

Lesson 6 4th March, 2018

"I Will Pass Over You"

Lesson Scope: [Exodus 12:1-13:16](#)

References in brackets refer to Lesson Scope unless noted otherwise

Lesson Focus

God was preparing Israel to leave Egypt. He was about to bring the final plague on Egypt. Then Pharaoh would allow them to leave. God wanted Israel to remember their deliverance in a special way because it would foreshadow a much greater deliverance many centuries later. The Passover Lamb, the New Year, the unleavened bread, and the bitter herbs all revealed in type some important truth about man's deliverance from sin through Jesus Christ. This reminder of the cost of their deliverance should have deterred Israel from desiring to return to Egypt.

This lesson contains truths that affect Christian living but may be hard to make practical. Look for ways that this lesson applies today. Notice how the Passover lamb reveals Jesus: His perfection (1 Peter 1:18-19); not one of His bones was broken (John 19:33-36); His time of separation and observation.

Apart from God's provision, all men are under the sentence of death. The Passover sacrifice pointed forward to redemption through Christ's blood.

Lesson Aim: To see how the Passover foreshadowed the work of Christ.

Theme Verse: [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.

Lesson Text

The Lamb Without Blemish

[Exodus 12:1-6](#) The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ² "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell all the congregation of Isra-

el that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴ And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶ and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

The Blood for a Token

Exodus 12:7-13 “Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts.

¹⁰ And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹ In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover.

¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

The Feast to the Lord

Exodus 12:14 “This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.

Exodus 12:17 And you shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day, throughout your generations, as a statute forever.

Exodus 12:29-31 At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all

the firstborn of the livestock. ³⁰ And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians. And there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where someone was not dead. ³¹ Then he summoned Moses and Aaron by night and said, "Up, go out from among my people, both you and the people of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as you have said.

Exodus 12:34-36 So the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneading bowls being bound up in their cloaks on their shoulders. ³⁵ The people of Israel had also done as Moses told them, for they had asked the Egyptians for silver and gold jewelry and for clothing. ³⁶ And the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

Questions for Study

The Lamb Without Blemish

1. What might have been the reason that the Israelites were to choose the Passover lamb the tenth day and separate it if they were not to kill it until the fourteenth day?
2. How was Jesus set apart before He shed His blood?
3. In what ways did the Passover lamb typify the Lamb of God? In what way was it inferior?

The Blood for a Token

4. What is the significance of the bitter herbs? the unleavened bread?
5. What was the blood a token of?
6. What memorial does the Christian church have to remind the saints of their Passover Lamb? What tokens are used?

The Feast to the Lord

7. Why was it important that Israel take everything with them?
8. Who was exempt from death?
9. How can man avoid eternal death?

Analyzing the Passage

"And ye shall keep it up" (12:6) means "to separate and give a charge." The Passover lamb was separated from the flock and observed four days. This allowed time to observe it for any blemishes and also prepared them for the solemnity of the occasion. This lamb provided the

blood for their deliverance. Christ entered Jerusalem and was under observation before His offering.

A memorial (12:14) is a reminder. The Passover was a reminder of Israel's deliverance from the bondage of Egypt.

The Passover feast was to be a memorial of the fact that it was the Lord's might and not their own might that brought them out of Egypt (13:3, 8-9). Unleavened bread typified a separation from sin and signified a new beginning.

Principles and Applications

The Lamb Without Blemish

1. The Passover lamb was needed for each family (12:3-4). The provision for deliverance was ample for all families, but it cost each family a lamb to spare them from death. Jesus' provision on Calvary is ample for all. Only those who apply His blood to their lives are delivered from eternal death. Just as deliverance from death cost each Jewish family a lamb, deliverance through Christ costs me my will, my dreams, my desires, and my claim to my life. I must die with Him so that His blood can be applied to my heart.

2. The Passover lamb was to be without blemish (12:5). Israel was to choose a lamb without blemish for the Passover and separate it from the flock. Jesus Christ is the Lamb without blemish that delivers us from eternal death. Jesus was perfect in every way and lived a life unblemished by sin.

3. The Passover lamb was to be killed in the evening (12:6). According to history, the Passover lamb was killed between the ninth and the eleventh hour. The Passover lamb was killed just before the deliverance from Egypt, and any that was left at daybreak was to be burned. The blood of the lamb was fresh when the Lord passed that house. The blood of Jesus opens up provision for cleansing and a way to "obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." We must constantly claim its power and protection. As wonderful as deliverance from death may seem, unless a departure from the practice of sin accompanies it, the resulting bondage and death is worse (Matthew 12:43-45).

The Blood for a Token

4. The Passover lamb's blood was to be applied at the door of the house (12:7). The blood had to be applied to the doorposts and the lintel for

those behind that door to escape death. That safety was only to those who remained behind that door. Today man must be cleansed by the blood of Jesus and apply its power to live a victorious life to be delivered from death (Revelation 1:5).

5. The Passover lamb was to be eaten with mourning (12:8-10). It was to be eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. The bondage of Egypt was bitter; the bitter herbs reminded them of that bitterness, to discourage the desire to return to Egypt. During the trials in the wilderness, Israel soon forgot the bitter bondage and longed again for Egypt. Men today are tempted to forget the bitter bondage of sin when in the heat of the Christian battle. The unleavened bread was to represent leaving behind the influence of Egypt. When a man is delivered from the bondage of sin, the influences of the flesh must be cleansed from his heart before the influence of the Holy Spirit can fill his life.

6. The Passover lamb was to be eaten in haste (12:11). When Pharaoh released Israel, the Egyptians were urgent upon them (12:33). The fear that they would all die motivated them to urge Israel to leave and also to lend them the things they asked for (12:35, 36). Israel needed to be ready when deliverance came, because there would not be time to prepare when the time came. We need to flee the lust of the flesh in haste at the earliest opportunity so that we are not taken into bondage again and destroyed with the wicked.

7. The applied blood of the Passover lamb signified a family that believed God and accepted His offer of mercy (12:13). Only those houses that had blood on the doorposts and the lintel did not experience a death. Obedience is the act of faith that spared Israel the death of their firstborn. Obedience is also the act of faith that will spare us from eternal death.

The Feast to the Lord

8. The Passover was to be observed as a memorial of divine mercy (12:17). Israel began a new life, a new era, and freedom from bondage. God wanted them to remember what they were delivered from, so He gave them a new year that marked the beginning of their new life of freedom. He also gave them the Passover to keep annually, reminding them how God, in His mercy, spared the firstborn of those who obeyed. It also revealed to them, in type, the continued mercy and redemption through Christ.

9. Those who did not believe God did not apply the blood and experienced divine judgment (12:29-31). God passed through Egypt to destroy the firstborn of man and cattle. Only those who believed God and in faith applied the blood were spared from death. Those who did not apply the blood expressed their unbelief and experienced death in the family. Men who believe God, confess their sins, cleanse their hearts in Jesus' blood, and in faith live a holy life will be spared the second death and will have right to the tree of life.

Important Teachings

1. The Passover lamb was needed for each family (12:3-4).
2. The Passover lamb was to be without blemish (12:5).
3. The Passover lamb was to be killed in the evening (12:6).
4. The Passover lamb's blood was to be applied at the door of the house (12:7).
5. The Passover lamb was to be eaten with mourning (12:8-10).
6. The Passover lamb was to be eaten in haste (12:11).
7. The applied blood of the Passover lamb signified a family that believed God and accepted His offer of mercy (12:13).
8. The Passover was to be observed as a memorial of divine mercy (12:17).
9. Those who did not believe God did not apply the blood and experienced divine judgment (12:29-31).
10. The Passover Lamb was salvation to those who believed and obeyed God's commandment and judgment to the Egyptians (12:36).

Answers to Questions

1. What might have been the reason that the Israelites were to choose the Passover lamb the tenth day and separate it if they were not to kill it until the fourteenth day?

The lamb was chosen and separated for observation. This would have helped them remember how they were set apart and delivered by God. Having a lamb in the house for four days would have given the family time to bond with the lamb. It would have become near and dear to them and therefore would have been more of a sacrifice to give up. /

2. How was Jesus set apart before He shed His blood?

Jesus came to earth, charged with the duty of the Passover Lamb. His

life on earth was a time of observation.

3. In what ways did the Passover lamb typify the Lamb of God? In what way was it inferior?

The Passover lamb was unblemished (12:5). Jesus was without blemish and without spot (1 Peter 1:18-19). The Passover lamb was slain (12:6). Jesus was also slain (Luke 23:33). None of His bones were to be broken (12:46; John 19:36).

The blood of the Passover lamb was applied to the doorposts of the house (12:7). The blood of Jesus is superior because it is applied to the heart of the believer for cleansing (Revelation 1:5). Jesus is superior as a Passover Lamb because He saves man from eternal death (12:27; Romans 3:26; 5:9).

4. What is the significance of the bitter herbs? the unleavened bread? The bitter herbs were to remind them of the bitter bondage that they were delivered from (1:14; Zechariah 12:10).

Leaven is a type of sin. Jesus was without sin. There was to be a separation and a cleansing of the old leaven for seven days to signify a new start, a new lump, a new Spirit, and a new motivation (1 Corinthians 5:7).

5. What was the blood a token of?

The blood was a token that a family who believed God was in that house and was to be delivered from death.

6. What memorial does the Christian church have to remind the saints of their Passover Lamb? What tokens are used?

The Communion service is a memorial to remember that Christ died so that we can live.

The bread and the grape juice are tokens of the body and blood of the Lord.

7. Why was it important that Israel take everything with them?

They needed their animals to sacrifice to God, and their families joined them in worship. More important was the fact that they could not serve God and the gods of Egypt. When they left Egypt, taking everything with them was important so that they did not have reason to return.

8. Who was exempt from death?

Only those who believed God and in obedience applied the blood of the lamb and remained behind that blood were exempt from death. Every firstborn was destined to die outside that provision.

9. How can man avoid eternal death?

The soul that sins shall die. Only those who have washed their lives and made them white in the blood of the Lamb will live eternally (Revelation 7:14).

Summarizing the Lesson

Christ, our Redeemer, died on the cross,

Died for the sinner, paid all his due;

All who receive Him need never fear,

For He will pass, will pass over you.

"When I see the blood, I will pass over you;

When I see the blood, I will pass, I will pass over you."

—*John Foote*

Research Guide

1. Read the entry in a Bible dictionary on the Passover.

2. Read Deuteronomy 16:1-8 and Matthew 26:17-25 for inspiration on the meaning of the Passover.

3. Read the psalms that the Israelites sang at the Passover (Psalms 113-118).