

## **THE PASSOVER**

The Passover is rich with history and meaning! It has been celebrated by the Jews for 3500 years making it the oldest religious festival in the world.

In conjunction with the 10<sup>th</sup> plagues, God instituted the Passover. The people were to take the blood of a lamb and apply it to the top and on the sides of the doorway to their homes. The lamb was central to the Passover. The NT (in 1 Corinthians 5:7) explicitly indicates that the Passover sacrifice was a type of Jesus Christ. Note the typology and how it closely ties with Exodus 12:3-7:

### **Exodus 12:3-7**

**Lamb** – One of the gentlest and harmless of animals – a picture of innocence.

**Without blemish** – Christ had to be without sin, and He was.

**A male** – Christ was male.

**First year** – He was in His prime.

### **John 1:29 (NKJV)**

**29** The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, **“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**

### **1 Corinthians 5:7 (NKJV)**

**7...** For indeed **Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.**

It was not enough that the blood was shed – it had to be applied. They had to apply the blood on the sides of door and over the top of the door. By way of application, Christ is the door. We must go through that bloody doorway to enter into salvation. We must apply the blood, and we do this by faith (cf. Rom. 3:25).

### **Romans 3:25 (NKJV)**

**25** whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith...”.

Christ fulfilled the typology of the Passover perfectly, as seen in 1 Corinthians 5:7. As such, according to Matthew 26:2, Jesus was crucified right on Passover; and in fact, He died at the very time they were killing the Passover lambs.

He was, in fact, THE Passover LAMB OF GOD Who takes away the sin of the world (cf. Jn. 1:29). These lines of harmony are compelling in terms of

showing us the truth of Scripture. It is no accident that all these things merge together in perfect harmony right on the very day of PASSOVER!

### **Exodus 12:12–13 (NKJV)**

**12** 'For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike 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.**

**13** Now 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 the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

This is the LORD'S PASSOVER, as seen in Exodus 12:11. God Himself would PASS through the land of Egypt on this night and kill the firstborn of both man and beast who were not covered by the blood.

Note that this is a judgment against all the gods of Egypt. As noted, there is a correlation between the previous plagues and the gods of Egypt. They had many gods; and the firstborn of Pharaoh was also considered to be a god. These were supposed gods that supposedly watched over and protected their animals and children in connection with Pharaoh, who was also a supposedly god.

All of these gods on this night were shown to be put down by the God of Israel – YHWH.

### **Numbers 33:4 (NKJV)**

**4** For the Egyptians were burying all their firstborn, whom the LORD had killed among them. Also on their gods the LORD had executed judgments.

This was a matter of whose God was supreme and this KNOCKOUT BLOW left no doubt. YHWH the God of Israel ALONE is SOVEREIGN LORD!

The events of the Exodus were a powerful revelation of the ONE true God – the God of Israel. The whole Bible going forward builds on this key revelation. Building on this is God's revelation of Himself in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is the WORD (the communication of God) and God most clearly and finally revealed Himself in the Person of Christ. The WORD became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:1, 14). And He did this to the end that He might be THE LAMB OF GOD WHO TAKES AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD.

Only an all-knowing God could put history together so perfectly like this. Thus, in the incarnate WORD we have the written WORD perfectly fulfilled.