

**Introduction:** A great truth about THE God, who desires an intimate relationship with every person on earth, is He never gives anyone more than he or she can handle at any given time. God reveals this relationship aspect of Himself by the name Yahweh. \*\*\* God is the infinite perfect holy creator and king of everything. He is also full of mercy, grace and LOVE strong enough to change even the hardest hearted person. \*\*\* We however are finite, flawed, broken tinkers of minimal power and influence. But, God shows Himself to us where we are. \*\*\* He begins where we are weakest, where we have our greatest need. He shows us what we need to know so we will give up our desire to fix ourselves without Him and to commit to trusting Him now. Then we can begin the adventure of getting to know Him through His Spirit-inspired Word. This happens for all who receive His Son as their Lord and Savior. At the moment we surrender to Him, The Author of The Bible comes into our lives and begins to teach our newly alive human spirit who God IS, and how we may live in a way that says 'Thank You' to Him. \*\*\* In our first few years of hearing The Bible we only understand the basics. But those who have been hearing God's Word daily for twenty, thirty, forty or more years will often exclaim, why didn't I see that before! The answer is we were not ready to understand this particular truth until now. \*\*\* This is what is happening in our passages today from Exodus and Luke. They are separated by some one thousand five hundred years. \*\*\* After Israel had been slaves in Egypt four hundred years, Yahweh called Moses to lead His people out of slavery. He did so with ten plagues on the people of Egypt and their king. The last plague was the death of every first-born creature in Egypt. And Yahweh told His people to kill a perfect male lamb and put its blood on the doorposts of their houses. He would then pass over the houses with the blood of the lamb on them so they would live and be set free. \*\*\* When Jesus celebrated the same Passover the night before He gave His life blood on The Cross, He said His Blood on a person's heart would save from sin.

**I. Kill a lamb in the first month, putting its blood on the door; eat its flesh as the Passover, and seeing the blood, the destroyer will pass over.** (*Exodus 12:1-13*)

- A. In the first month the family head kills a perfect lamb at twilight on the fourteenth day, putting its blood on the doorposts. (*Verses 1-7*)
- In Egypt Yahweh said to Moses and Aaron, this is the first month for you. (*Verses 1-2*)  
**Spring:** God's people begin their year in spring when rain and new growth come.
  - Each man in the congregation is to take a lamb for his household on the tenth day, small families share with a neighbor. (*Verses 3-4*)  
**Select lamb:** The word for lamb means any flock animal.
  - The lamb shall be a perfect year old male and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day when all will kill it at twilight. (*Verses 5-6*)  
**Perfect:** The lamb (or goat) must be perfectly unblemished.  
**Full moon:** The evening of the fourteenth day starts the fifteenth day when, with a lunar calendar, the moon is full.  
**All:** The pronouns are singular indicating unity among Yahweh's people.  
**Death:** With God, death always precedes deliverance and life.
  - Take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the top of the door of the houses where you will eat. (*Verse 7*)  
**Blood of lamb:** The blood of the lamb will protect Yahweh's people.  
**Doorframe of house:** The motion of applying the blood is similar to the sign of The Cross.
- B. Eat its roasted flesh with unleavened bread – The Passover; and, I will strike down all the first-born of Egypt, but having seen the blood, I will pass over you. (*Verses 8-13*)
- Eat the flesh that night, roasted of fire and unleavened bread in addition to bitter. (*Verses 8-9*)  
**Roasted:** Using fire to roast the meat links Passover to burnt and fellowship offerings.  
**Unleavened:** Leaven often symbolizes sin. (*1 Corinthians 5:1-8*)  
**Bitter:** The bitter (food) would remind them of the four hundred years they were oppressed slaves. (*Genesis 15:12-16*)
  - Whatever is left in the morning you shall burn with fire. (*Verse 10*)  
**Burn leftovers:** Our experience of God yesterday does not carry over to today. (*Matthew 6:34*)
  - You shall eat it in haste, ready to go: Yahweh's Passover. (*Verse 11*)  
**Haste:** Their escape was urgent! They were to wear their sandals and hold their staffs.  
**Passover:** The offering of the blood of the lamb and eating its flesh was to Yahweh.
  - Yahweh will kill every first-born in Egypt and judge all their 'gods'. (*Verse 12*)  
**Egyptian first-born:** First-born of both men and animals would die.  
**'gods' judged:** The false 'gods' and idols would be judged by THE God – Yahweh.
  - When I see the sign of the blood, destruction will pass over you when I kill. (*Verse 13*)  
**Sign of blood:** The blood on the door kept Yahweh's people from destruction.  
**Death passes over:** The blood of the Passover lamb causes death to pass over a house.

**The blood of the Passover lamb delivers from death**

**II. Make every first-born holy to Yahweh; He brought you out of slavery to 'milk and honey', and eat unleavened bread seven days.** (*Exodus 13:1-8*)

- A. Yahweh said make every first-born holy to Me, and Moses said remember this day when Yahweh brought you out of slavery with a strong hand. (*Verses 1-4*)
- Yahweh said set apart every first-born as holy to Me, it is to Me. (*Verses 1-2*)  
**Make holy:** All Yahweh's people were to be holy as He is holy (*Leviticus 11:44-45*).  
**Yahweh's ownership:** Everything is to Him because as Creator of everything, He owns everything.
  - Moses said, remember this day you went out from slavery by Yahweh's strong hand. (*Verses 3a-b*)  
**Remember:** Messiah brought them out (*1 Corinthians 10:1-4*) and He told His apostles to remember His Blood given for them on The Cross (*Luke 22:19*).  
**Strong hand:** Nothing is more powerful than Yahweh's strong hand!
  - NO leaven will be eaten. (*Verse 3c*)  
**NO leaven:** Yahweh has Moses repeat the command He gave earlier.

*Get rid of the leaven*

4. You are going out this day in the first month of Abib ('fresh barley'). (Verse 4)

**Go out:** They are going out from oppressive bondage because of their strong Covenant God.

B. When Yahweh brings you into the 'milk and honey' land eat unleavened bread seven days because of what Yahweh did. (Verses 5-8)

1. Because Yahweh will bring you into the land of five peoples He swore to your fathers to give to you. (Verses 5a-b)

**Land of many people:** Canaanites ('zealous'), Hittites ('terrors'), Amorites ('speakers'), Hivvites ('villagers') and Jebusites ('threshing place').

**Oath:** The oath was given to Abraham in 2080 BC, they entered the land in 1450 BC.

2. The land is flowing with milk and honey, and they serve this service in this month. (Verse 5c)

**Milk and honey:** An abundance of milk means an abundance of animals supported by fertile land, and honey was the chief sweetener with only God's words being sweeter (Psalm 119:103).

**Service:** This service was the Passover meal – an act of worship.

3. They shall eat only unleavened bread for seven days within their borders. (Verses 6-7)

**Seven days:** On the seventh day after Passover, they shall have another feast to Yahweh.

**NO leaven:** Third time: NO leaven!

*Get rid of the leaven*

4. Tell your son on Passover (we eat) because of what Yahweh did for me when I came out of Egypt. (Verse 8)

**Teach generations:** Retelling of God's Word passes on the remembrance feast of the salvation from death to future generations.

*The blood of the Passover lamb delivers from death*

**III. Before He suffered, Jesus ate The Passover with the apostles, then took the bread of His Body being given and the cup of His blood being poured out.** (Luke 22:14-20)

A. Jesus desired to eat The Passover with the apostles before He suffered; but, He said He would never eat and drink until the fulfillment of The Kingdom. (Verses 14-18)

1. When the hour came, He reclined at the table, the apostles with Him. (Verse 14)

**THE hour:** This is THE hour Jesus was born for: to pay for the sins of people on The Cross.

2. He said to them, with desire I have desired this Passover to eat with you before I suffer. (Verse 15)

**Desire:** With longing He had set His heart on this special Passover.

**This Passover:** The next day Jesus will be The Lamb of God whose Blood is taking away the sin of the world (John 1:29).

**Suffer:** His suffering was vividly and graphically described through the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 52:13-53:12).

As He suffered so must we: We must go through many hardships to enter The Kingdom of God (Acts 14:21-22)

3. For I am saying to you that no way I eat until whenever it has been fulfilled in The Kingdom of God. (Verse 16)

**NO way eat again:** Jesus used the strongest language to say absolutely no way!

**Kingdom of God:** By using 'fulfilled' Jesus is referring to His Second Coming (Luke 21:5-35).

4. Having taken the cup and given thanks, He said: Take and divide among you. (Verse 17)

**Four cups:** There are four cups in the Passover meal. The first is to make holy, the second is to deliver, the third is to redeem, and the fourth is both the agony of judgment and the promise of blessing.

**Thanksgiving:** Jesus modeled the command to give thanks in everything (1 Thessalonians 5:18).

**Take:** He commanded them to take this second cup in memory of the deliverance of Israel from Egypt.

5. For I am saying to you that no way I drink from now until The Kingdom of God has come. (Verse 18)

**NO way drink again:** For the second time Jesus used the strongest language to say absolutely no way!

**Kingdom of God:** By using 'has come' Jesus again refers to His Second Coming.

B. Having given thanks for bread, He said this IS My Body being given for you; likewise, the cup (is) My Blood of The New Covenant being poured out for you. (Verses 19-20)

1. Having taken bread and given thanks, He gave it to them saying: This IS My Body being given for you, you must do this in My remembrance. (Verse 19)

**Bread thanksgiving:** As with the second cup, He gave thanks for the bread.

**IS My Body:** He used the explicit verb for being to say emphatically the bread IS His Body!

**Remember:** Jesus now updates what Moses said about remembering deliverance from physical slavery to remember in the future deliverance from sin.

2. And the cup in the same way after (He) said: This cup (is) The New Covenant in My Blood for you being poured out. (Verse 20)

**Same way:** This is the third cup of redemption for sin.

**New Covenant:** Yahweh said in His New Covenant He writes His Word in people's hearts after forgiveness. (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

**Blood:** The fourth cup is the agony of His Blood being shed on The Cross – His Gethsemane prayer. Salvation and life come only through sacrifice, supremely of The Lamb of God.

*The blood of the Passover lamb delivers from death.*

**Bottom Line:** May we fully offer ourselves to The One who gave His Blood for us.

And may we know Him better by daily hearing His Word.

**Conclusion:** The blood of the Passover lamb on the doorposts of the houses of the Israelites saved them from the destroyer who killed all the first-born of Egypt. As a result, Israel was to be holy when Yahweh brought them into the land of 'milk and honey' by purging leaven from their homes. Fifteen hundred years later, on the same spring night, The Savior celebrated this same feast with His apostles and declared that His Blood of The New Covenant would be His gift of Himself for them.

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