

Christ, Our Passover

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:

The Passover is a Jewish holiday beginning on the 14th of Nisan [March/April], commemorating the Hebrews' liberation from slavery in Egypt, and memorializing the day the death Angel passed over (Exodus 12:23) every house that had blood from the paschal lamb applied to the doorposts and lintels [above the doorway] of the home (see Exodus 12).

How is Christ our Passover? How is the Jewish Passover a foreshadowing of Christ and the Lord's Supper?

The chart below seeks to compare and contrast the Passover (or paschal lamb) and the Lamb of God (Christ, our Passover) and the Passover (the meal established by Moses) and the Lord's Supper (ordained by Christ).

| Paschal Lamb (the Passover) | Christ, Our Passover (the Lord's Supper) |
|---|---|
| Lamb or Goat (Exodus 12:3) | Christ the Lamb of God (John 1:29) |
| Chosen by the family (Exodus 12:3) | Chosen by the Father (Matthew 12:18; 1 Peter 1:20) |
| Male (Exodus 12:5) | Male (Matthew 1:20) |
| Without spot or blemish (Exodus 12:5) | Without sin or iniquity (1 Peter 1:19) |
| Killed in the evening (Exodus 12:6) | Dies around the ninth hour; the time of the evening prayers and sacrifice (Matthew 20:19; Mark 15:34) |
| All the congregation of Israel participated in killing the household's lamb (Exodus 12:6) | All the assembly of Israel in Jerusalem participated in the killing of the Lamb of God (Matthew 27:25; Acts 2:23) |
| Eaten with unleavened bread (Exodus 12:8) | Christ is the bread of life (John 6:35; 1 Corinthians 5:7) |
| Eaten with bitter herbs as reminder of the bitterness of slavery (Exodus 12:8) | Christ's death was bitterly painful in all aspects and on all levels (Isaiah 53) |
| Physically Eaten (Exodus 12:8) | Symbolically Eaten (John 6:53) |
| The lamb was roasted with fire and then the leftovers were to be burnt up with fire (Exodus 12:9-10) | The Lamb of God saves his sheep from experiencing the fire of judgment and hell (Matthew 13:40; 18:9) |
| Eaten with loins girted (Exodus 12:11) | Waiting risen Lamb with loins girted (1 Peter 1:13) |
| The gods of Egypt were judged (Exodus 12:12) | The god (ruler) of this world is judged (John 16:11) |
| Ordained by Moses for Israel (Exodus 12:14) | Ordained by Christ for the Church (1 Corinthians 11:24-25) |
| Leaven was purged from the house for 7 days (Exodus 12:7) | The church at Corinth is to purge out leaven (sin and unrepentant sinners) (1 Corinthians 5:5-13) |
| The lamb's blood was shed (Exodus 12:22) | Christ's blood was shed (Matthew 26:28; Hebrews 9:22) |
| Faith in the Promise of Moses was Required (Exodus 12:22-23) | Faith in the Promise of Christ is Required (John 11:25) |
| Presented to God as a sacrifice (Exodus 12:27) | God Himself is the Sacrifice (Hebrews 9:26) |
| Temporarily saved from death; all would go on to die | Believers are Saved from Eternal Death (Revelation 20:6) |
| Marks a release from bondage in Egypt (Exodus 12:42) | Releases all from bondage to sin and death (Romans 8:2) |
| Not a bone was to be broken (Exodus 12:46) | Not a bone was broken (John 19:36) |
| All the congregation of Israel must celebrate the Passover (Exodus 12:47) | All the congregation of the church is expected to participate in the LORD's Supper (1 Corinthians 11:18-20) |
| Physical circumcision is a prerequisite for participation in the Passover (Exodus 12:48) | Circumcision of the heart (only believers) is a prerequisite for participation in the Lord's Supper (Romans 2:29) |
| Memorialized Annually (Exodus 13:10) | Memorialized as often as the local church sees fit (Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 11) |
| Israel wandered in the wilderness after the 1 st Passover until they entered the Promised Land (Numbers 14:33) | Those delivered from sin have a time of sojourning until they enter an eternal promised land (1 Peter 1:17) |
| Temporary redemption was secured; the Israelites would return to bondage (Judged 2:14) | Permanent Redemption is Secured (1 Peter 1:18-19) |