



[Hebrews 9:19-26](#)

(19) For when Moses had spoken every precept to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves and of goats, with water, and scarlet wool, and hyssop, and sprinkled both the book, and all the people, (20) Saying, This is the blood of the testament which God hath enjoined unto you. (21) Moreover he sprinkled with blood both the tabernacle, and all the vessels of the ministry. (22) And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. (23) It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. (24) For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us: (25) Nor yet that he should offer himself often, as the high priest entereth into the holy place every year with blood of others; (26) For then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

King James Version

How did [Jesus](#) fulfill the [Passover](#) requirements? He ate the Passover with His disciples at the beginning of the 14th day of the first month. While they probably did eat roasted lamb with bitter herbs, what Jesus emphasized for His disciples was the bread and the wine. Through washing His disciples' feet ([John 13:2-17](#)), He set the example of humble service, as well as forgiving others, because cleansing is symbolic of forgiveness. Most importantly, His sinless blood was shed on Passover day.

*Yet, parts of the original Passover instructions were *not* fulfilled in their letter! Consider that He and His disciples left the house before morning, which the Israelites were forbidden to do ([Exodus 12:22](#)). Jesus was our*

Passover Lamb, yet He was *crucified* rather than being *roasted* in fire ([Exodus 12:8](#)). His remains were not burned, even though that, too, is specified. His blood was not caught in a basin, nor smeared on any doorpost (see verse 7). And, as we know, He was not killed between sunset and dark at the beginning of the 14th day.

So did Jesus fulfill the Passover? We know He *absolutely did*, and our Father was satisfied. But He fulfilled it according to requirements that were *different* from what He gave to a carnal people.

Jesus set the example for us of *when* and *how* to keep it. It was during the night of the 14th when He said to partake of the [bread and wine](#) “in remembrance of Me.” In reflecting on that night, Paul instructs the Corinthians to “proclaim the Lord's death till He comes” ([I Corinthians 11:26](#)). However, the timing of His death, which did not occur until the following afternoon, was about *far more* than just being the Passover Lamb—as pivotal as it was.

The death of the Lamb was planned from the foundation of [the world](#) ([Revelation 13:8](#)). The timing was *not* an afterthought—it was deliberate, drawing our attention to something momentous. Jesus only died once to fulfill *all* the sacrificial requirements, including those for the Passover, the [Day of Atonement](#) and the other [holy days](#) offerings, the [Sabbath](#), the New Moon—His one sacrifice satisfied it all. Yet, the date and time He was crucified do not correspond with any holy day, nor with any sacrifice that [God](#) commanded Israel to make! Rather, it corresponded with a much earlier event: God's covenant with Abraham.

— David C. Grabbe

To learn more, see:

[Why Was Jesus Not Crucified as Passover Began? \(Part One\)](#)

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