

# CHRIST

## OUR PASSOVER

**Thus saith the Lord:**

**“WHEN I SEE THE BLOOD, I WILL PASSOVER YOU”**

– Exodus 12:13

These were sweet words to everyone gathering under the blood of the Lamb. Especially when you think of all the events that led to the final plague bringing deliverance to the Hebrews and judgment to those not under that blood. Imagine what it must have been like to be alive when Moses and Aaron walked out of the wilderness to confront Pharaoh. I’m sure it stirred a lot of emotion. Moses was born a Hebrew but raised in the home of Pharaoh. He had the adopted right to the throne. But,

“By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt” — Hebrews 11:24-26.

The news of Moses’ return to Egypt must have swept through the land. The demand of God to “Let My people go” must have sounded like a thunder bolt. Then, for the next ten months the

nation witnessed a series of amazing miracles beginning with God turning Moses’ rod into a serpent; the Nile waters turning to blood; frogs and then lice covering the land. Following those discomfoting plagues were flies swarming only the Egyptian homes, disease striking their livestock, boils afflicting both the Egyptians and their beasts, hail and fire devastating their fields, locust consuming their foliage and crops and then darkness covering the land. It was a darkness so thick that they could not see their hands when they held them in front of their face. This



darkness lasted three days, but the Israelites had light in their dwelling.

The nation must have been filled with tremendous awe and fear. These nine plagues convinced the Hebrews that Jehovah was their God and at the same time these plagues terrified the Egyptians. The Lord proved that He is able to spare Israel, even in the midst of tribulation.

Then the Lord said He would bring a final plague on Egypt. In this plague all the firstborn would die, both of man and beast.

“For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.” – Exodus 12:12

“And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that *is* behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts. – Exodus 11:5

Imagine hearing this message. It must have struck home in every heart.

There was no doubt that God would do just as he said. I am sure everyone was very interested in how to survive this coming plague of death.

When Moses exclaimed in Exodus 12:13

“And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you*, when I smite the land of Egypt.”

After hearing this, they must have breathed a sigh of relief. There was a way out!

In this plague, a twofold sign is given: A sign of blood, and a sign of feast. In it, God established an eternal type. It is a hope that is graphically memorialized in the Passover.

“When he shall see the blood, he will pass over you” — Exodus 12:13.

### **CHRIST IS OUR PASSOVER**

“For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us” — 1 Corinthians 5:7.

In this lesson, we will find three basic truths regarding our LORD. First, Christ satisfies God’s wrath. Second, He shelters whoever is under His blood and third, He secures our salvation forever.

We will discover that the Exodus 12 passage points to Jesus Christ as our Passover Lamb. He alone provides the basis for true peace.

“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!” — John 1:29.



**1. In what ways does Passover portray salvation? What lessons can we learn from the death of the firstborn? — Exodus 12:6-7, 13**

**ANSWER:**

- a. No one was exempt on the basis of position, nationality, works, or religion. All men were subject to the Angel of Death that was to pass over the land. Every Israeli family was subject to this plague.
- b. God can distinguish between all things, including men, and animals.
- c. He can distinguish between those who are obedient and disobedient.
- d. He knows where we are. He knows who is under the blood of the Lamb or not.
- e. (If He can do the above,) He can also distinguish between the thoughts and the intents of the heart.

God could have wiped out every man and beast, but even greater than destroying all creatures, God demonstrated His extraordinary power by redeeming all those under the blood of the lamb. However, for those who did not obey, God selectively destroyed their firstborn.

He said,

“When I see the blood, I will pass over you.” – Ex. 12:13

Exodus 12:6-7 “And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. <sup>7</sup> And they shall take of the blood, and strike *it* on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.”

Peace was brought to the homes of the Jew or Egyptian that painted the blood on the two side-posts and upper door post.

**2. Discuss how the following New Testament passages relate to the Passover. — 1 Corinthians 5:7; Colossians 1:20; Romans 5:1; Ephesians 2:13**

**ANSWER:**

- a. Colossians 1:20 — “And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.”
- b. Romans 5:1 — “Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”
- c. Ephesians 2:13 — “But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.”

- d. 1 Corinthians 5:7 — “Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us.”
- e. In Christ we find true peace. He is our Passover Lamb, sacrificed for us, satisfying the wrath of God.
  - 1) Just as the Passover Lamb’s blood on the doorpost satisfied God’s wrath, so does the blood sacrifice of Jesus satisfy God’s wrath.
  - 2) Placing the blood of the Lamb on the doorpost and staying under the blood demonstrated faith in God. This was sufficient for the death angel to pass by. It is the same today. When we place our faith in Christ’s person and work on the cross we are demonstrating our faith in God’s ability to redeem us.

The Blood of the Lamb Satisfies God’s Wrath.

- 3. How can the Passover account encourage someone who is insecure in their faith? —** Hebrews 7:25; Philippians 1:6; Romans 5:9-10.

**ANSWER:**

I am not sure that everyone was confident that they were safe under their bloodstained homes. Yes, by faith they gathered under the blood, but were they confident that death would pass them by?

No doubt a few in fear were huddled in a corner. But it did not matter how they felt. It did not matter how worthy or unworthy they may have been. If they were under the blood, death passed them by.

- a. Their deliverance was **not based on worthiness**. It was their faith in the blood.
- b. It is a clear reminder that, **no one on earth is worthy of salvation**, yet it is faith in the blood of the Lamb that saves, not any personal merit.
- c. The only condition was to be under the blood. It was never a matter of personal worthiness.

**Therefore, it is the blood of the Lamb that shelters.**

- d. It was not the Hebrews hoping, praying or doing good works that saved them. The only thing that saved them was going under the blood. In doing so, they were not partly saved, nor were they partly exposed to judgment, they were wholly and completely saved.

It was not the Hebrews good thoughts, feelings or experiences about the blood of the Lamb that brought them rest. God DID NOT say, “**When you see** the blood, I will pass over you.” Nor was it the depth of their knowledge or the value they ascribed to themselves that saved. What brought the deliverance and peace was the fact that God’s eyes saw the blood and He knew the worth of the blood and He passed over it.

It did not matter if they huddled in the corner of the house or even doubted God's mercy. The only thing that mattered was the blood on the doorpost and the people having enough faith to be inside under the blood.

**Insights:**

- e. So it is today. The blood of Jesus Christ brings peace and shelters all who are under His blood.
  - 1) Hebrews 9:12 – “Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption *for us*.”
  - 2) Hebrews 7:25 – “Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.”
  - 3) Philippians 1:6 — Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:
  - 4) Romans 5:9-10 — “Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.”

Jesus' Blood Satisfied God's Wrath

Jesus' Blood Shelters Whoever Comes Under His Blood by Faith

- 4. How does the Passover point to the finished work of Christ? — John 17:4; Hebrews 7:27; 10:10.**

**ANSWER:**

- a. The Israelites had to place the blood on the doorpost and gather inside their dwellings once. Then the angel past over them. There was never at time afterwards for the people to apply the blood to their doorposts. This was only done once. This signifies that the work was complete.
- b. Every memorial meal afterwards spoke of the event of the blood on the door, but they never again had to place the blood on their doorposts to protect them from death. It was a finished work.

**Insight:**

- a. Passover points to the finished work of Christ. Jesus said, “I have finished the work which thou gavest Me to do” – John 17:4. When on the cross Jesus said, “It is finished.” There is no other work needed. It is a once and for all work. The blood was applied once and is not ever needed to be reapplied. Those under the blood are at peace, God's wrath is satisfied and they are secure.

- 1) **Hebrews 10:10** – “By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all*.”
- 2) **Hebrews 7:27** – “Who needeth not daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifice, first for his own sins, and then for the people’s: for this he did once, when he offered up himself.”

b. The atonement of Christ is our grounds for peace because: It satisfied God’s wrath. It sheltered us from His wrath and it secures us forever. As it was for the Israelis under the blood of the Passover Lamb, “When God saw the blood, He passed over the house.” So, it is fulfilled for those in Christ. When God sees that we placed our faith in the finished work of Christ, we are declared righteous and death is swallowed up in victory. Christ’s shed blood is the grounds of our peace with God.

**5. Israel was to feast on their lamb. In what ways are we to feast on our Passover Lamb?**  
— Ex. 12:9-10; John 6:51 & 53-58

**ANSWER:**

a. We are to feast on Christ in Faith – Ex. 12:9-10

“Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast *with* fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof. <sup>10</sup> And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall burn with fire.”

b. Most Christians end with just being under the blood, yet they fail to make Jesus the source and center of their feast. Remember, the Hebrews were told to feast on their passover lamb and leave nothing behind.

c. Note what Jesus said in John 6:51 & 53-58:

“I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

“Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>55</sup> For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. <sup>56</sup> He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. <sup>57</sup> As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. <sup>58</sup> This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.”

We are to spiritually feast on our Lord daily for strength. We feast on Him in faith. He is the object of our unity.

**6. The Israelites were to feast on unleavened bread for seven days. What is the New Testament application for us? — Exodus 12:8, 19; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 5:7-8; 6:19-20**

**ANSWER:**

- a. We are to feast on Christ in Purity – Ex. 12:8.

The Israelites were instructed to “eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, **and unleavened bread**; *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it.”

- b. Unleavened bread is a symbol of purity.

I Cor. 5:7-8 – “Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: <sup>8</sup> Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.”

- c. Israel was to eat the unleavened bread for seven days. It was not for deliverance, because they were already delivered. Rather it was for strength, and it was a reminder to be pure. Today we are to put away sin in our lives because we are saved and indwelt with a new nature.

1 Cor. 3:16 – “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and *that* the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

1 Cor. 6:19-20 – “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

- d. Notice **Exodus 12:19**:

“Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.”

To eat leaven bread during the feast cut one off from the nation. They would be cut off from fellowshiping in the assembly. The idea behind this is as follows. To sin breaks fellowship. Sin cuts off fellowship with God and man. Therefore, not keeping the feast of unleavened bread creates a fellowship problem and produces spiritual barrenness. When we fail to cultivate holiness, we become spiritually dry and barren.

**7. What was the purpose of eating bitter herbs along with the unleavened bread? — Exodus 12:8**

**ANSWER:**

**We are to feast in remembrance.**

- a. Along with the Lamb and unleavened bread they were to eat bitter herbs. It was a reminder of their bitter suffering in slavery. It is much like the suffering and bondage that comes with sin. For this reason Christ, the Passover Lamb suffered and died for us.

Isaiah 53:5 “But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.”

- b. In summary: The bitter herbs are a reminder of the bitterness of slavery. Today they are a reminder of the bitterness that comes when enslaved to sin.

**8. Why were the Israelites instructed to stand with shoes on, fully dressed with staffs in their hands when eating their passover lamb? Also, who could participate in the Passover?**

**ANSWER:**

**a. Ex. 12:11**

“And thus shall ye eat it; *with* your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it *is* the LORD’S passover.”

It represented their readiness to follow and to serve. It was a picture of their readiness to head to the Promised Land.

**b. Exodus 12:43 & 48**

“And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This *is* the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof: And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.”

No stranger could take part in the Passover unless he was circumcised – To be circumcised was a sign of the covenant – a sign that one was a child of God. Yet it is not the outward act that makes a person a child of God, it is the circumcision made without hands

Col 2:11 “In whom also ye are circumcised with the **circumcision made without hands**, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ”

This occurs when one places themselves under the blood of the cross.

- c. The Lamb of God is our grounds for peace. Christ satisfied God’s wrath. He shelters us and He secures us forever. Because of this, He is the center and object of the feast and is the Source of our feast. We are to feed on Him in faith, purity and praise. Our keeping the feast shows our readiness to follow, serve and enter the Promised Land.