

Matthew 26:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.

Analysis

The disciples did as Jesus had appointed them (ἐποίησαν οἱ μαθηταὶ ὡς συνέταξεν αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς, epoīesan hoi mathētai hōs synetaxen autois ho Iēsous) —The verb syntassō means 'to arrange, command, prescribe.' Their obedience mirrors Israel's response to Passover instructions in Exodus 12:28: **as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.**

They made ready the passover—This required purchasing an unblemished lamb, having it slaughtered at the Temple, roasting it whole, preparing unleavened bread (matzah), bitter herbs (maror), charoset (fruit paste), and four cups of wine. The preparation foreshadows the disciples' future role in preparing hearts for the true Passover Lamb's sacrifice.

Historical Context

Passover preparation was elaborate and time-consuming. The lamb had to be inspected for defects (picturing Christ's sinless perfection), slaughtered between 3-5 PM on Nisan 14, and roasted whole without breaking bones (fulfilled in John 19:36). The meal followed strict liturgical order called the Haggadah, recounting the Exodus story.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How does careful obedience to Christ's instructions prepare us for spiritual revelation?
2. What parallels exist between preparing the Passover lamb and Christ's examination before crucifixion?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἐποίησαν οἱ μαθηταὶ ὡς συνέταξεν αὐτοῖς ὁ
And did G3588 the disciples as had appointed them G3588
G2532 G4160 G3101 G5613 G4929 G846

Ἰησοῦς καὶ ἤτοιμασαν τὸ πάσχα
Jesus And they made ready G3588 the passover
G2424 G2532 G2090 G3957