



Date: May 19th, 2024

Scripture: Exodus 12.28 - 42

Sermon Title: Soft Hearts & Sincere Faith

Context:

Exodus 11

Exodus 12

Exodus 12:28 LSB

Then the sons of Israel went and did so; just as Yahweh had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

Salvation is based on _____ and displayed through _____.

A Study of Exodus 12.29-42

Exodus 12:29 LSB

Now it happened at midnight that Yahweh struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of cattle.

Exodus 12:30 LSB

Then Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians, and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was no home where there was not someone dead.

Exodus 12:31–32 LSB

Then he called for Moses and Aaron at night and said, “Rise up, get out from among my people, both you and the sons of Israel; and go, serve Yahweh, as you have spoken. “Take both your flocks and your herds, as you have spoken, and go, and bless me also.”

Exodus 12:33–34 LSB

And the Egyptians strongly pressed the people to send them out of the land in haste, for they said, “We will all be dead.” So the people took up their dough before it was leavened, with their kneading bowls bound up in the clothes on their shoulders.

Exodus 12:35–36 LSB

Now the sons of Israel had done according to the word of Moses—they had asked from the Egyptians for articles of silver and articles of gold, and clothing; and Yahweh had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

The plundering of the Egyptians is a result of faith put into action.

Exodus 12:37–38 LSB

And the sons of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, aside from the little ones. A foreign multitude also went up with them, along with flocks and herds, a very large number of livestock.

Faith in action becomes hope for Egypt.

Exodus 12:39 LSB

And they baked the dough which they had brought out of Egypt into cakes of unleavened bread. For it had not become leavened, since they were driven out of Egypt and could not delay, nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves.

Exodus 12:40–42 LSB

Now the time that the sons of Israel lived in Egypt was 430 years. And it happened at the end of 430 years, to the very day, that all the hosts of Yahweh went out from the land of Egypt. It is a night to be kept for Yahweh for having brought them out from the land of Egypt; this night is for Yahweh, to be kept by all the sons of Israel throughout their generations.

Application:

1. Our hope is first found in Christ.
2. Our Faith is displayed in our actions (works)
3. Our wealth is for the purpose of worship.

You can make a golden calf with your wealth.

You can build the tabernacle with your wealth.

4. The best evangelism is found in personal obedience.

Life Group Questions:

1. When you were in High School what kind of group(s) did you spend time with? Were you an athlete, band kid, chess club, auto shop.... What attracted you to that group?

*Bring a high school picture or a yearbook to show your life group for bonus points.

Read Exodus Chapter 12.28-42 (prior to life group): When you read through the scripture take note of anything interesting, unique, or questions that come to mind when reading. Take some time and dig in deeper in the following areas.

2. Exodus 12.28-42 is ultimately faith put into action. As Christians we should be displaying our faith through our actions. Read Romans 12.9-21 as a group. What do you see in this passage that should be true for a follower of Jesus. Are there areas that are easier for you? What are the more difficult ones to be obedient to?

3. In Matthew 28 we are given the great commission to make disciples. What do you believe is the most effective way to accomplish this? What are some ways that are not effective in your opinion? What keeps us from following the great commission?

Life in the Church (12:9–21)

Paul addresses life in the church in a series of brief exhortations calling the Roman Christians to mutual love, peace, and service.

Live in Love (12:9–13)

Verses 9–13 comprise ethical exhortations for life together in the body of Christ. The Christian life should be governed by love.

12:9 As in 1 Cor 12–13, Paul moves from a discussion of spiritual gifts to the topic of love, which is the guiding ethic for the body of Christ, especially in the use of gifts. He exhorts the Roman Christians to love one another sincerely; they should abhor evil and cling to the good. Verses 9b–13 are a single sentence in Greek, one detailing a rich list of virtues that are meant to characterize the Christian community.

12:10 Paul’s “virtue list” continues with another love command: Christians are to love one another like brothers. Each is also to be the first to show honor to the others.

12:11 Paul’s “virtue list” continues with dual commands for whole-hearted zeal among God’s servants.

12:12 Paul's "virtue list" continues with encouragements toward joyful hope, patience, and constancy in prayer.

12:13 Paul's "virtue list" continues with an exhortation to serve others both in and (presumably) outside the church body. For Paul, Christian love has very practical effects. He is hoping to call on the Roman Christians' hospitality himself soon (15:23–24).

Grace Under Pressure (12:14–21)

Paul now instructs the Roman Christians how to live under pressure. They are to aim for peace and return good for evil, just as Jesus instructs in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt 5–7). This paragraph transitions to Paul's counsel in chapter 13 about how to live as Christians in the unredeemed world.

12:14 Paul exhorts the Roman Christians in a series of imperatives that are likely based on Jesus' teaching.

12:15 As members of one another, believers should share in one another's joys and sorrows.

12:16 The proper functioning of the body of Christ requires commitments on the part of its members. Such arrogance would make harmony very difficult, especially if the arrogance were tied to Jewish or gentile identity.

12:17 Like Jesus (Matt 5:38–42), Paul teaches an ethic of nonretaliation.

12:18 Paul gives a qualified call to peace. Paul realizes that living this way may not be possible; he has already referred to the possibility of persecution (12:14).

12:19 God's people should be content to leave any balancing of the scales to God. Paul is quoting Deut 32:35.

12:20 Rather than revenge, the believer's responsibility is to show love even to enemies, as Jesus commands in the Sermon on the Mount (Matt 5:43–48; see Prov 25:21–22). While the meaning of "burning coals" is obscure, Paul's point is that Christians should be gracious to their enemies.

12:21 In this verse, Paul summarizes his counsel in this paragraph. Believers are called to show the same grace to others that God showed to them (5:6–10). Such grace invites and empowers change, conquering evil by transforming it.