

Discussion Questions for Video 3: Old Testament Background for the Eucharist

1. How familiar were you with the Old Testament Passover? What did you newly learn from this video about the Passover; the first Passover as it occurred, and then the annual celebration of it in the Old Testament period?
2. This video points out that God gave the instructions for the Memorial of the Passover (the Ritual) before the Passover occurred. What does that suggest to you about God's intention? What does that suggest to you about the Last Supper and Jesus' intentions?
3. The first Passover was the 10th plague: The passing over of the 'angel of death' or other translations 'destroyer'. As a modern person how do you respond to reading this? How do you reconcile an act of God acting to kill the first born of every Egyptian family? Similarly, how do you struggle with other places in Old Testament where we read what seems like God commanding His people to kill? Does a loving God really do these things?
4. This video shows a parallel between the Eucharist and the Mana the Israelites received in the desert during their 40 years journey. Have you made that association before? Does that help you see the Eucharist differently? How so?
5. Were you aware of Moses's ceremony using blood to ratify the covenant with God's people? What new light does this shed on what Jesus did at the last supper, and on calvary, and what the Eucharist is? Do you see a connection between Moses and Jesus?
6. Were you aware of the Bread of Presence sacrificed by the Priests of the old covenant every Sabbath? Why do you think Jesus took the Bread at the Last Supper to say, "This is my body" and not the lamb that was sacrificed? If we see the Eucharist as a New Bread of Presence, does that give you new insights about what the Eucharist is? Does that help you enter into the celebration of the Mass and receiving of the Eucharist more deeply?
7. A traditional way of reading the Old Testament is to see in it many "Types" (or patterns, or molds) of what was to come in the New Testament, in Jesus. Have you ever been aware of this type of teaching? E.g. Mana is a type of the Eucharist. Moses was a type of Christ. Can you identify more types in the Old Testament? (That is, can you identify more things from the Old Testament that were foreshadowing New Testament realities to come?)