



THE GOSPEL SERVED.
Meals That Make Disciples

"The Meal That Changed Everything"

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I. The Reality of _____

Exodus 11:4-6 "So Moses said, 'Thus says the Lord: "About midnight I will go out in the midst of Egypt, and every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the slave girl who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the cattle. There shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there has never been, nor ever will be again."

Exodus 4:22-23 "Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, Israel is my firstborn son, and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.'"

II. The Provision of a _____

(Exodus 12:1-2)

A. A _____ Lamb

Exodus 12:3-4 "Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb."

B. A Substitutionary Sacrifice

Exodus 12:5-6 "Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight."

1. A _____ Lamb

(Leviticus 22:20-21b)

2. A Sufficient Sacrifice

a. A Substitute for an Individual - _____

(Genesis 22:7-8)

b. A Substitute for Every Household - _____

c. A Substitute for the Nation – the Day of Atonement

d. A Substitute for the Whole World

(John 1:29; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Peter 2:22; 1 John 3:5; Romans 6:23)

III. The Response of _____

(Exodus 12:13)

Exodus 12:7 "Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it."

Exodus 12:12 "For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the Lord."

IV. The Rhythm of Remembrance

(Psalm 106:7a)

Exodus 12:14 "This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

Isaiah 17:10a "For you have forgotten the God of your salvation and have not remembered the Rock of your refuge"

Deuteronomy 4:9 "Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children."

A. Remember What You Were Freed From

1. No More _____ !

(Romans 8:1-2)

2. No More _____

(Romans 8:31b)

3. No More _____ !

(Romans 8:38-39)

4. No More of Sin's Domination

B. Remember What God Has Done in You

1. Transformation

(2 Corinthians 5:17)

2. Sovereign Orchestration

3. God's Provision

(Philippians 4:19; Acts 2:42b)

V. The _____ in Christ



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BACKGROUND:

The author of Hebrews states that “without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness” (*Hebrews 9:22*). When Adam and Eve sinned, they were ashamed of their nakedness and attempted to cover their sin with garments made from fig leaves. God instead sacrificed an animal to use its hide as garments to cover their sin (*Genesis 3:7, 20*). This is the first account of a blood sacrifice in scripture and foreshadows future sacrifices including the one-time-permanent sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who is the true Lamb of God, our Passover Lamb (*John 1:29; 1 Peter 1:19; 1 Corinthians 5:7*).

DIGGING DEEPER:

In 1 Corinthians 5:7 Paul instructs that we should “cleanse out the old leaven” and reminds us that we are “unleavened” because of the sacrifice of our “Passover Lamb”, Jesus Christ.

Read 1 Corinthians 5:1-7

1. What does “leaven” (or yeast) symbolize in Scripture?
2. What does it mean to “cleanse out the old leaven”? What is the specific sin Paul is referring to when writing to the church in Corinth?
3. How can tolerating unrepentant sin of a few corrupt the entire church body?
4. What does Paul mean when he said that believers are “unleavened”?

God’s final plague on Egypt was that He would destroy the firstborn of anyone who did not have the lamb’s blood on the doorframe of their house. If God saw the blood of the lamb He would “pass over” that house (*Exodus 12:23*). The head of the household was to select a year-old male lamb without blemish for the sacrifice (*Exodus 12:5, Leviticus 22:20-21*).

Read: John 1:29; Mark 14:12; 1 Peter 1:19; Hebrews 4:15; 9:12,14; Revelation 5:6

5. What is the difference between Jesus’s one-time-permanent sacrifice for the forgiveness of sin and the previous pattern of sacrifice?
6. What are the similarities or differences between the Jewish observance of Passover and the Christian ordinance of Communion?

Throughout the history of mankind, God consistently instructs us to remember Him. In the 23rd chapter of Leviticus, He appoints several feasts, which Paul calls “holy convocations”. They are the Sabbath (verse 3), the Passover (verse 4-5), Feast of Unleavened Bread (verse 6-8), the Feast of First Fruits (verse 9-14), Feast of Weeks, also known as Pentecost (verse 23-25; Acts 2:1), the Feast of Tabernacles (verse 33-36, 40, 42-42), the Feast of Trumpets (verse 23-25; Numbers 29:1-6), the Day of Atonement (verse 26-32; Numbers 29:7-11).

7. The word “convocation” means a gathering of God’s people. A “holy convocation” is one that is set apart for the Lord. The Feast of Unleavened Bread begins and ends with a day dedicated to the Lord. How might these corporate gatherings be encouraging to the church body?
8. What do these feasts have in common? How are they acts of worship?
9. How do these different celebrations connect to God’s ultimate act of salvation through Jesus Christ?

TAKING IT HOME:

Jesus established two ordinances for His church that are intended to remind believers of His atoning sacrifice – Communion and Baptism. In Communion, we remember and celebrate the fact that Jesus chose to suffer and die for us so that we wouldn’t have to, and that He shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins. We are saved from destruction, “passed over”, because of His blood. In Baptism, we publicly proclaim He is our Lord and we symbolically die to our old life in sin (leaven) and rise in new life in Christ (unleavened).

10. Spiritually we are new lumps of unleavened bread. How can we help the church maintain moral and spiritual integrity?
11. As believers, we have victory over death because we are cleansed by the blood of Jesus. God has sanctified us. However, sin must continually be dealt with. What efforts do you make in your life to cleanse or purge your life of leaven?