The Cross Lesson 7 "Christ our Passover"

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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:* Exodus 12 is a literal, accurate, historic record of how God by His power delivered the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage. They had been slaves for 430 years, and God brought them out in one night. It prefigures what God would do for every sinner that would believe His word. Look very carefully what God will show us in this chapter.

Exodus 12:1-4 And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you. See the capital letters LORD? That is Jehovah -The Lord God Almighty! He is revealing to man the way of salvation. Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb. God said Exodus 12:5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: God wanted the best. He wanted a male of the first year, a young lamb. It had to have a perfect coat, with no spots or blemishes. God did not ask for a camel, a cow, or a chicken. God said, A young, male lamb. A perfect one, the best of the flock. This is a great picture of what God wants from us. He wants exactly what He said. He has no use for our interpretation as to what He said. (We will discuss this further in the lesson). Exodus 12:6 And ve 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.

God said He wanted an unblemished lamb, and the only one is the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible says in John18:38b *I find in him no fault at all*. no spots Hebrews 4:15b *yet without sin*, No blemishes. He pleased the Father John 8:29 *And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him*. The Holy Spirit said of Him, Hebrews 7:26 *For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;* According to God, my best is not good enough. Isaiah 64:6 Only the Lord Jesus Christ will God accept.

Three things we need to note here:

• The living lamb couldn't deliver them.

- The lamb had to die.
- The lambs had to be slaughtered, and blood had to be shed.

People say Jesus was a good teacher, a good man, and that He had a good philosophy, none of which can save anyone. Jesus Christ went to a cross, suffered, bled, and died to pay for our sins. It's not the life of the Lamb that delivers, it's the death of the Lamb. The Bible says 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures: That is the gospel.

The day, the month, the hour the Passover lamb was slain is the same as when the Lord Jesus Christ was crucified on that cross. Roman soldiers did not kill him, nor did the Jews, nor did Pilate. He laid down His Life for us. Only Jesus had power to lay it down and to take it up again. John 10:18a No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. Pilate was willing to let him go, but the whole house of Israel cried, "Crucify him Crucify him. Away with this man." Why? Because that is exactly what God prophesied and foretold in Exodus chapter number 12. The whole congregation of Israel shall put that lamb to death. Exodus 12:7-10 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. And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 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. 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. The Lord Jesus Christ went to that cross. They pierced His hands and feet with nails; they pierced His sacred brow with a crown of thorns: they tore His back open with a whip; they tore His beard out by the roots. He was bleeding from His face. He was bleeding from His mouth from being struck by the soldiers. That is how offensive my sin is to God. That is how serious your sin, my sin is in the eyes of God.

As soon as He gave up the ghost they came, and took His body down, Why? Because the Bible said *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.* (Exodus 12:10) God settled the entire payment for sin in one day.

If you trust Jesus to save you today, you will not need to continue working for salvation for the rest of your life. Jesus, as He hung on that cross, cried, "It is finished." Everything you need for salvation was finished on that cross by Jesus Christ. All you need to do is just put your faith and trust in Him.

Some people use Philippines 2:12 as an excuse to prove works salvation. The doctrine of works salvation is false simply because it is teaching you that



what Jesus Christ did on the cross was not enough, and that He needs you and me to finish His work. This verse in Philippines 2:12 is an admonition to us to stay on the right path in our lives. You can see that further on in verse 14 Philippians 2:14 *Do all things without murmurings and disputings:* The Passover took one day; the next day they loaded up their belongings and set-out on their wilderness journeys. Salvation takes one moment; then we set out on our journey through life. Philippians 2:15 *That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;*

The Passover lamb provided the blood to get the Israelites out of Egypt. In one day, Jesus Christ provided the blood on that cross to get your soul out of hellfire. Hallelujah! Thank the Lord it is not a process, not a religion. It was a finished sacrifice that God offered on your behalf when His son died upon that cross.

Can you imagine the Creator of the universe, the earth, and all things left His throne in glory, came to planet earth, took on the form of a man, was rejected, lied about, beaten, then crucified. He died taking all our sins. He went to Hell, then rose the third day? What can you and I add to that? Nothing! Jesus did it all, and it is all to Him we owe!

Look what the Bible says in Exodus 12:9 Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast with fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance (inner organs) thereof. Sod it not at all with water. Baptism is not the consummation of salvation. It does not finish your salvation; it does not help you to get more saved. It is Jesus only. There are thousands of acts of obedience in the Bible, but none of them increase the value of what Christ did and finished on that Cross. They are ways to prove to God and those around us that we are thankful for that salvation given us by Jesus Christ. The Bible says in Exodus 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. From this passage there are two things you need to learn:

1. Unsaved people always want to put off the time when they will get saved. They say things like, "well, I will wait till I am older." or "I will wait till I know more about this Christianity." or "I will wait till I am married." Waiting is not an option. None of us are promised a tomorrow. 2 Corinthians 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.) Those that wait will be late. The best time to get saved in NOW! Those Egyptians did not have tomorrow. They were dead that night. Every one of us knows someone that died at a time when they never expected to. Exodus 12:11 is implying that they were to be in a hurry, and God is telling the unsaved person the same thing. It's time to go, get ready, get saved now. Most did not want to leave

Egypt, but God said, "If you do not put the blood of the lamb on the doorposts, I'll leave you where you are." He said, "You trust me, and I will not only spare you and save you, but I will get you out of here.

Exodus 12:12 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.

2. God is a God who is loving. He is gracious. He is merciful But He will execute judgment if all do not do exactly as He has said. The unsaved man says, "God is Love. He will not send me to Hell." Yes, He will, unless you do exactly what He says. The LORD (that is Jehovah God, the Almighty) said He was going to smite (kill) all those that did not do exactly what He said. The LORD will execute judgment, the LORD smites, the LORD destroys. Lost people think that God is going to allow them to continue to disobey what He has said, and then let everyone into heaven. This is how they think. Well, they are deceived, and the devil take them to Hell.

Most born again Christians keep a memorial to our Lord called the communion. On the first Sunday of each month, we take unleavened bread and the fruit of the vine (grape juice) to remind us of the broken body and the shed blood of our Lamb, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is a command by our Lord for us to do in remembrance of what He did for us. (Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25) (It is sad that the Lord has to command us to remember what Jesus Christ did for us on Calvary's cross.)

In Exodus 12:16, God commanded the children of Israel to eat unleavened bread from the first day until the seventh day. There should be a holy convocation (a great gathering) from the children of Israel. They were to observe the feast of unleavened bread, the day when God brought them out of Egypt. Exodus 12:17 And ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever. They also were commanded to continue their Passover celebration in the first month, the 14th day, until the 20th day as shown in verses 18-20. And Lord gave them a strict command not to eat any leaven in their houses. That command came with a consequence if they disobeyed it. 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.

Exodus 12:21-24 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. For the LORD will pass

through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. God called for the elders and told them how He was going to deliver them from their bondage. God gave them specific instructions that they were to perform exactly as He said. Then they would be delivered. Notice what He calls the lamb to be slain - "The Passover".

The mercy of God would protect them from the judgment of God because they did exactly what He told them to do.

Then the Lord tells them that they are to observe the Passover as an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. Exodus 12:24. They were to teach their sons about it when they asked. Exodus 12:26 And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? And when they didn't, they were to teach them when they sat down and while they were walking around. They were to write the story of the Passover on their hearts and bind it in their hands to keep the story fresh in their minds as to how the Lord delivered them from bondage by the blood of the Passover. (Exodus 13:16; Deuteronomy 6:8) Deuteronomy 11:18-20 Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:

Just a quick note, and then we'll get back to Exodus 12. It is a common misunderstanding by people who do not read the Bible to believe that people were saved in the OT by keeping the Law and in the NT by believing Jesus Christ. This is not true. God has offered salvation to <u>all</u> the same way since Genesis. (If the Law was necessary in the OT, what happened to all the people before the Law? Did they go to hell because they did not have the Law until Exodus?)

The way God delivered the children of Israel that night is the way He has always delivered. Just put your faith and trust in the blood of the Lamb.

The children of Israel did as the Lord commanded them, and they were delivered. For generations, they had kept the Passover just as they were told. It is sad though that when the true Passover came on the scene, they were so wrapped up in keeping their traditions that they completely missed what God had tried to teach them on that Passover evening. So, what about you? Have you told anyone about your Passover night? He cared enough to get them out bondage, to deliver them from their slavery to the Egyptians. Do you realize that you were in the same situation before you were saved? You were in the



bondage to sin; you were the devils' personal slave. Jesus Christ delivered you from that bondage. Who have you told about Passover? John 3:16-18 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. John 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

Everyone has been given a way to escape the wrath of God, but how will they ever know the way of escape unless someone tells them about it. God saved you and I so that we would be the ones who are privileged to tell others. Sadly, many of us come in contact with people every day and never tell them about our Passover. I know the excuses. I used to use them myself. Every Christian is faced with these excuses every day. Our flesh does not what to do anything for God; it does not want to leave its comfort zone, resulting in our doing nothing to become witnesses for the Lord. Please understand, God is not requesting that you witness. He is commanding you to witness, just the same way He commands in other places in the Bible. Mark 16:15b Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

When we stand before the Lord, what will our excuse be then? It takes almost no courage to hand someone a piece of paper that tells them about Jesus. You could be the shyest person on the planet and still wear a shirt that says "Jesus Saves" or put a bumper sticker on your car. I have been preaching in the jails, missions, nursing homes and on the street for 50 years and in that time, no one has ever laid a hand on me. Maybe they yelled a curse word at me, but that is it. Some of you who are reading this lesson are not telling anyone about your Passover because you are scared, but you have never tried. Just try. God will reward you if you do, guaranteed. Matthew 25:23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

If you do not have your Passover yet, He is waiting with hopeful anticipation for you. He wants to deliver you from your bondage and then shower you with the gifts of God. Acts 16:31 *And they said*, *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house*.

Notes

The Cross – Lesson 7 "Christ our Passover"

	Name
	f asterisk is shown in question, scripture is required along with an answer in own words. What does the Passover prefigure?
2.	What was the purpose of this lesson?
3.	When is the right time to get saved? *
4.	Explain how people in the OT got saved? *
5.	Why is the Passover not a religion?
6.	What was significant about what God told the elders to tell their sons about the Passover? *
7.	Why did the Lamb have to be without spot or blemish? *
8.	Why did they take the body of Jesus down off the cross the same day he was crucified? *

9.	What was the punishment for people who ate leavened bread during the
	time set aside for the Feast of Unleavened bread? *

10.	What are the three things we need to note about the lamb? *
	a.

b.

C.

- 11. How do we know that Roman soldiers, the Jews, Pilate, or the crucifixion did not kill the Lord Jesus Christ? *
- 12. How do we know that God hates sin?
- 13. Why are we commanded to take communion? *
- 14. What is every born again child of God commanded to do? *

True/false

- People in the O.T. were saved by keeping the Law.
- Life style Christianity is OK with God as long as you support those who are preaching.
- You are secure in your salvation as long as you are doing good works.



Scripture memorization

Mark 16:15; 2 Timothy 4:2; Philippines 2:14-15

Write out these verses on the back on this page or a separate piece of paper (must be in KJV)