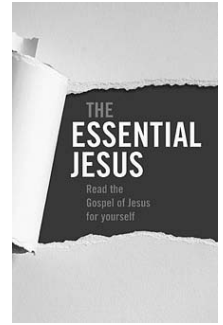




ESSENTIAL JESUS

Bible Study 34

Archbishop Peter Jensen



STEP 1: READING

Read Luke chapter 22, verses 1-38.

STEP 2: REFLECTION

When is this kingdom of God to be inaugurated? Exodus records the rescue of Israel from slavery to the Egyptians. This rescue, particularly the saving of the first-born of each family through an animal-sacrifice, was commemorated by the Passover meal. Israel also entered into a covenant-agreement with the Lord. At Passover, Jesus vows not to eat or drink again until he has inaugurated the kingdom of God. Now there is going to be an even greater rescue, the rescue of the world from sin and guilt. There will be a new covenant relationship set up, a covenant 'in his blood'. His sacrificial death starts the kingdom. Eating with him at the table are disciples still selfishly quarrelling about precedence, Peter who is going to abandon him, and Judas, the traitor. The aloneness of Jesus and the mystification of his disciples persists. His perfect innocence contrasts with human sin.

STEP 3: DISCUSSION

1 What are the similarities and differences between the rescue of the slaves as recorded in the Book of Exodus and the rescue by Jesus?

.....

.....

2 What warnings do we take from Judas and Peter?

.....

.....

3 What is a 'covenant'? Are Christian believers in a covenant relationship with God?

.....

.....

4 Why is the death of Jesus called a sacrifice?

.....

.....

.....