THE QUESTION

What was most important to the early church about the Lord's Supper?

Asked by a THF member on June 14, 2026 · published November 9, 2026 · 13 numbered quotations · the 37 early Christian passages and 164 Bible verses we kept are listed at the back, each with a link.

Read it online: thehistoricfaith.com/early-church-questions/what-was-most-important-to-the-early-church-about-the-lords-supper

The short answer *From the text: says what the passages say*

Above all, the early writers taught that the bread and cup of the Lord's Supper are not common food but the body and blood of Christ. Receiving them joins believers to Christ and to one another, proclaims His death and resurrection, and gives the hope of eternal life and resurrection of the body.

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.
SHARING WITH AN AI?	Every quotation here comes from The Historic Faith's library. If you paste this study into an AI, anything it adds beyond these pages comes from that AI, not from us.

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POINT 1 OF 8

Not common bread, but Christ's body

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

Justin, writing to outsiders, says Christians do not receive this food as ordinary bread and drink. He compares it to the Incarnation: as the Word became flesh, the blessed food is the flesh and blood of Jesus. Irenaeus says that after God's blessing the bread is no longer common bread.

1 “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 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

2 “For just 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 heavenly; so also our bodies, when they receive the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible, having the hope of the resurrection to eternity.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book IV* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 16, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 2 OF 8

Jesus Himself taught this

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

The Gospel harmony of Tatian records Jesus' words at Capernaum and at the Last Supper. He calls His body true food and His blood true drink, and at the table He says of the bread, this is my body.

3 “For my body truly is food, and my blood truly is drink. Whoever eats my body and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Tatian,** *Diatessaron* 19 (c. 150–180 AD) **Source 11, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

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4 “While they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. He said to them, “Take and eat; this is my body.””

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

POINT 3 OF 8

It is a sharing in His saving blood

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

Irenaeus ties the Supper to our redemption. If Christ did not truly redeem us with His blood, he argues, then the cup and bread could not be a communion in His blood and body. The Supper rests on the real body Christ gave for us.

5 “If the flesh does not attain 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 of His body.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book V* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 17, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 4 OF 8

It is the medicine of immortality

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

Ignatius calls the one bread the medicine of immortality that keeps us from dying. Irenaeus says that bodies fed by the Eucharist carry the hope of rising again to eternal life.

6 “I will especially do this if the Lord makes known to me that you come together, individually, in common through grace, in one faith, and in Jesus Christ, who was of the seed of David according to the flesh, being both the Son of man and the Son of God, so that you obey the bishop and the presbytery with an undivided mind, breaking one and the same bread, which is the medicine of immortality, and the antidote to prevent us from dying, but causes us to live forever in Jesus Christ.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 3, page 6** Read it in the library ›
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7 “For just 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 heavenly; so also our bodies, when they receive the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible, having the hope of the resurrection to eternity.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Against Heresies: Book IV* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 16, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 5 OF 8

One Eucharist keeps the church one

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

Ignatius links the one Eucharist to the one flesh of Christ, the one cup and the one altar. For him, sharing the Supper together is a sign and bond of the church's unity with its bishop, elders and deacons.

8 “Take care, then, to have only one Eucharist. For there is one flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ, and one cup to show the unity of His blood; one altar; as there is one bishop, along with the presbytery and deacons, my fellow-servants: so that, whatever you do, you may do it according to the will of God.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Ignatius of Antioch,** *Epistle to the Philadelphians* (c. 98–117 AD) **Source 6, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 6 OF 8

It proclaims His death and resurrection

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

The ancient Liturgy of St. James repeats Paul's words and adds that the church confesses Christ's resurrection. Cyprian says the church's offering should match the Lord's passion, doing what Christ did.

9 “For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you show the Lord's death and confess His resurrection, until He comes.”

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Early Liturgies,** *Divine Liturgy of St. James* 1 (c. 200–400 AD) **Source 26, page 8** Read it in the library ›
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10 "From this it is clear that the blood of Christ is not offered if there is no wine in the cup, nor is the Lord's sacrifice celebrated with a proper consecration unless our offering and sacrifice correspond to His passion."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Epistles* (c. 248–258 AD) **Source 35, page 8** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 7 OF 8

A pure offering of thanksgiving

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

Irenaeus describes the Supper as a thankful offering of bread and cup. The church then calls on the Holy Spirit so that those who receive may gain forgiveness of sins and eternal life.

11 "For we offer to God the bread and the cup of blessing, thanking Him for commanding the earth to produce these fruits for our nourishment."

later in the same passage

"Then, after perfecting the offering, we invoke the Holy Spirit, so that He may make this sacrifice—both the bread as the body of Christ and the cup as the blood of Christ—so that those who receive these symbols may obtain forgiveness of sins and eternal life."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Irenaeus,** *Fragments from the Lost Writings of Irenæus* (c. 175–202 AD) **Source 14, page 7** Read it in the library ›
THF's updated English

POINT 8 OF 8

Only for baptized believers living faithfully

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

Justin says only baptized believers who live as Christ taught may share the Supper. Cyprian warns that being kept from communion by grave sin separates a person from Christ's body and puts salvation at risk.

12 "This food is called among us [the 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 allowed to partake."

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Justin Martyr,** *First Apology* (c. 130–165 AD) **Source 7, page 7** Read it in the library ›
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13 “So, on the other hand, we must fear and pray lest anyone who is kept from communion, and is separated from Christ’s body, should remain far from salvation, as He Himself threatens and says, “Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, you shall have no life in you.””

EARLY CHRISTIAN WRITER **Cyprian,** *Treatises* (c. 248–258 AD)
THF's updated English

Source 30, page 8 **Read it in the library ›**

THE LIMITS

What these passages don’t tell us

- These passages do not explain exactly how the bread and cup become Christ's body and blood.
- They do not rank one teaching as the single most important thing about the Supper.
- 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.

WHERE EVERY QUOTE CAME FROM

The Sources

The 37 early Christian passages and 164 Bible verses we kept for this question (repeats and weak or off-topic search hits were left out): early Christian passages first (sources 1–37, grouped by writer, earliest first), then Bible verses in The Faith Once Delivered Bible (sources 38–122, in Bible order), then 79 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 *37 passages from 13 writers*

Didache, *c. 50–120 AD · sources 1–2*

1 *Teaching of the Twelve Apostles* 9 (on point 7) “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; on point 8) “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 of Ignatius to the Ephesians* (1885 English) **Quote 6, page 3** “will I do this] if the Lord make known to me that ye come together man by man in common through grace, individually, in one faith, and in Jesus Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

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4 *Epistle to the Philadelphians* (on point 5) “there is one flesh of the Lord Jesus Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

5 *Epistle to the Smyrnaeans* (on point 1) “abstain from the Eucharist and from prayer, because they do not acknowledge the Eucharist to be the flesh of our Savior Jesus Christ, who suffered for our sins, and whom… [continues online] **read ›**

6 *Epistle to the Philadelphians* **Quote 8, page 4** “there is one flesh of our Lord Jesus Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

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

7 *First Apology* **Quotes 1, 12, pages 2, 5** “renewal, and live as Christ instructed, are allowed to partake. We do not receive these as common bread and drink, but in the same way that Jesus Christ our Savior… [continues online] **read ›**

8 *Dialogue with Trypho* (on point 7) “Christ commanded us to offer, specifically in the Eucharist of the bread and the cup, and which Christians present everywhere around the world, confirms that they are pleasing to Him… [continues online] **read ›**

9 *Dialogue with Trypho* (on point 7) the offering of fine flour, gentlemen," I said, "which was required to be presented on behalf of those purified from leprosy, was a symbol of the bread of the Eucharist… [continues online] **read ›**

10 *Dialogue with Trypho* (1885 English; on point 2) “people who are become depreciated, and there is no understanding in him who hears.’ Now it is evident, that in this prophecy [allusion is made] to the bread which our… [continues online] **read ›**

Tatian, *c. 150–180 AD · sources 11–13*

11 *Diatessaron* 19 (1885 English) **Quote 3, page 2** “6:54 Whosoever eats of my body and drinks of my blood 49 has eternal life… [continues online] **read ›**

12 *Diatessaron* 45 (1885 English) **Quote 4, page 3** “Mark 14:22a And while they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and divided… [continues online] **read ›**

13 *Diatessaron* 19 (on point 2) Jews then complained about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and… [continues online] **read ›**

Irenaeus, *c. 175–202 AD · sources 14–17*

14 *Fragments from the Lost Writings of Irenæus* (1885 English) **Quote 11, page 5** “in this respect it is pure. For we make an oblation to God of the bread and the cup of blessing, giving Him thanks in that He has commanded the… [continues online] **read ›**

15 *Against Heresies: Book V* (on point 4) “gift of God, which is eternal life, when this flesh is nourished from the body and blood of the Lord and is a part of Him? Just as the blessed… [continues online] **read ›**

16 *Against Heresies: Book IV* **Quotes 2, 7, pages 2, 4** Then, again, how can they say that the flesh, which is nourished with the body of the Lord and with His blood, goes to corruption and does not partake of… [continues online] **read ›**

17 *Against Heresies: Book V* (1885 English) **Quote 5, page 3** “if this indeed do not attain salvation, then neither did the Lord redeem us with His blood, nor is the cup of the Eucharist the communion of His blood, nor… [continues online] **read ›**

Clement of Alexandria, *c. 190–215 AD · sources 18–20*

18 *Instructor* 1.6 The flesh figuratively represents the Holy Spirit to us, for the flesh was created by Him. The blood points us to the Word, for the Word, like rich blood, has… [continues online] **read ›**

19 *Instructor* 1.6 “through fire for the joy of the Church, like bread that is baked. But this will be shown more clearly a little later in the chapter on the resurrection. But… [continues online] **read ›**

20 *Stromata* 1.10 (1885 English) “breaking the bread, He presented it, that we might eat it, according to reason, and that knowing the Scriptures we might walk obediently… [continues online] **read ›**

Tertullian, *c. 196–220 AD · source 21*

21 *Against Marcion* 40 (on point 1) what He meant by the bread when He called the bread His own body. Likewise, when He mentioned the cup and made the new testament to be sealed in His… [continues online] **read ›**

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Early Liturgies, *c. 200–400 AD · sources 22–26*

22 *Divine Liturgy of St. Mark* 1 (1885 English; on point 6) “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 ›**

23 *Liturgy of Adaeus and Maris* 1 (1885 English; on point 3) “precious blood is signed with the holy body of our Lord Jesus Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

24 *Divine Liturgy of St. James* 1 “union of the all-holy body and precious blood of our Lord and… [continues online] **read ›**

25 *Liturgy of Adaeus and Maris* 1 (1885 English; on point 3) “holy body is signed with the propitiatory blood of our Lord Jesus Christ… [continues online] **read ›**

26 *Divine Liturgy of St. James* 1 (1885 English) **Quote 9, page 4** “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 ›**

Hippolytus, *c. 200–236 AD · source 27*

27 *Exegetical Fragments* 1 (1885 English; on point 6) “also refers to His honoured and undefiled body and blood, which day by day are administered and offered sacrificially at the spiritual divine table, as a memorial of that first… [continues online] **read ›**

Origen, *c. 215–254 AD · source 28*

28 *Against Celsus* 57 (on point 7) “we have a symbol of gratitude to God in the bread… [continues online] **read ›**

Gregory Thaumaturgus, *c. 240–270 AD · source 29*

29 *Twelve Topics on the Faith* 1 (1885 English; on point 2) My flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed… [continues online] **read ›**

Cyprian, *c. 248–258 AD · sources 30–35*

30 *Treatises* **Quote 13, page 6** that this bread should be given to us daily, so that we who are in Christ, and who receive the Eucharist daily as the food of salvation, may not, because… [continues online] **read ›**

31 *Epistles* (on point 1) “offered, that is, bread and wine, namely, His body and blood. And with respect to Abraham, that blessing which came first belonged to our people. For if Abraham believed God… [continues online] **read ›**

32 *Epistles* (on point 6) “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 ›**

33 *Epistles* “Still, it was not in the morning, but after supper, that the… [continues online] **read ›**

34 *Epistles* against gospel and apostolic discipline, in some places water is offered alone in the Lord's cup. By itself, water cannot represent the blood of Christ. The Holy Spirit also… [continues online] **read ›**

35 *Epistles* **Quote 10, page 5** “is how we should understand it. For when the Lord came, He showed the truth about baptism and the cup. He commanded that the faithful water, the water of eternal… [continues online] **read ›**

Apostolic Constitutions, *c. 250–380 AD · sources 36–37*

36 *Apostolic Constitutions* (on point 2) “is my body, which is broken for many, for the remission of sins… [continues online] **read ›**

37 *Apostolic Constitutions* (on point 7) 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 *85 verses, The Faith Once Delivered Bible (Old Testament from the Septuagint), in Bible order*

38 **Genesis 9:4** But you shall not eat flesh that has the blood of life in it. **read ›**

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

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40 **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 ›**

41 **Genesis 44:5** Why have you stolen my silver cup? Is it not the one from which my lord drinks? And by it he himself reads omens. You have done evil in what you have done.'" **read ›**

42 **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 ›**

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

44 **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 ›**

45 **Exodus 23:25** And you shall serve the Lord your God, and I will bless your bread and your wine and your water, and I will turn away sickness from you. **read ›**

46 **Exodus 24:8** And Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, "Behold, the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you concerning all these words." **read ›**

47 **Leviticus 1:15** The priest shall bring it to the altar and wring off its head, and the priest shall put it on the altar and drain out the blood at the base of the altar. **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 4:30** The priest shall take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar of whole burnt offerings, and all its blood he shall pour out at the base of the altar. **read ›**

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

51 **Leviticus 6:20** "This is the gift of Aaron and his sons, which they shall offer to the Lord on the day when you anoint him: the tenth part of an ephah of fine flour for a sacrifice continually, half of it in the morning and half of it in the evening. (Septuagint Leviticus 6:13 (Leviticus 6:20 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

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

53 **Leviticus 8:25** He took the fat, the rump, the fat on the belly, the lobe of the liver, the two kidneys and the fat on them, and the right shoulder. (Septuagint Leviticus 8:24 (Leviticus 8:25 in most Bibles)) **read ›**

54 **Leviticus 14:15** Then the priest shall take some of the cup of oil and pour it into the priest's own left hand. **read ›**

55 **Leviticus 14:24** The priest shall take the lamb of the guilt offering and the cup of oil and lay them before the Lord as an offering laid on. **read ›**

56 **Leviticus 17:11** For the life of all flesh is its blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for its blood shall make atonement in place of the soul. **read ›**

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

58 **Leviticus 23:5** In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, between the evenings, is the Lord's Passover. **read ›**

59 **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 ›**

60 **Numbers 6:17** And he shall offer the ram as a peace offering to the Lord, with the basket of unleavened bread; and the priest shall offer its sacrifice and its drink offering. **read ›**

61 **Numbers 6:20** and the priest shall offer them before the Lord as an offering laid on. It shall be holy for the priest, in addition to the breast of the offering laid on and the shoulder of the portion set apart. And after this the one who has vowed shall drink wine. **read ›**

62 **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 ›**

63 **Deuteronomy 8:10** And you shall eat and be filled, and you shall bless the Lord your God on the good land that he has given you. **read ›**

64 **Deuteronomy 12:23** Take great care not to eat blood, for its blood is its life; the life shall not be eaten with the meat. **read ›**

65 **Deuteronomy 32:14** butter of cattle and milk of sheep, with the fat of lambs and rams, of the young of bulls and of he-goats, with the fat of the kidneys of wheat; and he drank wine, the blood of the grape. **read ›**

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

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67 **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 ›**

68 **1 Kings 13:15** And he said to him, "Come with me and eat bread." **read ›**

69 **2 Kings 4:44** So they ate and had some left, according to the word of the Lord. **read ›**

70 **1 Chronicles 23:30** and to stand in the morning to praise and give thanks to the Lord, and so in the evening; **read ›**

71 **2 Chronicles 13:11** they burn whole burnt offerings to the Lord morning and evening, and compounded incense, and set out the loaves on the pure table, and there are the golden lampstand and its lamps for burning, to be lit in the evening; for we keep the charge of the Lord God of our fathers, but you have forsaken him. **read ›**

72 **Ezra 7:14** One has been sent from the presence of the king and the seven counselors to inspect Judea and Jerusalem by the law of their God which is in your hand, **read ›**

73 **Isaiah 3:9** and the shame of their face has risen against them; and they have proclaimed their sin like Sodom and made it plain. Woe to their soul, for they have counseled an evil counsel against themselves, **read ›**

74 **Isaiah 3:15** Why do you wrong my people, and put the face of the poor to shame? **read ›**

75 **Isaiah 13:13** For the heaven will be enraged, and the earth will be shaken from its foundations, because of the wrath of the anger of the Lord of hosts, in the day when his wrath comes upon it. **read ›**

76 **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 ›**

77 **Jeremiah 22:5** But if you do not do these words, I have sworn by myself, says the Lord, that this house will become a desolation. **read ›**

78 **Ezekiel 29:13** Thus says the Lord: After forty years I will gather the Egyptians from the nations among whom they were scattered, **read ›**

79 **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 ›**

80 **1 Esdras 1:17** and the things of the sacrifice of the Lord were completed on that day, to keep the Passover **read ›**

81 **1 Esdras 3:17** And they said to them, "Tell us about what is written." Then the first, who had spoken of the strength of wine, began, **read ›**

82 **1 Esdras 7:14** They kept the feast of unleavened bread seven days, rejoicing before the Lord, **read ›**

83 **Wisdom of Sirach 35:2** Open the verse to read it. **read ›**

84 **Wisdom of Sirach 50:14** And when he completed the service at the altars, to adorn the offering of the Most High, the Almighty, **read ›**

85 **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 ›**

86 **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 ›**

87 **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 ›**

88 **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 ›**

89 **2 Maccabees 14:46** with his blood now completely drained, he tore out his intestines, took them in both hands, and hurled them at the crowds. And calling upon him who rules over life and spirit to give them back to him again, in this manner he died. **read ›**

90 **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 ›**

91 **4 Maccabees 3:9** Now all the others were at supper. **read ›**

92 **4 Maccabees 3:15** But he, though burning with thirst, reasoned that a drink reckoned equal in value to blood would be a terrible danger to his soul. **read ›**

93 **4 Maccabees 8:27** For they were despisers of the passions and sovereign over their pains. So, as soon as the tyrant had stopped advising them to eat defiled food, all of them together, with one voice, as from one soul, said: **read ›**

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94 **4 Maccabees 13:13** And each one, and all together, looking at one another, cheerful and very confident, said, “Let us consecrate ourselves with all our heart to God, who gave us our souls, and let us lend our bodies to the guarding of the Law. **read ›**

95 **4 Maccabees 14:3** O sacred and harmonious unity of the seven brothers for godliness! **read ›**

96 **1 Enoch 62:14** And the Lord of Spirits will remain over them, and with that Son of Man they shall eat and lie down and rise up forever and ever. **read ›**

97 **1 Enoch 98:11** Woe to you, stiff-necked in heart, who do evil and eat blood: where will you get good things to eat, and to drink and to be filled? From all the good things which the Lord the Most High has placed in abundance on the earth; therefore you shall have no peace. **read ›**

98 **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 ›**

99 **Matthew 26:27** He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “All of you drink it, **read ›**

100 **Mark 2:12** He rose immediately, took up the mat, and went out in front of them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!” **read ›**

101 **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 ›**

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

103 **Luke 7:6** Jesus went with them. When he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying to him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. **read ›**

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

105 **Luke 22:17** He received a cup, and when he had given thanks, he said, “Take this and share it among yourselves, **read ›**

106 **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 ›**

107 **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 ›**

108 **John 1:7** He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, so that all might believe through him. **read ›**

109 **John 6:53** Jesus therefore said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life in yourselves. **read ›**

110 **John 6:54** He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. **read ›**

111 **John 6:55** For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. **read ›**

112 **John 6:56** He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. **read ›**

113 **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 ›**

114 **Romans 16:7** Greet Andronicus and Junia, my relatives and my fellow prisoners, who are notable among the apostles, who were also in Christ before me. **read ›**

115 **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 ›**

116 **1 Corinthians 11:20** Therefore, when you come together in one place, it is not the Lord’s supper that you eat. **read ›**

117 **1 Corinthians 11:21** For when you eat, each one takes his own supper first, and one is hungry while another is drunk. **read ›**

118 **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 ›**

119 **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 ›**

120 **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 ›**

121 **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 ›**

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122 **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 ›**

ALSO LINKED BY THF TO THESE PASSAGES *79 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

Isaiah 40:11 · 55:1 · 63:1

Ezekiel 34:13

Amos 2:6

Malachi 1:10

Matthew 1:1 · 1:18 · 2:9 · 5:45 · 7:6 · 11:27 · 12:31 · 12:37 · 18:12 · 20:22 · 26:24 · 26:29 · 26:39 · 26:41 · 27:3

Mark 2:8 · 14:25

Luke 1:35 · 7:43 · 10:22 · 16:9 · 22:15 · 22:20 · 24:39

John 1:14 · 1:18 · 2:19 · 4:1 · 4:32 · 6:32 · 6:33 · 10:17 · 11:52 · 14:2 · 14:16 · 15:1 · 20:27

Acts 2:3 · 8:20 · 8:30 · 10:36

Romans 6:23 · 8:36 · 11:16 · 11:32

1 Corinthians 2:6 · 2:15 · 3:2 · 6:13 · 12:4 · 15:8 · 15:36 · 15:53

2 Corinthians 2:17 · 4:4 · 12:3 · 12:9

Galatians 1:1

Ephesians 1:10 · 2:6 · 5:30

Philippians 4:17

Colossians 1:14

1 Timothy 2:2

1 Peter 1:4 · 2:1 · 2:5 · 2:9

1 John 4:1

Revelation 3:21 · 13:11

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

ABOUT THIS STUDY

A THF member asked “What was most important to the early church about the Lord's Supper?” on June 14, 2026. The Historic Faith answered it as a public study on November 9, 2026.

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