



The Last Supper

Luke 22:7-23

Squire Gus marched proudly back and forth in front of the courtyard gates. Since being promoted to Senior Knight in Training he felt a new responsibility to his job and a stronger commitment to his King. His muscles were tense. His eyes scanned the courtyard. And his ears...his ears thought they heard something out of place. There was a strange noise coming from overhead as though someone was walking on the parapet.

"Halt! Who goes there?" Gus shouted to the air. He heard only silence. Once again he began to march softly back and forth. Again he thought he heard footsteps that were not his own.

"Knock, Knock," called Squire Gus.

"Who's there?" a familiar voice replied.

"Robespierre," replied Gus.

"I am Robespierre!" shouted the Frenchman as he jumped to his feet.

"Aha! I've got you!" said Gus.

"Oh no," said Robespierre, "I fall for that one every time!"

"Robespierre, what are you doing up there? By the authority of my new position as Senior Knight in Training! I command you to come down here at once!"

"No," Robespierre pouted, "You are going to chase me! Besides, I am here in an official capacity and I have a gift for you the ambassador of France. I will come down and bring it to you if you promise not to chase me?"

Gus thought for a long moment and then said, "All right, Robespierre, I will trust you this one time...truce! I promise on my honor as a Knight in Training!"

Robespierre climbed down and handed Gus a beautiful wooden box. Carved across the top were the words: Remember Me. Gus carefully opened the lid to reveal a square wafer, a small bottle of liquid and a silver chalice. Prince Loves-a-lot turned the box over and saw a white label with gold writing.

"Oh, it reminds me of the Last Supper," Gus smiled.

"Do you mean we will never eat again?!" Robespierre exclaimed.

"Oh no, it's not our last supper ever. It was the Lord's Last Supper... we celebrate it with communion, you know, a special meal to help us remember Jesus," Gus explained.

"It is only a piece of bread and some juice," said Robespierre. "That doesn't sound like a very filling meal!"

"It's not meant to fill up our stomachs; it's meant to remind us of the way Jesus loves us." Gus replied. "It is a beautiful story. You must hear it. I shall get out the Bible!" He removed the Bible from its window. "Now, in this report, Jesus and His followers went to an upper room to celebrate the Passover feast."

"Oh, I love a good feast!" cried Robespierre. "Did they have croissants or Crepes Suzette?"

"That's not usually served at the Passover meal," said Gus.

"If I was there, I would have at least brought French fries!" Robespierre replied.

"It wasn't that kind of feast," said Gus. "This meal was important to Jesus because it was the last time He would eat with His friends before He would suffer and die."

"Qu'est-ce que c'est? Feasts are supposed to be big, happy parties! Now, are you telling me Jesus was going to die?" asked Robespierre.

"That's why this meal had special meaning! Jesus knew His death would pay for all our wrongs. So He gave up His life and He gave us this communion meal to help us remember Him." Gus turned to Luke 22 in the Bible and read. "And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is My body given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' In the same way, after the supper He took the cup saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you.'"

"A new covenant?! What's a covenant?" asked Robespierre.

"It's kind of like a promise. The old covenant said if we obeyed every rule, we'd belong to God."

"Every rule?" Robespierre cried. "But that's impossible! No one can obey every rule!"

Gus nodded in agreement. "No one... except Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life. He obeyed every rule and then He sacrificed himself on the cross so we could enter heaven.

"This Jesus, He sounds like an amazing man," said Robespierre.

"He is amazing," Gus replied. "In the new covenant, Jesus promised if we follow Him, we'll live forever close to God."

"That sounds like quite a promise!" said Robespierre.

"It is a great promise. That's why we remember Him with this meal. You could share it too...if you choose to follow Him."

Robespierre shook his head, "Oh...I don't think I am ready to make that kind of covenant. I've still got a lot of sins in my life that I am not quite ready to say goodbye to, but thank you for the invitation. Enjoy your crackers and juice, mon ami."

With that, Robespierre bowed low and walked out of the Garden gate and continued down the wooded path. Gus watched for a long time until Robespierre disappeared over the horizon. Robespierre is right, he thought to himself. Gus knew we should never take communion unless we are truly committed to following the King. Maybe someday Robespierre would be ready to follow the Jesus and then he would know the truth that "Serving the King is the noblest thing!"