

The Firstborn and the Feast of Unleavened Bread

Ex 13 ¹Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and beast; it is Mine.” ³And Moses said to the people: “Remember this day in which you went out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out of this place. No leavened bread shall be eaten. ⁴On this day you are going out, in the month Abib. ⁵And it shall be, when the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, which He swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, that you shall keep this service in this month. ⁶Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the LORD. ⁷Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days. And no leavened bread shall be seen among you, nor shall leaven be seen among you in all your quarters. ⁸And you shall tell your son in that day, saying, ‘This is done because of what the LORD did for me when I came up from Egypt.’ ⁹It shall be as a sign to you on your hand and as a memorial between your eyes, that the LORD’s law may be in your mouth; for with a strong hand the LORD has brought you out of Egypt. ¹⁰You shall therefore keep this ordinance in its season from year to year. ¹¹And it shall be, when the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to you and your fathers, and gives it to you, ¹²that you shall set apart to the LORD all that open the womb, that is, every firstborn that comes from an animal which you have; the males shall be the LORD’s. ¹³But every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴So it shall be, when your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What is this?’ that you shall say to him, ‘By strength of hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ¹⁵And it came to pass, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the LORD killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all males that open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’ ¹⁶It shall be as a sign on your hand and as frontlets between your eyes, for by strength of hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt.”

► Contrary to modern evangelical opinion, God’s OT people were not ignorant of the gospel. God _____ them with the gospel using things they could see and touch. One of the tip offs is when God _____ the action to interject instructions.

► There are eight things we need to learn from our text:

► 1) Adam was God’s _____ human son.

Lk 3:38 Adam, the son of God.

► 2) All the firstborn sons of Israel pictured _____.

► 3) Because of the sin of Adam, he and all his human family

needed a new kind of firstborn son to _____ them.

► 4) Only _____, being God the Son incarnate, fully God and fully man, could be the redeemer firstborn Son.

Jn 1:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jn 1:18 No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.

Jn 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

1Jn 4:9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

Col 1:18 He is ... the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Rom 8:29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

Heb 12:23 [T]he ... church of the firstborn

► 5) God foreshadowed Christ as the only begotten, uniquely born, redeemer firstborn, around whom God’s covenant people are _____ so that all who do not look to Christ and rally around him are cut out of the covenant.

Acts 3:22-23 ²²“Moses truly said to the fathers, ‘The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me ... Him you shall hear in all things ... ²³And ... every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people” (quoting Deut 18:15-19).

◆ Ishmael was the normal firstborn, but _____ was the “only begotten son,” the firstborn son of promise, miraculously born.

Heb 11:17-19 ¹⁷By faith Abraham ... offered up Isaac, ... his only begotten son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, “In Isaac your seed shall be called,” ¹⁹concluding that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead, from which he also received him in a figurative sense.

◆ Esau was the normal firstborn, but _____ was the son of promise, miraculously born.

◆ Reuben was the normal firstborn, but _____ was the son of promise, miraculously born.

►6) Normal firstborn sons cannot _____ anyone, for they themselves need redemption.

Exo 13:13, 15¹³ [E]very firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb; and if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck. And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem ...¹⁵ I sacrifice to the LORD all males that open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.

Exo 12:38 A mixed multitude went up with them

1Cor 10:1-5¹ [A]ll our fathers ... passed through the sea, ²all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

Eze 16:3 Thus says the Lord God to Jerusalem: "Your birth and your nativity are from the land of Canaan; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite"

Jn 12:14 Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt." (Quoting Zec 9:9 "Behold, your king is coming to you ... humble, and mounted on a donkey, even on ... the foal [Hb., son] of a donkey.")

Isa 11:9-10⁹ [T]he earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. ¹⁰And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, who shall stand as a banner to the people; For the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious."

►7) The feast of unleavened bread is _____ to all of this.

Hebrew Calendar

Day 1 – First full moon of Spring after the barley can produce a sheaf of first _____ to the Lord.

Day 10 – Passover _____ is selected and set aside.

Day 14 – Passover _____ is killed, the meal is prepared, and the feast of unleavened bread begins.

Mt 16:6, 12⁶ "[B]eware of the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees." ... ¹²... He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

Mk 8:15 "[B]eware of ... the leaven of Herod."

Lk 12:1 "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."

1Cor 5:6-8⁶ Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? ⁷Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. ⁸Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Day 15 – Passover _____ is eaten.

Day 16 – The firstfruits sheaf is presented to the Lord.

1Cor 15:20 N]ow Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

Day 50 – _____ – two loaves of leavened bread are presented to the Lord.

After fall harvest – feast of ingathering and the day of _____.

►8) All God's firstborn sons had to endure _____ through food deprivation.

► Conclusion/Application

◆ How much did God _____ his OT saints, and how much does he _____ us?

◆ Men, functional firstborns, who will we emulate, _____ or _____?