

## **EXODUS 12:1-28 INSTITUTION OF THE PASSOVER**

After the announcement of the 10th plague, the Lord gives directions on how that was to be carried out. This is where the Lord instituted the Passover which is a festival that has been celebrated for 3500 years. God used this occasion to free the Israelites and demonstrate the redemption price that was to be paid by the blood of the lamb. Of course it meant the death of the first born of all the Egyptians while the application of the blood by the Israelites over their doorposts saved them from death. There was certainly a distinction made here between God's chosen people and the Egyptians who were judged for their idolatry and wickedness. The death angel passed over the Israelites and brought no death to them. It is God's grace and their obedience that is to be seen here. God told them to choose a lamb, kill it, and then eat it with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. All of these elements play a key role in typifying the ultimate Lamb and the redemption story.

### **1. THE LAMB WAS CHOSEN AND EXAMINED (VV 1-6)**

#### **A. THE LORD'S DIRECTIONS**

As always God and His word is the focal point. All He expects is for Moses to speak His word and the people to be obedient. This may seem so hum to many of us who are all too familiar with this story, but just imagine what the people thought when they first heard these instructions. They had never done anything like this before. They didn't roast lambs or smear blood over the doorposts. After being in Egypt 400 years, they were just going to get up and leave. This was all new to them. God's seemingly bizarre instructions required one thing's "obedience. They didn't have to understand why, but just do it.

#### **B. THE RELIGIOUS NEW YEAR**

From this time forward the Hebrew calendar would be forever changed. This would now be their New Years Day, as far as the religious calendar is concerned. 10TH of Nisan was the time this was going to be perpetually

celebrated, so that it would not be forgotten that God delivered His people. The lamb was to be picked on the 10th and would be watched carefully for four days. The lamb had to meet all the requirements. It typified Christ who entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, was examined by the religious leaders for four days, and then was killed.

#### C. LAMB

The lamb is one of the major themes of the Bible. Isaac's question was, where is the lamb? Gen 22:7 John the Baptist said , Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. John 1:29

Philip Acts 8:32 Isa 53:-8 Paul 1 Cor 5:7

Peter 1 Pet 1:18-20 John Rev 5:5-6

#### D. PERFECT

There were not to be any defects on the lamb. They had to be perfect. The perfection and innocence typifies Christ.

Jesus knew no sin. He was perfect, without spot or blemish.

2 Cor 5:21 1 Pet 2:22 1 John 3:5

#### E. EXAMINED FROM THE 10TH TO THE 14TH

In His final week Jesus was interrogated and questioned and then put on trial.

### 2. THE LAMB WAS TO BE KILLED (VV 7-11)

#### A. WHOLE ASSEMBLY TO KILL LAMB AT TWILIGHT

The time of the day is even given to them to kill the lamb.

Twilight would be from about 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

We all know that was when Jesus died on the cross. It was 3:00 when He died and He was put in the tomb before dark.

Luke 23:44-46

#### B. DEATH OF THE LAMB

The perfect lamb was to take the place of the people. The lamb was a substitute for the one who was to sacrifice him.

The substitutionary atonement is a very core doctrine of the Bible. All throughout the OT this doctrine is taught. Because of man's sin and his unrighteousness, there had to be something take his place. In this case it is a lamb. God demands that there be a penal, substitutionary atonement. There had to be punishment because of the debt of sin. Because it could not

be paid for by sinful man, there had to be somebody take his place. The atonement was the covering of sin. This was also propitiatory, in that it satisfied the justice of God.

Christ was to be the fulfillment of the sacrifices of the OT.

He is our substitute who took on our sin and paid for it.

Substitution "Isa 53:4-6 Matthew 20:28, 26:28 Eph 1:7

1 Tim 2:5-6 1 Pet 2:24

#### C. BLOOD TO BE APPLIED

To be effective the blood had to be applied. It had to be put on the doorposts for the Lord to pass over them. It was not enough to believe that Christ was sacrificed for us. We must appropriate that sacrifice for ourselves. The Holy Spirit applies the blood to our lives. Faith in the blood of the Savior justifies us.

Lev 17:11/ Heb 9:22 Ex 12:13, 24:1-8 Lev 14:4

#### D. THE LAMB, UNLEAVENED BREAD, BITTER HERBS

Roasted no bones broken Jn 19:31-37, Ps 34:20

If they would have boiled the lamb, they would have had to break the bones to get it in the pot. To roast it, there would have been no need to break the bones. This certainly typified Christ when He was on the cross, His bones were not broken. Unleavened---Leaven usually signifies sin and corruption. When there is no yeast in the dough it will not rise It stays flat.

Exodus 12 :39 1 Cor 4:18-5:2 Mark 16:6-12

Mark 8:15 Gal 5:1-9 Luke 12:1 1 Cor 5:6-8

Bitterness Ex 1:14 The bitter herbs signify the bitter slavery days in Egypt.

#### E. EAT IN HASTE

They were to be ready to travel at any moment. God was about to make history.

Because they had to get out of Egypt quickly that night, there was no time for the leaven to rise. Therefore they had the flat unleavened bread.

### 3. GOD PASSING OVER (VV 12-13)

#### A. GRACE TO ISRAEL

God gave them the directions of how to keep their first born alive. By simply obeying those directions, they avoided the grief and death that invaded the Egyptians. God is gracious to

give revelation of Himself and His commands to His chosen for that is life. It pleased God that He would lavish His grace on these people who had been in bondage.

#### B. JUDGMENT ON EGYPT

God held back His grace from the Egyptians. He gave them no such directions as He did the Israelites. He owed them nothing and so it was just that He did not give them grace. He didn't even owe the Israelites anything, but His plan and His grace is what saved them.

### 4. MEMORIAL (VV 14-28)

#### A. EVERLASTING

The Passover was also a memorial to be celebrated to keep alive the story of the exodus. They were to teach their children generation after generation, the salvation of the Lord and that they were members of God's chosen nation. To this day, the Passover is still celebrated. This had future generations in mind.

#### B. CLEANING OUT THE LEAVEN

#### C. HOLY CONVOCATION

#### D. FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

This whole celebration would be a week long event. It was to be an extended festival.

#### E. MOSES SPEAKS TO ELDERS

#### F. REMINDER

In the law that was later given to them, they were to teach the children. In every opportunity they would get about the things of the Lord.

DEUT 6:1-15

What we should notice the most in this story is worship of God and obedience to Him. Worship was followed up by obedience. These are the ultimate goals of deliverance. Out of God revelation comes worship and obedience. It is not enough to recognize who Yahweh is, or even to accept His gifts. To truly know Him is to worship Him and obey Him out of joy.

#### THE SEDER