

# Christ Our Passover

1 Corinthians 5:7

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**FOCAL Read Together 1 Corinthians 5:7 ... Christ our passover is sacrificed for us**

An increasing number of people have taken to calling this time of the year “Easter”. The word “Easter” is a secular word, having nothing at all to do with this holy day. **What is this day?**

Jesus' earthly ministry was coming to an end, and the **“Lamb of God Who taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29)** was going to be sacrificed. Jesus entered Jerusalem as the multitude lay palms before Him, crying out:

**Matthew 21:9 ... Hosanna to the son of David; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.**

**This was four days prior to His crucifixion.** Jesus preached and taught for two days, and then told His disciples that He was going to die on the Passover:

**Matthew 26:1-2 ... Jesus .... said unto his disciples, {2} Ye know that after two days is the feast of the passover, and the Son of man is betrayed to be crucified.**

A convicted criminal preparing to meet His death is allowed, in most of the United States, to choose his own last supper. He can pick anything he wants to eat. Our Lord Jesus – knowing that He was about to face the most horrible death anyone has ever faced – chose to eat the Passover with His disciples. Again we read:

**Matthew 26:17-19** Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him, **Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover? {18}** And he said, **Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples. {19}** And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and **they made ready the passover.**

Prior to eating the Passover meal our Lord **Jesus washed the disciples feet (John 13:4-5)**. It was at the Passover that **Jesus revealed Judas Iscariot would betray Him (John 13:21, 26-27)**. It was at the Passover that Jesus told Peter that he would **deny Christ three times before the cock crowed (John 13:38)**. It was at the Passover meal that Jesus **established a new tradition** among His disciples. We read:

**Mark 14:22-24** **And as they did eat, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave to them, and said, Take, eat: this is my body. {23}** **And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it. {24}** **And he said unto them, This is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many. ...**

Following the Passover meal Jesus and His disciples went to a place called **Gethsemane (Mark 14:32)** to pray, and it was in this Garden that Jesus surrendered Himself to be tried and sacrificed on a cross. This is not “Easter”. This is **πασχα** (pronounced *pas'-khah*). **Christ**

is our Passover <sup>1</sup>.

## 1. What Does “Passover” Mean?

What does the word “Passover” mean? To discover its meaning you have to go back to where it is first used in the Old Testament. God's Nation **Israel** had been in Egypt for many years, and in time the Egyptians enslaved the Israelites. God's Nation cried out to the Lord God and He heard their prayers. The Lord raised up the Prophet Moses and sent him to **Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt** with this message:

**Exodus 5:1 ... Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.**

Pharaoh refused the Word of God, saying “**who is the Lord that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go!**” (**Exodus 5:2**). This began the battle of the wills, Pharaoh versus the Eternal God, and God was going to triumph. God sent plague after plague against Egypt. No matter how many suffered, and no matter how many died, it didn't matter. Pharaoh refused to let Israel go. Finally the Lord brought out the most terrible of all plagues. God said:

**Exodus 11:5-6** **And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the**

<sup>1</sup> See Matthew 26:2; 26:17; 26:18; 26:19; Mark 14:1; 14:12; 14:14; 14:16; Luke 2:41; 22:1; 22:7; 22:8; 22:11; 22:13; 22:15; John 2:13; John 2:23; John 6:4; John 11:55; John 12:1; John 13:1; John 18:28; John 18:39; John 19:14; 1 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews 11:28

maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts. {6 } And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more.

The wrath of God would be poured out on the unbelieving. That which they prized the most – their children – would be removed from this life.

Egypt refused to let God's Children go, so He would take their children. What a horrible thing!

How would God distinguish between the **Children of Wrath** and the **Children of God**? The Bible tells us:

2 Timothy 2:19 .... **The Lord knoweth them that are His** ....

but the Lord wanted to teach His people a great spiritual truth. **The Judgment of God would poured out on everyone unless they did something to cause that wrath to “pass over”**. The Israelites were required to ...

Exodus 12:21-23 .... **Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. {22} And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the basin; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. {23} For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD**

**will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.**

The Lamb of God would have to be sacrificed, and its Blood used as a covering. Without the Blood the Israelites were *exactly the same* as the Egyptians. God was graphically showing Israel and prophetically teaching them of the Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**FOCAL** 1 Corinthians 5:7 .... **Christ our passover is sacrificed for us**

**Jesus Christ is the believer's Passover.**

The wrath of God was coming for the Egyptian unbeliever, and the only thing that would stop this wrath is the **Blood of the Lamb**. Jesus Christ is our Passover.

He went to the Cross of Calvary, dying for you and for me. **Israel would be redeemed – removed from enslavement to Egypt when the Lord's wrath was poured out**. Egypt would release Israel from bondage as she mourned the death of her children. **Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us**. It is His Blood that gives us life, and redeems us from enslavement to the world. The Scripture says:

1 Peter 1:18-19 **Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain {way of life} received by tradition from your fathers; {19} But with the**

**precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:**

**Your only Son, no sin to hide  
but You have sent Him  
from Your side  
to walk upon this guilty sod  
and to become the Lamb of God**

## **2. Only The Blood Leads To Passover!**

**FOCAL** 1 Corinthians 5:7 .... Christ our passover **IS<sup>2</sup>** sacrificed for us

God's wrath was going to be poured out on the world of Egypt, and the only thing that was going to stop that was the Blood of the Lamb. God told Israel:

**Exodus 12:3 ... take .... every man a lamb ....**

The wrath of God was coming! Judgment was sure. The only thing that would turn judgment away was **the Lamb of God**.

We as Christians are called *intolerant* if we tell people that they must believe on Jesus Christ to get to Heaven. Dear friends, **God is intolerant. His wrath will only be satisfied by the Blood of the Lamb.**

God did not tell Israel “you can take a dove if you don't have a lamb”, or “you can kill a dog and dab its

blood on the doorposts”.

Dear friends, too many people think “I'm a good person, so I know that God will not pour out His wrath on me”. Do not believe this. The Blood had to be - in faith – placed where God said. The Blood had to come from a Lamb without spot or blemish. **Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.** There is no other way to avoid the wrath of God. The Scripture says:

**John 3:36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**

The Lamb must die, the innocent for the guilty. **Those who had the Lamb were to share that Lamb with those who did not.**

**Exodus 12:4 And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls;...**

If you are born again by faith in Christ then you need to tell others that **Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.** The Israelites had to sacrifice the Lamb and put its blood on their doorways. The Lord established the Feast of the Passover as a *yearly event* for the children of Israel. But **Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.** The Bible says:

**Hebrews 10:9-12 Then said {Jesus Christ}, Lo, I**

2 **ἦν** (pronounced *thoo'-o*), Aorist Passive Indicative “has been sacrificed”

come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second. {10} By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. {11} And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: {12} But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God;

Jesus Christ took away the first Covenant so that He could establish the Second. He is our Passover. The Temple is gone, and the lambs can no longer be killed. Only One Passover remains – JESUS!

We who believe in Jesus are released from the wrath of God because of His once for all sacrifice for sins FOREVER. It is His Blood that causes God's wrath to pass over us. It is His offering that gives us peace with God. God told the Jew:

Exodus 12:5 Your lamb shall be without blemish ...

The Lamb had to be without blemish. There could be no deficiencies in the Lamb, no spotting, no crippleness nor lameness. The Bible tells us that Christ our Passover is sinless.

It disturbs me that many who profess to be "Christian" think that there was sin in Christ. The Scripture tells us that the Lamb had to be without blemish.

The Scripture tells us that Jesus Christ

Hebrews 4:15 ... was in all points tempted like as we are, YET WITHOUT SIN.

He had to be without blemish, or else He could not be our Passover. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. The wrath of God was poured out on the sinless. The Son of God became the Son of man so that sons of man could become Sons of God. The Lord says:

2 Corinthians 5:21 For {God the Father} hath made {Christ Jesus} to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

He Who is innocent dies so that those who are unworthy live. When I see the Blood, I will pass over you, said the Lord.

o Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God  
I love the holy Lamb of God  
o wash me in Your precious Blood  
my Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

### 3. Our Passover Rose Again From The Dead

There are many similarities between the Jewish Passover and Christ our Passover. For instance, the Passover Lamb had to be male (Exodus 12:5) because it was the sin of Adam that brought sin into the world:

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed

**upon all men, for that all have sinned:**

**Romans 5:17-19** For if by one man's offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.) {18} Therefore as by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life. {19} For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.

Adam failed, but Christ our Passover did not fail. He had no sin in Him. Jesus stood before Pilate who publicly declared:

**John 18:38 ... I find in him no fault at all.**

So many times they sought to take Jesus, but our Lord had to live a perfect and sinless life before man. People had to see that He was without sin, perfect in every way.

All along Jesus knew that He was going to die. When He rode into Jerusalem just four days prior to His death and the people cried out:

**Matthew 21:9 .... Hosanna to the son of David; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.**

He knew that His time was coming. He knew that the same people cheering Him would – in but a short while – be saying, “crucify Him”,

**Matthew 27:25 .... His blood be on us, and on our children.**

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. But He did not stay dead. The Bible tells us that

**2 Corinthians 5:15** And that {Christ} died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.

Here is the glorious truth of our faith. **Christ died for all.** Whosoever calls upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved. Whosoever believeth on Him shall not perish, but have everlasting life. Faith in His sacrifice causes the Judgment of God to “pass over” us. But that's not all of the story. **Our Redeemer lives. He died for us, and rose again. He walked, and talked, and was seen of many witnesses (see 1 Corinthians 15: 1-9).** These witnesses not only testified that they saw the resurrected Savior, but they *gave their lives for that testimony.*

Our Savior lives! Our Savior reigns. Our Savior directs our hearts, and leads those of us who believe in Him **to live for Him.**

We are His Body, and He is our Head. We do not follow a dead prophet but a Living Savior, a King of Kings and

a Lord of Lords. As you partake of the Lord's Table you remember that His Body was broken for you, and His Blood was shed for you.

As you eat the Bread and drink the Cup you are reminded that the Resurrected Savior **lives, and leads you to live resurrected lives.**

As the Apostle said:

**1 Corinthians 15:17-20 And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. {18} Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished. {19} If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. {20} But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept.**

As we eat of the Lord's Table we are reminded that we share in the death and the resurrection of Christ. Oh, Blessed Redeemer!

**1 John 3:2-3 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. {3} And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.**

Those who follow the resurrected Savior are blessed, for **Christ is our Passover.**

**The wrath of God will pass over us.**

**Death will pass over us.**

**Christ will help us to pass over every trial.**

**And one day we will pass over from this life to the next, to share with Christ in glory all that He has purchased for us.**

If you do not know Jesus Christ as Savior my heartfelt prayer is that you will call on Him today and be saved. There is no other way to avoid the judgment of God. **There is no other name under heaven given among men whereby you must be saved (Acts 4:12).**

**I was so lost I should have died  
but You have brought me to  
Your side  
to be lead by Your staff and rod  
and to be called a Lamb of God**

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**Christ our passover is sacrificed for us**

(John 1:29; Matthew 21:9; Matthew 26:1-2; Matthew 26:17-19; John 13:4-5; John 13:21, 26-27; John 13:38; Mark 14:22-24; Mark 14:32)

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**1. What Does "Passover" Mean?**

(Exodus 5:1; Exodus 5:2; Exodus 11:5-6; 2 Timothy 2:19; Exodus 12:21-23; 1 Peter 1:18-19)

Your only Son, no sin to hide  
but You have sent Him  
from Your side  
to walk upon this guilty sod  
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**2. Only The Blood Leads To Passover!**

(1 Corinthians 5:7; Exodus 12:3; John 3:36; Exodus

12:4; Hebrews 10:9-12; Exodus 12:5; Hebrews 4:15; 2 Corinthians 5:21)

o Lamb of God sweet Lamb of God  
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**3. Our Passover Rose Again From The Dead**

(Exodus 12:5; Romans 5:12; Romans 5:17-19; John 18:38; Matthew 21:9; Matthew 27:25; 2 Corinthians 5:15 ; 1 Corinthians 15: 1-9; 1 Corinthians 15:17-20; 1 John 3:2-3; Acts 4:12)

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