

Passover

- I. Exodus 1
 - A. The children of Israel multiplied rapidly to the point that Egypt was filled with Israelites. The new king of Egypt, Pharaoh, realized that the Israelites are “more and mightier” than the Egyptians. Pharaoh commanded his men to be harsh to the Israelites. However, the meaner the Egyptians were and the harder they made it on them, the more the children of Israel multiplied and grew. Pharaoh then decided to kill all newborn males of the Israelites to contain their population.
- II. Exodus 3&4
 - A. God called upon Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. The children of Israel accepted Moses as their deliverer after seeing the signs of God that Moses performed.
- III. Exodus 5&6
 - A. Moses went to Pharaoh to tell him to let God’s people (Israelites) go. Pharaoh rejected Moses’ plea and became harder on the Israelites. The Israelites, then, rejected Moses as well. Moses, then, questioned God’s plan. God reassured Moses that he had things under control.
- IV. Exodus 7-11 “Ten Plagues”
 - A. 1st -- Blood
 - I. God turned all water in Egypt into blood. This caused the fish in the river to die and the river to stink. The Egyptians had nothing to drink. This lasted for seven days and God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go. Pharaoh declined.
 - B. 2nd -- Frogs
 - I. God covered Egypt with frogs. Frogs were everywhere! They were in houses, on tables, in beds, and even in ovens. After a day the frogs all died and the whole land stank. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go. Pharaoh declined.
 - C. 3rd -- Lice (gnats)
 - I. God turned all the dust into lice. All the dust on men and cattle became lice. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go, Pharaoh declined.
 - D. 4th -- Flies
 - I. God sent a swarm of flies into Egypt. There were so many flies that they invaded the houses of the Egyptians and destroyed the land. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go. Pharaoh declined.
 - E. 5th -- Disease on Cattle
 - I. God struck all Egyptian cattle including horses, donkeys, camels, ox, and sheep with a disease that ended in their death. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go. Pharaoh declined.
 - F. 6th -- Boils (sores)
 - I. God turned ashes into sores that afflicted the Egyptians and their animals. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go, Pharaoh declined.
 - G. 7th -- Hail
 - I. God made it hail so hard that it killed men, animals, and plants that were not covered by shelter. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go, Pharaoh declined.
 - H. 8th -- Locusts (Grasshoppers)

- I. God sent locusts to cover the land of Egypt. They covered everything that was spared, up to this point, by God. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go. Pharaoh declined.
- I. 9th -- Darkness
 - I. God struck Egypt with a thick darkness, "even darkness that can be felt." It remained dark for three days. It was so dark the Egyptians could not see one another or even rise from their place. God sent Moses to ask Pharaoh to let his people go. Pharaoh declined.
- J. 10th -- Death
 - I. God destroyed all of the firstborn in the land of Egypt including man and animal.
- V. Exodus 12 God institutes the Passover for his People
 - A. Those people whose firstborn was not to be taken were to take an unblemished (without a problem) male lamb. They were to kill the lamb and collect its blood. Then, they were to take hyssop, a local plant, and dip it in the collection of the lamb's blood and smear it above the door posts and on the sides of the door. When the angel of the Lord saw the blood, he would pass over the house and not bring death upon the firstborn of that house.
 - B. This being a great act of faith!
 - C. The Feast of The Passover
 - I. As part of the Passover, the Israelites were to eat the sacrificial lamb. They were to do this in family units. (Family units may be one household or two neighboring households, depending on the size of the families. The reason this was done was because the entire lamb was to be eaten.) They were to eat the lamb with unleavened bread (without a rising agent such as yeast) and bitter herbs. The Israelites were commanded to eat this meal quickly. They were to be dressed and ready to go (leave Egypt).
 2. This was all done to represent certain things:
 - a) The lamb God saving them.
 - b) The bitter herbs bitterness of their Egyptian slavery.
 - c) The unleavened bread the leaven of bondage.
 - d) The eating in haste the haste with which they left Egypt.
- VI. The Passover as Observed at the Time of Jesus
 - A. In the days of Jesus, the Passover Feast was still observed, but a few things had changed over time. It was no longer necessary to smear the blood on the door posts. Also, the feast did not necessarily take place within a family unit. Now it was a group of no less than 10 and no more than 20 people so that there was enough meat, but none left over, for they were commanded to eat all of it. (Therefore, Jesus and his disciples, being 13 people, were a large enough gathering). The Jews continued to eat, with the lamb, bitter herbs and unleavened bread.
 - B. The way the lamb was prepared became known as "a crowned sacrifice." His throat was cut and the blood was collected in a bowl. Then, they gutted the lamb taking his intestines out and draping them over its head, forming what appeared to be a crown. Again, this was done so that all of the lamb could be consumed.
- VII. The Passover as Fulfilled in Jesus
- VIII. The Passover and Us
- IX. Conclusion
 - A. The lamb (Jesus Christ) has been sacrificed so that eternal death may pass over us.
 - B. Have you made sure that the blood of the lamb can be seen by God?