

CHRIST OUR PASSOVER

1st Corinthians 5:7

Message #1

Introduction: For the past few months I have reading and gather material to preach a series of messages on the Passover. I want to say this in regards the Passover. We as believers are not required to observe the Passover. But I want to let you see how the Lord Jesus in pictures in all of the observation of Passover. It is my desire that you will fall more in love with Him and have a greater appreciation for what He did for us on Calvary.

Some may ask why we should study these Jewish Feast Days?

1. They are in the Word of God.

Matthew 4:4

"But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

2. Paul wrote this in Romans 15:4.

"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope."

3. They point to Jesus and I love to point people to Jesus. Paul had this to say about the holy days. I did not say holidays. These days were holy unto the Lord.

Colossians 2:17

"Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ."

The last meal our Lord had before Calvary was the Passover. I was thinking ahead as I was studying and preparing this message. One of the methods I use to understand the Word of God better is this. I put myself in the story as a bystander looking at what is happening in the passage. I was thinking of what the disciples after Calvary did as they were getting ready to observe the Passover the next year. I can imagine that they were excited when they could see Jesus in every part of the Passover.

Christ is our Passover. In these messages we are going to see the Lord Jesus in every part of the Passover. Paul tells us that Jesus is our Passover in our passage.

He had no sin in Him.

2nd Corinthians 5:21

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him."

1st Peter 2:21-22

"For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:" "Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth"

1st John 3:5

"And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin."

But before we can actually see the Passover, there is some information that will help us in this study.

I. WHY WAS THE PASSOVER WAS NEEDED?

In Genesis, the Lord used Joseph to save the nation of Egypt from starvation. In turn, the Pharaoh allowed Joseph's family to move into the land of Egypt. God blessed the land of Egypt because of the kindness toward the children of Israel. One day Joseph and the Pharaoh of that day to died. Years later, no one remembered who Joseph was and what he did to save Egypt. The children of Israel multiplied. The Egyptians were afraid that they would lose control of their land so they enslaved the children of Israel. But God continued to bless Israel and their families to grow.

So Pharaoh made the law of the land that the midwives to kill all the males as soon as they were born. The midwives feared God more than they did Pharaoh. So they did not kill the male Israelite babies. So God continued to bless the children of Israel.

Then Pharaoh made it the law of the land that the people that the people were to throw into the river all the male babies. Here is a Bible principle that we need to remember.

When man's laws violate God's law, we should obey God's law.

Acts 5:29

"Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men."

There may come a day when we must not preach against any certain sins. To do so would be considered a hate crime. Let me give an example. Sodomy is sinful. In fact God calls it an abomination. An abomination is a term of anything of a great detest to God and men. Should we preach or keep silent? It is our job as preachers of the Gospel to preach against sin whether it is lawful to do so or not. Will we have to go to jail? Not today but maybe one day. We will be in company. Peter and Paul were placed into prison for their faith. I don't make myself to be in the same league as Peter and Paul but I serve the same God as they did.

II. WHO CAME ON THE SCENE TO CHANGE THIS FOR THE NATION OF ISRAEL?

In Exodus chapter twelve verses one and two we see a couple who feared God. They kept their son alive but he started to cry so that anyone who came by would know they had a baby at their house. So Mom took the baby and made an ark of bulrushes. She put the ark into the River Nile.

Sometimes the Lord allows certain events to come to bring to pass so His will. Moses is in his little ark and his mother put him in the Nile River. It so happens that Pharaoh's daughter had come down to the river to bathe. What would seem to be a coincidence that this happened but it was God's plan. When Pharaoh's daughter saw the ark of bulrushes, she sent her maiden to see what was in the ark. When Pharaoh's daughter, she found a male baby. Babies have a way to touch a person's heart. This was a special baby. He was God's choice to change events for the children of Israel.

But this baby need to be raised and fed. Moses' sister came running. She volunteered Moses' own mother to do so. So Moses was raised by his Jewish mother who taught him about the Lord and His ways. It was Pharaoh's daughter that give his name. His name means 'drawn out'.

So then Moses was raised in the palace of Pharaoh. This too was God's will. It was because Moses would know the ways of the religious world in Egypt when the time come.

Moses knew that he was Jewish. So one day he sees an Egyptian hitting a Jewish man. Moses intervened and killed the Egyptian. The next day, he saw two Jewish men fighting and stopped them. They basically asked him if he was going to kill them too. Moses left town when he knew that Pharaoh was going to kill him. Moses was forty years old.

He went into the desert and came upon a man and his daughters. He became a shepherd. He did this for forty years. One day he is in the desert. He sees a bush burning but not consumed. God called Moses to deliver his people from bondage. Moses tried to get out of the job but God had sent his brother Aaron to help him.

Let me give a few good Bible truths that we can learn from these thoughts. The first forty years of Moses' life, he thought he was something. We should remember this passage of scripture in regards to that thought.

Galatians 6:3

"For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself."

For the next forty years, Moses thought he was a nobody. This is not really a bad thing except most people who think this are really feeling sorry for his or her self.

For the last forty years of Moses' life, he found out that God can take a nobody and make a somebody out of them. Moses is one of the most given names in the Bible. Was Moses perfect? No he was not but neither are we even though we may be walking in the midst of God's will for our lives.

Another lesson we learn from this thought. Aaron was with Moses in every trial and

many of the blessings that Moses had. The Lord told Moses that Aaron would speak for him. I do not recall one time that Aaron did the talking when he and Moses faced Pharaoh. When God calls a man or woman to a task, He will equip them with the tools to get the job done. Remember that I told you that Moses was raised in the palace. God took that training and used it to confound the Egyptians. Moses knew the protocol of the palace. God used that also.

The Lord can use us if we will allow Him to control our lives.

III. WHEN DID THE PASSOVER COME?

Moses only ask Pharaoh one thing. He asked that Pharaoh to let the children of Israel go and leave the land of Egypt. Pharaoh refused. The Lord brought a plague upon the Land of Egypt.

What were the plagues? For time's sake, I will give each of the ten plagues but no explanation because they would take too long. I may do so some time.

- A. The water was turned into blood.
- B. There was the plague of the frogs.
- C. There was the plague the lice.
- D. There was the plague the flies.
- E. There was the plague of the disease of the beast.
- F. There was the plague of the boils.
- G. There was the plague of the hail.
- I. There was the plague of the locust.
- J. There was the plague of the death of the first-born son. It was this plague that was going even affect the children of the Israel. This is when the Lord started the Passover.

Conclusion: Next time we are going to examine this last plague. But the Lord made a way for the people to escape judgment. As believers we will escape the coming judgment called the Tribulation.

How can you escape the coming judgment? You get saved by the grace of God. The Lord will not save someone who has asked to do so.