

THE LAMB IS SELECTED

Exodus 12:1-14

Introduction: In chapter eleven, we find that the Lord told Moses to tell Pharaoh that all of the first-born in the land of Egypt would die at midnight. I would have afraid and would want to to saved my first-born son if I have been Pharaoh but he thought he was a god. This was not going to happen to him. He would find out several truths.

Numbers 32:23

"But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out."

Galatians 6:7

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

Proverbs 16:18

"Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

I was thinking how pride prevented Pharaoh of releasing the children of Israel and how many people had to pay the price for his sinful pride. It is hard to say how many children died. These deaths did not occur until the Passover was observed and the death angel passed over all those in which the blood was applied to the doorposts.

It is a shame that we have to learn lessons the hard way. But the Lord will not be ignored forever. This man's pride would destroy that one who was to replace him on the throne one day. But Pharaoh did not get it. He assumed that the Lord would not take his first-born. He had a short memory. The Lord showed him in the other nine plagues His great power in the affairs of His people.

This death of the first-born included the Jewish people. Not one of the Jewish first-born sons died. The Lord had a plan. That plan was the Passover. I was reading this chapter and saw something that was an important fact. Look at verse twenty-eight.

Exodus 12:28

"And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they."

Even though the word "all" is not here, these people believed God and did what the Lord had told them to do. Here is a great spiritual truth that needs to sounded out today and everyday. When the Lord tells yo to do something, there is safety and blessings in doing so.

The Passover is the most important feast of the Jewish people. They have three main feasts. The other two are the Pentecost and the feast of the Tabernacles. They have been observing it for generations. Today the Passover feast is not exactly like the Passover in Bible times and I will share this as we go on.

In Exodus chapter twelve, we see a progression involved with the lamb. In verse three we see "a" lamb. I see this as an abstract. It could be any lamb. But in verse four the wording is changed to "the" lamb. I see this as an absolute. In the book of John, John the Baptist introduced Jesus as the Lamb of God. There is no doubt about it. Jesus is the Lamb of God. But in verse five we see the final progression. The wording is changed to "your" lamb. This is the assurance. In the next three messages I am going to build up those three passages in regards to the lamb.

I. THE SELECTED LAMB

Vs. 2-5

"This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you." "Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house" "And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb." "Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats"

Sunday Morning January 22, 2012

Freedom Baptist Church

Several questions need to be answered. First of all, what month is this month in verse two. It is basically our month of April.

Secondly a lamb is selected from a group of lambs. A lamb as I said in the introduction is basically an abstract idea. It is a lamb. This had to be a special lamb. Lambs for Passover sacrifices were well fed and protected. These lambs were raised in Bethlehem. Dad goes and finds a lamb. Of course, Bethlehem was not a town then but children of Israel were shepherds. There was plenty of sheep to pick.

A. When did we need a lamb? It was from the Garden of Eden. In Genesis chapter three, Adam ate of the fruit. He plunged the whole human race into sin.

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"

The perfect environment does not mean that men will not sin. Man was in the perfect environment in the Garden of Eden. Yet he still sinned against the Lord. All our sins always against the Lord. Psalm 51:4

"Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest."

This is exactly how we must view it. Until you and I get to the place that every sin is against the Lord and we must have the blood of the Lamb.

Ephesians 1:7

"In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace"

B. When was the picture of the Lamb seen before the Passover?

Abraham is commanded by the Lord to offer his son as a burnt offering unto the Lord in Genesis chapter twenty-two. Abraham and Issac went to the mountain. On the way to place of sacrifice, Issac asked his father this question: ***"Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"*** This tells me that his son knew how a burnt sacrifice were supposed to be done. His father told him ***"My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering"***. As Abraham was ready to offer his son as the sacrifice, the Lord called from heaven and told that He knew that Abraham was willing to offer his son as a sacrifice. But this was a picture of the lamb slain for Passover.

C. When was the lamb selected? 1st Peter 1:18-20

"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;" "But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:" "Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you"

Before this world was formed and the foundation was set, the Lord selected the the Lord Jesus to be our sacrifice. Before the world was formed, the Lord looked down the portal of time and saw you and I. He knew man would see and needed a lamb for his sin.

D. How was the lamb selected. The lamb had to be a male at least one year old. He was selected because he did not have any spots or blemishes. This is a direct prophesy of how Jesus' life was. It was without spot or blemish.

Conclusion: Before May 10, 1972, Jesus Christ was "a" lamb in my life. I had heard about Him. I knew He existed but He was just "a" lamb. Then as the truths of God's word were preached, He became "the" lamb. I knew that I would only go to Heaven by accepting the Lamb of God as my personal Saviour. But on May 10, 1972, He became my lamb. Jesus took my sins upon Him so that I could to Heaven. He not only took my sins, He also took the sins of the whole world.

Everyone needs the Lamb of God. John the Baptist saw it and proclaimed the same.

John 1:29

"The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which

taketh away the sin of the world."

Just in case people did not get it the first time, He proclaimed it again.

John 1:36

"And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!"

There was a difference in these two proclamations. When you see the first time John the Baptist says this, his sentence ends with a period. But in verse thirty-six, the sentence ends with an exclamation mark. He knew it was true in verse twenty-nine but he was excited in verse thirty-six. That is how we as believers should be. We should be excited over Jesus. I said this in the first message. The holy days pointed people to Jesus and I love pointing people to Jesus.

Have you taken this lamb as your Saviour? You are not too dirty to be saved. Here is the two invitations.

Romans 10:13

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

2nd Corinthians 6:2

"(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."