

THE PICTURE OF PASSOVER

Exodus 12

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INTRODUCTION: INSIGHT TOWARD THE CROSS

Instructions for Passover lend themselves for gaining insight into the cross.

I. THE PASSOVER LAMB

The final judgment from God made necessary the Passover.

A. THE BEGINNING OF MONTHS, VV. 1, 2

This newness of the year was to symbolize the newness of life away from Egypt.

Slavery in Egypt symbolized slavery to sin.

Freedom from slavery in Egypt symbolized new life in Christ.

The event that brought one from slavery to freedom was the Passover.

Revelation 7:14

I said to him, "My lord, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Revelation 12:11

And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even when faced with death.

Are You Washed, by E. A. Hoffman

Have you been to Jesus for the cleansing power?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?
Are you fully trusting in His grace this hour?
Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb?

There is a Fountain Filled With Blood, by William Cowper

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Immanuel's veins;
And sinners, plunged beneath that flood,
Lose all their guilty stains:

? What is special about this lamb?

B. AN UNBLEMISHED LAMB, V. 5

It was to be an unblemished male lamb in its first year.

1 Peter 1:18b-19

you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold..., but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ.

C. THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB, VV. 3, 4, 6, 21-23

The shedding of blood is metaphor for death.

Death is the thing in view not something magical in the blood itself.

? How do we know that death is the focus and rather than blood?

Point: The Passover obviously points to Christ on the cross.

1 Corinthians 5:7, "Christ our Passover Lamb"

Hebrews 2:14

Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

Hebrews 9:13, 14

For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

II. THE PASSOVER PREPARATION

A. APPLYING THE BLOOD=FAITH, VV. 6, 22-23

Hebrews 11:28

By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that he who destroyed the firstborn would not touch them.

The blood was to be taken and applied to the doorposts forming a covering over the door that God would see and pass over.

B. UNLEAVENED BREAD=REPENTANCE, V. 8

Unleavened bread was meant to expedite the exodus from Egypt.

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough? Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed. Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

? How important is repentance? v. 15

C. BITTER HERBS=SORROW OVER SIN, V. 8

The bitter herbs represent the hardship of slavery in Egypt.

Matthew 5:4

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

III. THE PASSOVER EVENT, VV. 29-39

CONCLUSION: COMMUNION

Just as the Passover looks forward to the death of Christ so communion looks back to the death of Christ.

? Have you put your trust in Christ alone for your salvation as the ancient Israelis covered their door with blood?

? Have you repented of your sin, not that you are perfect, but that you acknowledge and detest your sin even as the Israeli people were so careful to get rid of all yeast from their bread.

? Do you sorrow over your sin as represented by the bitter herbs?