Against Heresies: Book V* (on point 4) therefore, the mixed cup and the made bread receive the Word of God, and the Eucharist of the blood and body of Christ is formed, from which the substance of… [continues online] **read ›**

15 *Against Heresies: Book V* (on point 4) "salvation, then the Lord did not redeem us with His blood, nor is the cup of the Eucharist a communion of His blood, nor the bread we break a communion… [continues online] **read ›**

16 *Against Heresies: Book IV* (on point 4) "as the bread, which is produced from the earth, when it receives the invocation of God, is no longer common bread but the Eucharist, consisting of two realities, earthly and… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 17–18*

17 *Instructor* 2.1 (on point 7) "the supper is made for love, but the supper is not love, agape… [continues online] **read ›**

18 *Stromata* 3 others who imitate similar evils, gather for feasts. I would not even call their gathering an agape. After the men and women have filled themselves with foods that stir up… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · sources 19–21*

19 *Apology* 39 (on point 7) "feast explains itself by its name. The Greeks call… [continues online] **read ›**

20 *De Corona* 3 (1885 English) **Quote 10, page 4** "count fasting or kneeling in worship on the Lord's day to be unlawful… [continues online] **read ›**

21 *Passion of Perpetua and Felicitas* 5 (1885 English) **Quote 11, page 5** "Moreover, on the day before, when in that last meal, which they call the free meal, they were partaking as far as they could, not of a free supper, but… [continues online] **read ›**

Early Liturgies, *c. 200–400 AD · sources 22–24*

22 *Divine Liturgy of St. Mark* 1 (on point 1) "When He had blessed, hallowed, and broken the bread… [continues online] **read ›**

23 *Divine Liturgy of St. Mark* 1 (1885 English) "do in remembrance of me; for as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you do show forth my death and acknowledge my resurrection and ascension until… [continues online] **read ›**

24 *Divine Liturgy of St. James* 1 (1885 English; on point 1) "do in remembrance of me; for as often as you eat this bread, and drink this cup, you do show forth the Lord's death, and confess His resurrection, till… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · sources 25–26*

25 *Against Celsus* 57 (on point 4) "we have a symbol of gratitude to God in the bread… [continues online] **read ›**

26 *Against Celsus* 1 (1885 English; on point 7) "his wish is to bring into disrepute what are termed the love-feasts of the Christians, as if they had their origin in the common danger, and were more binding… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · sources 27–29*

27 *Epistles* **Quote 9, page 4** Does anyone perhaps comfort himself with this idea: although in the morning only water is clearly offered, yet when we come to supper we offer the mixed cup? But when… [continues online] **read ›**

28 *Epistles* (on point 1) "when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is my body, which shall be given for you. Do this in remembrance of me… [continues online] **read ›**

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29 *Epistles* (on point 6) “Scripture says, "For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · source 30*

30 *Apostolic Constitutions* Always be thankful, as faithful and honest servants. And concerning the Eucharistic thanksgiving, say this: “We thank You, our Father, for the life that You have made known to us… [continues online] **read ›**

THE BIBLE *95 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

31 **Genesis 14:18** And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. **read ›**

32 **Genesis 18:4** Let water now be brought, and let them wash your feet, and refresh yourselves under the tree. **read ›**

33 **Genesis 18:5** I will bring bread, and you shall eat, and after this you shall go on your way, since it is for this that you have turned aside to your servant.” And he said, “Do so, just as you have said.” **read ›**

34 **Genesis 24:33** He set bread before them to eat, but he said, “I will certainly not eat until I have told my errand.” He said, “Speak.” **read ›**

35 **Genesis 26:30** So he made them a feast, and they ate and drank. **read ›**

36 **Genesis 43:31** Then he washed his face, came out, controlled himself, and said, “Serve the bread.” **read ›**

37 **Genesis 43:32** They served him by himself, and them by themselves, and the Egyptians who dined with him by themselves; for the Egyptians could not eat bread with the Hebrews, since that is an abomination to the Egyptians. **read ›**

38 **Exodus 12:11** And this is how you shall eat it: with your belts tied around your waists, your sandals on your feet, and your staffs in your hands; and you shall eat it in haste. It is a Passover to the Lord. **read ›**

39 **Exodus 13:6** Six days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day is a feast of the Lord. **read ›**

40 **Exodus 16:16** “This is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat. This is the word that the Lord has commanded: ‘Gather of it, each one for those who belong to him, an omer for every head, according to the number of persons among you; each of you gather it together with those who share your tent.’” **read ›**

41 **Exodus 19:14** So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified them, and they washed their garments. **read ›**

42 **Exodus 30:19** Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet with water from it. **read ›**

43 **Exodus 30:20** Whenever they go into the tabernacle of witness, and whenever they come near the altar to minister and to offer whole burnt offerings to the Lord, they shall wash with water, and so they shall certainly not die. **read ›**

44 **Exodus 30:21** They shall wash their hands and their feet with water. Whenever they go into the tabernacle of witness, they shall wash with water, so that they do not die. It shall be a perpetual ordinance for them, for Aaron and for his generations after him.” **read ›**

45 **Exodus 32:6** Rising early the next day, he offered up whole burnt offerings and brought a peace offering. And the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. **read ›**

46 **Exodus 38:27** The hundred talents of silver went into the casting of the hundred pillar tops of the tabernacle and into the pillar tops of the veil: (Septuagint Exodus 39:4 (Exodus 38:27 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

47 **Exodus 40:23** and he set the showbread on it before the Lord, as the Lord commanded Moses. **read ›**

48 **Leviticus 2:6** You shall break it into pieces and pour oil on them. It is a sacrifice to the Lord. **read ›**

49 **Leviticus 6:19** Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, (Septuagint Leviticus 6:12 (Leviticus 6:19 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

50 **Leviticus 7:13** With loaves of bread made with yeast he shall offer his gifts, with the peace offering of praise. **read ›**

51 **Leviticus 9:14** He washed the belly and the feet with water and laid them on the whole burnt offering on the altar. **read ›**

52 **Leviticus 13:54** the priest shall give orders, and one shall wash the thing on which the plague is, and the priest shall set the plague apart seven days a second time. **read ›**

53 **Leviticus 14:47** Whoever sleeps in the house shall wash his garments and be unclean until evening; and whoever eats in the house shall wash his garments and be unclean until evening. **read ›**

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54 **Leviticus 21:22** He may eat the gifts of God, the most holy things, and of the holy things; **read ›**

55 **Leviticus 22:6** the person who touches any of these shall be unclean until evening. He shall not eat of the holy things unless he washes his body with water; **read ›**

56 **Leviticus 23:17** From your dwelling you shall bring loaves as an offering laid on, two loaves; they shall be of two tenths of fine flour, baked with yeast, as first produce to the Lord. **read ›**

57 **Numbers 6:15** and a basket of unleavened loaves of fine flour mixed with oil, and unleavened wafers anointed with oil, and their sacrifice and their drink offering. **read ›**

58 **Numbers 15:19** then it shall be, when you eat of the bread of the land, you shall set apart a portion set apart, a special portion for the Lord, the firstfruits of your dough. **read ›**

59 **Numbers 19:18** And a man who is clean shall take hyssop and dip it in the water, and sprinkle it on the house and on the furnishings and on the persons who are there, and on him who touched the human bone, or the slain, or the dead, or the tomb. **read ›**

60 **Numbers 28:17** On the fifteenth day of this month is a feast; for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. **read ›**

61 **Deuteronomy 27:7** And there you shall sacrifice a peace offering; and you shall eat and be filled, and rejoice before the Lord your God. **read ›**

62 **Joshua 5:11** And they ate of the grain of the land, unleavened bread and new grain. **read ›**

63 **Judges 19:5** On the fourth day they rose early in the morning, and he got up to go. But the young woman's father said to his son-in-law, "Strengthen your heart with a piece of bread, and after that you may go." **read ›**

64 **1 Samuel 21:7** Now one of Saul's young men was there that day, detained, Neessaran, before the Lord; his name was Doeg the Syrian, who tended Saul's mules. (Septuagint 1 Kingdoms 21:8 (1 Samuel 21:7 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

65 **1 Samuel 25:41** And she arose and bowed with her face to the ground, and said, "Behold, your slave is a maidservant to wash the feet of your servants." **read ›**

66 **2 Samuel 12:20** Then David rose from the ground, washed, anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of God and worshiped him. Then he went to his own house and asked for bread to eat, and they set bread before him, and he ate. **read ›**

67 **1 Kings 13:15** And he said to him, "Come with me and eat bread." **read ›**

68 **2 Kings 4:44** So they ate and had some left, according to the word of the Lord. **read ›**

69 **2 Kings 6:23** So he set before them a great meal, and they ate and drank; and he sent them away, and they went to their master. And the raiding bands of Syria came no more into the land of Israel. **read ›**

70 **2 Chronicles 8:13** as the duty of each day required, offering according to the commandments of Moses on the Sabbaths, at the new moons, and at the feasts, three times in the year: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles. **read ›**

71 **2 Chronicles 30:13** And many people were gathered to Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread in the second month, a very great assembly. **read ›**

72 **2 Chronicles 35:6** Sacrifice the Passover, and prepare it for your brothers, to do according to the word of the Lord by the hand of Moses." **read ›**

73 **2 Chronicles 35:13** They roasted the Passover with fire according to the ordinance, and boiled the holy portions in bronze pots and in cauldrons, and it went well, and they ran to all the sons of the people. **read ›**

74 **Ezra 1:1** In the first year of Cyrus king of the Persians, that the word of the Lord from the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the Lord stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of the Persians, and he sent a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also in writing, saying, **read ›**

75 **Nehemiah 3:4** And next to them, at Ramoth the son of Uriah, the son of Hakkoz, they took hold; and next to them Meshullam the son of Berechiah, the son of Meshezabel, took hold; and next to them Zadok the son of Baana took hold. (Septuagint 2 Esdras 13:4 (Nehemiah 3:4 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

76 **Psalms 2:1** Why did the nations rage, and the peoples plot vain things? **read ›**

77 **Proverbs 12:11** He who works his own land will be filled with bread, but those who pursue vain things lack understanding. He who takes pleasure in lingering over wine will leave dishonor in his own strongholds. **read ›**

78 **Song of Solomon 3:4** Scarcely had I passed from them when I found him whom my soul has loved. I held him and did not let him go, until I brought him into my mother's house, and into the chamber of her who conceived me. **read ›**

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79 **Isaiah 14:3** And it shall come to pass in that day that the Lord will give you rest from your anguish and your anger, and from your hard slavery, in which you served them. **read ›**

80 **Daniel 9:5** we have done wrong, we have acted lawlessly, and we have departed and turned aside from your commandments and from your judgments, **read ›**

81 **Hosea 9:7** The days of vengeance have come, the days of your repayment have come; and Israel shall suffer harm like the prophet who is out of his mind, the man who is carried by a spirit; because of the multitude of your unrighteousness your madness has increased. **read ›**

82 **1 Esdras 1:1** Josiah kept the Passover in Jerusalem to his Lord, and he sacrificed the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month, **read ›**

83 **1 Esdras 1:17** and the things of the sacrifice of the Lord were completed on that day, to keep the Passover **read ›**

84 **1 Esdras 5:51** They kept the Feast of Tabernacles as it is commanded in the law, and offered sacrifices daily, as was fitting; **read ›**

85 **1 Esdras 5:52** and after that, the continual offerings, and the sacrifices of the Sabbaths and of the new moons and of all the holy feasts. **read ›**

86 **1 Esdras 9:54** And they all went away to eat and drink and make merry, and to give portions to those who had nothing, and to rejoice greatly, **read ›**

87 **Wisdom of Solomon 19:16** but these, after receiving with festivities those who had already shared the same rights with them, mistreated them with terrible labors. **read ›**

88 **Wisdom of Sirach 50:15** he stretched out his hand to the cup and poured a drink offering of the blood of the grape; he poured it out at the foundations of the altar, a pleasing aroma to the Most High, the King of all. **read ›**

89 **Letter of Jeremiah 1:13** Their faces are wiped because of the dust from the house, which lies thick upon them. **read ›**

90 **Bel and the Dragon 1:15** But the priests came in the night as was their custom, with their wives and their children, and they devoured everything and drank it all. **read ›**

91 **1 Maccabees 12:11** We therefore remember you at all times without ceasing, at the feasts and on the other appointed days, at the sacrifices that we offer and in our prayers, as it is right and fitting to remember brothers. **read ›**

92 **2 Maccabees 8:28** After the Sabbath they gave some of the spoils to those who had been tortured and to the widows and orphans, and the rest they divided among themselves and the children. **read ›**

93 **2 Maccabees 8:29** When they had done this, they made a common plea and begged the merciful Lord to be fully reconciled with his slaves. **read ›**

94 **2 Maccabees 12:32** After the feast called Pentecost, they hurried against Gorgias, the governor of Idumea. **read ›**

95 **3 Maccabees 3:4** but because they worshiped God and lived by his law, they kept themselves separate in certain matters and turned away from certain things; and for this reason they seemed hateful to some. **read ›**

96 **3 Maccabees 6:31** Then those who before had been held in disgrace and near to Hades, or rather had already set foot in it, instead of a bitter and lamentable death held a drinking feast of salvation; and, full of joy, they divided the place prepared for their fall and their tomb into couches for feasting. **read ›**

97 **3 Maccabees 6:35** But the Jews, as we have said, formed the dance mentioned before, and passed the time in feasting, with joyful thanksgivings and psalms. **read ›**

98 **4 Maccabees 14:3** O sacred and harmonious unity of the seven brothers for godliness! **read ›**

99 **Matthew 26:26** As they were eating, Jesus took bread, gave thanks for it, and broke it. He gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” **read ›**

100 **Mark 14:22** As they were eating, Jesus took bread, and when he had blessed it, he broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take, eat. This is my body.” **read ›**

101 **Mark 14:23** He took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them. They all drank of it. **read ›**

102 **Luke 22:14** When the hour had come, he sat down with the twelve apostles. **read ›**

103 **Luke 22:19** He took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” **read ›**

104 **Luke 24:30** As he reclined at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to them. **read ›**

105 **John 13:1** Now before the Feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. **read ›**

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106 **John 13:4** rose from supper and laid aside his outer garments. He took a towel and tied it around himself. **read ›**

107 **John 13:5** Then he poured water into the basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him. **read ›**

108 **John 13:10** Jesus said to him, "Someone who has bathed only needs to have his feet washed, but is completely clean. You are clean, but not all of you." **read ›**

109 **John 13:12** So when he had washed their feet, put on his outer garments, and reclined again, he said to them, "Do you understand what I have done to you? **read ›**

110 **John 13:14** If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. **read ›**

111 **Acts 1:16** "Brothers, this Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand through the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. **read ›**

112 **Acts 2:42** They continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. **read ›**

113 **Acts 2:46** Day by day they continued steadfastly with one accord in the temple, breaking bread at home and sharing food with gladness and simplicity of heart, **read ›**

114 **Acts 20:7** On the first day of the week, when the disciples were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day, and continued his speech until midnight. **read ›**

115 **Acts 20:11** When he had gone up, had broken bread and eaten, and had talked with them a long while, even until break of day, he departed. **read ›**

116 **Acts 25:6** When he had stayed among them more than ten days, he went down to Caesarea, and on the next day he sat on the judgment seat, and commanded Paul to be brought. **read ›**

117 **1 Corinthians 5:8** Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. **read ›**

118 **1 Corinthians 10:16** The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? **read ›**

119 **1 Corinthians 11:21** For when you eat, each one takes his own supper first, and one is hungry while another is drunk. **read ›**

120 **1 Corinthians 11:23** For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread, **read ›**

121 **1 Corinthians 11:24** and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "Take, eat. This is my body, which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." **read ›**

122 **1 Corinthians 11:25** In the same way he also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink, in remembrance of me." **read ›**

123 **1 Corinthians 11:26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **read ›**

124 **1 Corinthians 11:27** Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks the Lord's cup in a way unworthy of the Lord will be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. **read ›**

125 **Galatians 1:13** For you have heard of my former way of life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and ravaged it. **read ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *65 verses, by reference*

Partly machine-linked: related to the passages, not always quoted in them. Each reference links to the verse in our audio Bible.

Leviticus 14:10

Psalms 23:1

Proverbs 23:3

Isaiah 30:1 · 40:11 · 55:1

Ezekiel 34:13

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Haggai 1:6
Malachi 1:10
Matthew 1:1 · 1:18 · 5:28 · 5:45 · 7:6 · 9:13 · 11:27 · 12:31 · 18:12 · 26:24 · 26:29 · 26:39
Mark 14:25
Luke 7:43 · 10:22 · 12:16 · 14:8 · 14:12 · 14:15 · 14:16 · 16:9 · 24:39
John 1:18 · 4:1 · 14:2 · 14:16 · 15:1
Acts 8:20
Romans 6:23 · 11:16 · 11:32 · 14:16 · 14:17
1 Corinthians 2:6 · 2:15 · 6:13 · 7:29 · 12:4 · 13:3 · 13:7 · 15:8 · 15:36 · 15:53
2 Corinthians 2:17 · 4:4 · 4:18 · 12:3 · 12:9
Galatians 1:1
Ephesians 1:10 · 5:30
Philippians 4:17
Colossians 1:14
1 Peter 2:5
1 John 4:1
Jude 1:8

Searched: Ante-Nicene Fathers volumes 1–9 and the Bible, including the Septuagint.

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “Was the early church's love feast the same as communion, and did they wash feet each time?” on October 25, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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THE END OF THIS STUDY