

“The LORD’S Passover”
Exodus 12:27, (vs. 1-30)

Introduction: The story of the Passover Lamb goes further back than this chapter. We must remember that Israel had been in bondage to Egypt for 430 years (Exodus 12:40). It was not just any bondage either, it was a bitter hard bondage (Exodus 1:14). Israel remained in this condition until they began to call out to God (Exodus 2:23, 3:7). When you start calling out to God, business is about to pick up. This describes our condition before the Lord saved us from our sins. We were in a bitter, hard bondage to sin in the darkest time of our life before our Saviour delivered us out of it. However, in God’s foreknowledge, our Lord planned a Lamb to deliver us before there was a need for deliverance. Notice:

1. Abraham Discussed the Lamb Genesis 22:8- *“And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.”*
2. John Discussed the Lamb 28 Time in the Revelation Revelation 13:8- *“And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”*
3. Isaiah Discussed the Lamb Isaiah 53:7- *“He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.”*
4. John the Baptist Discussed the Lamb 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.”*
5. John 1:36- *“And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!”*
6. Paul Discussed the Lamb I Corinthians 5:7- *“Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us”*

Body: As we come to our text, we see the main emphasis is on the Lamb’s body and blood. There can be no deliverance without both of these elements.

- I. The Lamb was Sufficient vs. 3-4
 - A. For A Family v. 3- *“...a lamb for an house...”*
 1. It was God who said a lamb, not man. Man has proposed many other ways of salvation, but only the Lamb will provide salvation.
 2. Some may have said that they were related to Moses, isn’t that good enough. Others may have said, “Why not offer a turtledove?” But when it comes down to the end, it must be a lamb, God’s way.
 3. The lamb will not save unless it is chosen. A decision must be made or judgment will come.
 - B. For A Friend v. 4- *“...if the household be too little...him and his neighbor...”*
 1. Since the lamb had to be eaten by the people, it was understandable that a small family would not need a whole lamb to eat.

2. No one would have to die because they could not afford a lamb. Christ is available for all and none are excluded in the offer of salvation.

II. The Lamb was Selected v. 5

A. It was without Mark- *"...without blemish..."*

1. The lamb could not be blind, broken, maimed, or having scurvy or scabbed.
2. They watched the lamb for four days to make sure that it was without blemish.
 - a. Exodus 12:3- *"...In the tenth day of this month..."*
 - b. Exodus 12:6- *"...keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month..."*
3. Note: From the creation to the cross was about 4,000 years.
4. II Peter 3:8- *"But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day."*
5. Matthew 3:17- *"And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."*
6. I Peter 1:18-19- *"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"*
7. I Peter 2:22- *"Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth"*
8. Hebrews 7:26- *"For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens"*
9. Luke 23:4- *"Then said Pilate to the chief priests and to the people, I find no fault in this man."*

B. It was a Male- *"...a male..."*

1. Jesus was the Son of God.
2. He was not the daughter or Mother of God.

C. It was Mature- *"...of the first year..."*

1. This meant that the lamb had to be in the prime of his life, not old and worn out and ready to die.
2. It was not too young or too old, but in the fullness of its strength.

III. The Lamb was for Supper vs. 8-11

A. How It Was Prepared vs. 8-10

1. They were to Eat It v. 8, v. 10
 - a. Eating spoke of two things in the Scriptures, appropriation and fellowship. The lamb represented Jesus as God's food for His people. Jesus was the Bread of Life.
 - b. The blood of the lamb provided salvation while the body of the lamb provided strength.
 - c. The eating of the lamb would strengthen them for their journey.
 - d. There are Christians today who have not fed on the Lamb, and therefore do not have enough strength to get out of the land of Egypt.
 - e. If there were about 600,000 Jewish men (12:37) taking part in the Exodus, then the total number of Jews must have been about 2 million. Like an army

- with its divisions they marched quickly in orderly fashion, with their flocks and their herds. Not one Jew was too feeble to march because of the Lamb.
- f. If any of the flesh of the lamb was not eaten, it would spoil and decay, and become corrupt. What was left must be burned. It could not be hoarded up.
 - g. Psalm 16:10- *“For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.”*
2. They were to Roast It vs. 8-9
 - a. Sodden with water refers to boiling. Boiling things in water oftentimes takes away many vital nutrients. Much theology is boiled in the waters of human reasoning and is not Scripture.
 - b. The body must have been subjected to death and fire—judgment. These are two separate things.
 - c. Hebrews 9:27- *“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment”*
 - d. All of the lamb had to be roasted. In v. 9, his head and his legs were to be separate. How was the lamb opened up and held over the fire?
 - e. Thus the lamb was literally crucified.
 - f. He was hung before the open fire of God’s wrath, and the flames of God’s wrath enveloped Him. The lamb must not be soaked in water, because water would resist the action of the fire.
 - g. The lamb must not be eaten raw and therefore had to endure the fire until the roasting was complete.
 - h. John 19:30- *“When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.”*
 3. They had Unleavened Bread v. 8
 - a. The feast of unleavened bread was instituted during the Passover. 12:15
 - b. They were to put leaven out of their homes. Leaven is a type of sin.
 - c. Leaven is an image of sin: it’s hidden; it works silently and secretly; it spreads and pollutes; and it causes dough to rise—puffed up.
 4. They added Bitter Herbs v. 8
 - a. Tasting the bitter herbs would remind the Jews of their years of bitter bondage in the land of Egypt.
 - b. Also, it would point toward the bitter sufferings of Jesus Christ.
- B. How They Were Prepared v. 11- *“And thus shall ye eat it...”* (Not only were they told what to eat, but they were also told how to eat.)
1. Their Loins were Girded- *“...with your loins girded...”*
 - a. Loose apparel would make it difficult for a person to move quickly.
 - b. Therefore, the girdle kept their clothing from coming into contact with the defilements of the world.
 2. Their Shoes were on their Feet- *“...your shoes on your feet...”*
 - a. In the New Testament, shoes speak of preparation, or readiness. Eph. 6:15
 - b. Deuteronomy 29:5- *“And I have led you forty years in the wilderness: your clothes are not waxen old upon you, and thy shoe is not waxen old upon thy foot.”*

- c. Deuteronomy 8:4- *“Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.”*
 - 3. Their Staff was in their Hand- *“...and your staff in your hand...”*
 - a. The staff was a sign of pilgrimage.
 - b. On their way to the Promise Land they would pass through a wilderness in which they were strangers and pilgrims.
 - c. The staff in hand also typified that they were to lean upon something outside of themselves for the journey. (The Word of God)
 - 4. They were to Eat in Haste- *“...and ye shall eat it in haste...”*
 - a. They did not know the exact time that the Lord would pass by and therefore must be ready for His appearing.
 - b. Luke 12:40- *“Be ye therefore ready also: for the Son of man cometh at an hour when ye think not.”*
- IV. The Lamb was Slayed v. 6, v. 21 (It was not the life of Jesus that saved us, but His death on the cross. His crucifixion was essential! The innocent must die for the guilty. John 3:14- *“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up”* Also, salvation is not in the body, but in the blood.)
- A. The Striking of the Blood v. 7- *“And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses...”*
 - 1. God’s desire was to deliver the children of Israel out of Egypt. However, God is a holy God. He must deal with their sin. The only way to deal with the sin was through the blood.
 - 2. Hebrews 9:22- *“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.”*
 - 3. Skeptics may ask, “How can the blood cleanse sin?” However, God does not require that we understand His plan of salvation, just obey it.
 - 4. People think up dozens of ways to pick holes in the gospel, and then they say that they can’t believe. What they mean is that they won’t believe.
 - 5. Something must be done with the blood. Some say that if Jesus died for the world, the world must be saved. They forget that the blood must be applied.
 - 6. How was the blood applied? We see in v. 22 that it was applied by hyssop. This is a type of faith. We apply God’s blood by faith.
 - 7. Faith is simply the hand that receives the gift.
 - 8. It is not just faith that saves us, it is faith in the blood.
 - 9. Romans 3:25- *“Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood...”*
 - 10. The blood was placed on the two side posts and on the upper door post. This was out of view from the firstborn. He never saw the blood, but it saved him.
 - B. The Sign of the Blood v. 13- *“And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are...”*
 - 1. The word “token” means a sign, signal, a distinguishing mark, a banner.
 - 2. When the blood was applied to the door it formed a cross. Exodus 12:7

3. The blood was not placed on the threshold of the door. This was so that the blood would not be trampled underfoot in disrespect.
 4. Hebrews 10:29- *“Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?”*
 5. In Exodus 12:1-2 we read that God changed the calendar of the Israelites. They were at the beginning of the seventh month, but God changed it to the first month. Six is the number of man, failure, and sin. Six months had passed, and the seventh had come. God started all over. The old six is blotted out.
- C. The Searching for the Blood v. 13- *“...and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.”*
- D. The Source of the Blood
1. It was in the Body—His Incarnation vs. 6-7
 2. It was in the Basin—His Death v. 22
 3. It was on the Building—Our Application v. 7, vs. 22-23
- E. The Sight of the Blood v. 23- *“...and when he seeth the blood...”*
1. The prominent thing that God was looking for in the deliverance of Israel was the blood.
 2. Leave out the blood in your theology and you have a theology that will save no one.
 3. God was not looking at the building, but the blood. It matter not if the house was in shambles or the best that money could buy, God was looking for the blood.
- F. The Safety in the Blood v. 23, vs. 29-30
1. There was only one thing that separated Israel from Egypt, and that was the blood. The only thing that spared Israel was the blood.
 2. Romans 10:12- *“For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him.”*
 3. The lamb was slain at 3:00 P.M. Judgment came at midnight. Between 3:00 P.M. and midnight there was time for the blood to be applied. However, after midnight, not blood could be applied. If you waited too long, it would be too late!
 4. This tenth plague brought the greatest sorrow ever upon Egypt. Exodus 11:6, 12:30
 5. God used Moses to warn Pharaoh that judgment was coming (4:22-23, 11:9). However, Pharaoh did not listen. He would not believe.
 6. Pharaoh reaped what he sowed. Exodus 1:22
 7. When morning broke the lamb was gone as well as God’s children. The only thing that was left in Egypt was death, sorrow, and crying.
 8. There may have been some Egyptians that listened. Exodus 12:37-38, Num. 11:4

Conclusion: We are very grateful for the Lord Jesus Christ who is our Passover that is sacrificed for us. Words cannot express our gratitude for Jesus and His sacrificial death on the cross. However, it is all vain if we do not receive Him as Saviour. Have you ever called on Him to save you from your sins? Have you ever made Him your Saviour? Notice:

1. v. 3- *“a lamb”*
2. v. 4- *“the lamb”*
3. v. 5- *“Your lamb”* (Salvation is personal.)
 - a. Psalm 23:1- *“The LORD is my shepherd...”*
 - b. John 20:28- *“And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.”*