

# Mark 14:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and brake it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body.

## Analysis

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During the Last Supper, Jesus says: 'Take, eat: this is my body.' This institutes the Lord's Supper, central Christian sacrament. 'This is' (Greek *touto estin*) has sparked theological debate. Roman Catholics hold transubstantiation (bread becomes Christ's literal body); Lutherans consubstantiation (Christ's body present 'in, with, under' bread); Reformed view it as symbolic memorial and spiritual presence—Christ is spiritually present and received by faith, but bread remains bread. Jesus couldn't mean literal since He was physically present holding bread. The command 'take, eat' signifies believers' participation in Christ's benefits through faith. Bread represents His body 'broken' (given in death) for us. The Supper proclaims Christ's death (1 Corinthians 11:26), provides covenant renewal, and anticipates the Messianic banquet. It's means of grace, nourishing believers spiritually.

## Historical Context

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Context is Passover meal commemorating Israel's exodus from Egypt (Exodus 12). Jesus transforms Passover elements into new covenant signs. The unleavened bread represented affliction in Egypt; Jesus reinterprets it as His body. The cup (14:23-24) represented deliverance; Jesus identifies it as His blood establishing new covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34). This occurred in an upper room (14:15) in Jerusalem during Passover week, just before arrest. The disciples didn't understand this radical reinterpretation until after resurrection. Early church continued the practice (Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 11:17-34), though debates arose

about mode and meaning. Paul's teaching (1 Corinthians 11:23-26) echoes Mark's account, showing apostolic tradition. The Supper unites believers across time with Christ and each other.

## Related Passages

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**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. Do you approach the Lord's Supper as mere ritual or as means of grace nourishing your faith?
2. How does regularly 'proclaiming the Lord's death' keep the gospel central to your Christian life?

## Interlinear Text

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καὶ ἐσθιόντων αὐτοῖς Λάβετε ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἄρτον

**And** **did eat** **as they** **Take** **G3588** **Jesus** **bread**

G2532 G2068 G846 G2983 G2424 G740

εὐλογήσας ἔκλασεν καὶ ἔδωκεν αὐτοῖς καὶ εἶπεν

**and blessed** **and brake** **And** **gave** **as they** **And** **said**

G2127 G2806 G2532 G1325 G846 G2532 G2036

Λάβετε φάγετε· τοῦτό ἐστιν τὸ σῶμά μου

**Take** **eat** **this** **is** **G3588** **body** **my**

G2983 G5315 G5124 G2076 G4983 G3450

## Additional Cross-References

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**Mark 14:24** (Parallel theme): And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many.

**Luke 24:30** (Blessing): And it came to pass, as he sat at meat with them, he took bread, and blessed it, and brake, and gave to them.

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