

## Christ's tools, our symbols.

A Passover / Easter message by Dirk W. L. Knies

There are 5 tools our Lord used and gave us as symbols to help us live, remember, follow, know and communicate. Knowing what they mean gives us life and helps us produce life. They are:

1. The servant's humble **towel**.
2. The revealing, simple **meal**.
3. The cruel, public **cross**.
4. The open, powerful **tomb**.
5. The telling, Gospel **fish**.

1. **The servant's humble towel.** (John 13)

Jesus served as a slave and then said to do likewise. His is our example to be followed. Christ tells us to love sacrificially and humbly serve each other.

2. **The revealing, simple meal.** (Luke 22:14-20)

Jesus used the bread and the wine to show what He was about to do - break His body and give His blood on the cross for us all!

Christ tells us to remember and strengthen each other in Him.

3. **The cruel, public cross.** (Matthew 16:21-28; John 18 & 19)

Jesus was willing to suffer and die on the cross to make forgiveness, healing and restoration possible for all. He died so we could live!

Christ asks us to pick up our cross and follow Him.

4. **The open, powerful tomb.** (John 20)

Jesus' resurrection proves to us that He is indeed the Savior of the world, conquering sin, death and the enemy.

Christ gives this evidence to us to know and prove who He is. He came as the promised Messiah and is the coming King of kings and Lord of lords. The open tomb revealed Christ's power, His victory and sealed all the prophecies of His first coming. It gives us sure hope and is the basis to know that all the prophecies of His second coming will also be fulfilled - soon!

5. **The telling, Gospel fish.** (John 3:14-18; 8:1-11; 21:1-17; Titus 3:3-7; Hebrews 1:1-3)

When the religious leaders wanted to trap Jesus, all He did was write in the sand. What did He write that made every one of them walk away, knowing that they were not without sin and in need of forgiveness? Later Christ's followers used a sign of a fish in the sand to find out if the other person was a believer (Christian) or to explain the Gospel. It was one of the first ways to share who Christ is and all He's done for us. Do you know?

Will you take to heart the meaning of these symbols and live accordingly?

As we remember all Jesus did on the cross for us, and look to Christ's coming in power, will we proclaim Him, our Savior and Lord, and bring many to Him?

May this help you to have the most meaningful Passover / Easter, as you think about Christ's death and resurrection. If you need more answers, please come and talk. If you do not know yet that your sins are forgiven and that you for sure are on the road of grace and going to Heaven, then just come over. I'll be glad to explain. Jesus Christ, the resurrected One, lives right now and desires to come into your life. Only He can change you completely, giving forgiveness, a new start, real life and true hope. He alone can fill your heart with the greatest love and joy you've ever experienced. Thank Christ Jesus for all He's done for you, receive Him into your life and follow Him all the way.

In Christ's love and grace,

*Dirk W L*

**10 Aviv =  
Palm Sunday.**

All the families were to select a perfect lamb that would be their sacrifice. They were to keep it in the home for 4 days.

God selected His Passover Lamb, Christ Jesus, His Son and our Savior.

How would God present Him? As the humble Servant riding into Jerusalem on a donkey. Jesus was the Father's choice of the "Perfect Lamb" that would take away all our sins - once and for all! Hallelujah!

**11 & 12 Aviv  
Monday Tuesday**

[Important Note: To understand the events, time and days, it is key to remember that the Jewish month, **Aviv or Nisan**, falls on our months, **March/April**.

**For the Jews a new day started at Sunset.]**

**13 Aviv Wednesday**

At Sunset the next day starts. Jesus has the last supper with His disciples.

Later that night they go to the mount of Olives and in the middle of the night Jesus is taken prisoner. 6 mock trials follow and they pronounce their judgment of death by crucifixion.

**14 Aviv Thursday  
Day of Preparation**

9 am Jesus is crucified.

3 pm Jesus gives up His spirit and dies.

The next hours Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus anoint Jesus' body with 100 pounds of myrrh and aloes. They must bury him before sundown, when the special Sabbath begins.

This is thus the: 1st day & night that Jesus is in the grave.

**15 Aviv Friday  
Feast of Unleavened Bread**

Jews were not to work on this day as it is a special Sabbath.

**16 Aviv Saturday  
Regular Sabbath**

**17 Aviv Sunday  
Feast of First Fruits**

Sometime after sundown, in the middle of the night or early in the morning, Jesus rose from the dead. He had been in the grave 3 days and 3 nights (& in that order), just as He had said. Matthew 12:40

The women are the first to discover that Christ is risen; then Peter and John. After that all the disciples and many others have time with the Risen Lord Jesus.

Christ is risen!  
He is risen indeed!  
Hallelujah!

Ex.12: 2-7,16-18

Daniel 9

Lev. 23:6,7 The special Sabbath.

Mat. 12:38-40

Dear reader, We have the privilege to look back on this amazing, historic, life-changing week. All the prophecies concerning Christ's first coming were fulfilled. But what about the future? Compare the 2 times that Jesus comes riding in. The first time was as the humble servant on a donkey, ready to be sacrificed for the sins of the world. The second time is in Revelation 19 when he comes as the King of kings and Lord of lords, the Powerful One that comes to judge, riding on a horse. Wow, what a contrast. If you know the Lord Jesus, you do not need to fear Christ's second coming. Fact is, you will then be riding with Him. So if you don't know Him, give your life to Jesus now and ask Him into your heart to be your Savior and Lord. Revelation 3:20