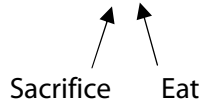


The Law of Moses Regarding the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread

[“The Feast of Unleavened Bread, Which Is Called the Passover” (Luke 22:1)]

Key passages: Exodus 12:1-27, Exodus 12:42-49, Exodus 13:3-10, Leviticus 23:4-14; Numbers 9:1-14; Numbers 28:16-25; Deuteronomy 16:1-8; Joshua 5:10-12; II Chronicles 30; II Chronicles 35; Ezra 6:19-22; Luke 2:41-51.

Preparation				Feast of Unleavened Bread								
Choose Lamb				Pass-over	Special Sacrifices							Holy Assembly
					Holy Assembly							
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	



“The first month of the year ... in the month of Abib[Nisan].” (Ex. 12:2, 13:4)

Tenth Day

- “take a lamb for themselves” (Ex. 12:3)
- “keep it until the fourteenth” (Ex. 12:6)

Fourteenth Day

- “kill it at twilight” (Ex. 12:6) “in the evening at sunset, at the time that you came out of Egypt” (Deut. 16:6)
- “eat the flesh that same night” [which would be the beginning of day 15] (Ex. 12:8)

Fifteenth to Twenty-First Days

- “On the fifteenth day of the same month there is the Feast of Unleavened Bread” (Lev. 23:6)
- “Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread” (Ex. 12:15)
- “On the first day you shall have a holy assembly, and another holy assembly on the seventh day; no work at all shall be done on them” (Ex. 12:16)
- “for seven days you shall present an offering by fire to the LORD” (Lev. 23:8)
- “on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the LORD” (Ex. 13:6)
- “Until the twenty-first day of the month at evening.” (Ex. 12:18)

“On the day after the Sabbath” (during the Feast of Unleavened Bread?)

- “you shall bring in the sheaf of the first fruits of your harvest to the priest” (Lev. 23:10)

Some Things That We Know

1. Jesus was born during the reign of Caesar Augustus (Luke 2:1).
2. Jesus was born during “the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria” (Luke 2:2).
3. Herod the Great was still King of Judea when the magi came after the birth of Jesus (Matt. 2:1).
4. John the Baptist’s ministry began in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius (Luke 3:1-3).
5. Jesus began His ministry at about thirty years of age (Luke 3:23).
6. Early in Jesus’ ministry the Jews said: “it took forty-six years to build this temple” (John 2:20).
7. The prophet Daniel was told that “from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks.... Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off.” (Daniel 9:24-26)
8. Jesus died when Caiaphas was high priest (Matthew 26:3).
9. Jesus died when Pilate was governor of Judea (Luke 3:1), at a time when he had been enemies with Herod (Luke 23:12).
10. Jesus died during the Passover / Feast of Unleavened Bread (Luke 22:1), which occurs during the first month of the Jewish year (Abib or Nisan), corresponding to our March or April.
11. The Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread were scheduled by days of the month, not days of the week (Exodus 12).
12. The disciples prepared the Passover on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was being sacrificed (Matt. 26:17, Mark 14:12).
13. Jesus “ate the Passover” with His disciples the night before He died (Matt. 26:17; Exodus 12:18).
14. Jesus is our Passover sacrifice (I Cor. 5:7-8).
15. During the trial, early in the morning on the day of the death of Jesus, the Jews did not enter Pilate’s place so that they would not be defiled and be unable to eat the Passover (John 18:28).
16. The day when Jesus died was “the preparation day, the day before the Sabbath” which was “about to begin” (Mark 15:42, Luke 23:54). This is also called “the day or preparation for the Passover” (NASB) or “the day of Preparation of Passover Week” (NIV) (John 19:14). Jesus was buried quickly in a tomb nearby because of this Day of Preparation (Luke 23:54).
17. The day after Jesus died was a special Sabbath day (John 19:31).
18. An executed man was not to be left out overnight (Deut. 21:22-23).
19. The resurrection appearances of Jesus began “after Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week” (Matthew 28:1).
20. “Just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the sea monster, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” (Matt. 12:40)
21. Pilate ordered that the grave be guarded “until the third day” (Matt. 27:64).
22. The disciples who spoke to Jesus on the first day of the week told Him that Sunday was “the third day since these things happened” (Luke 24:1, 13, 21).
23. In many places the resurrection is referred to as occurring “three days later” and “on the third day.” We know that these phrases can refer to the same thing, apparently because the Jews sometimes counted a part of a day or night as one day (see how the phrases are interchangeable in Matthew, Mark, and Luke; see Est. 4:16 & 5:1; Gen. 42:17-18; I Sam. 30:12-13).