

On the Jewish calendar, the Feast of Passover occurs on Nisan 14th. This was the day that God commanded Moses to kill a lamb per family to release the Jewish people from Egyptian slavery. Amazingly, on this Feast day Jesus died for the sins of the world; so, let's look at the prophetic implications of this Feast.

LUKE 24 (vv1-3) resurrection morning (**vv13-24**) the risen Jesus walks up along two disciples yet they do not (or cannot) recognize Him (**vv25-27**) Jesus is the Subject of the entire Bible (**vv44,45**) as we look at Passover; we need to understand it in the revelation knowledge of Jesus Christ. **COLOSSIANS 2 (vv1-10)** Paul lifts Jesus to the place where He should be in our lives and in all our gatherings (**vv11-15**) we are forgiven of all sins once we put our faith in Jesus, therefore Paul concludes: (**vv16, 17**) whether we are talking about the weekly Sabbath, or Feast Days (such as Passover), all things are mere shadows, the reality (or fulfillment) is in the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ.

JOHN 1 (vv29-36) "*Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.*" Any Jewish person would understand instantaneously that this reference is to the Passover lamb. **1 CORINTHIANS 5 (vv1-8)** Paul mentions two of the seven Feasts of the Lord: (**v7**) "*Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us*"

LEVITICUS 23 (vv1,2) God gives Moses the information concerning "*...the feasts of the LORD... even these are My feasts.*" (**v3**) God reveals the weekly Sabbath day (**v4**) "*These are the feasts of the LORD... which ye shall proclaim in their seasons*" (*NASB 'times appointed for them' / NIV 'appointed times'*). Just as God set the Sabbath to be on Saturday, God set the days of the Feasts to be nailed to the calendar at very specific times (**v5**) **Passover** is on the 14th day of the first month (Nisan) (**v6**) **Unleavened Bread** is on the 15th of the first month and lasts for seven days (**vv9-11**) **Firstfruits** is the morning after the Sabbath after Unleavened Bread. The final four Feast are **Pentecost** celebrated 50 days after Firstfruits; and in the Fall **Trumpets**, **Day of Atonement**, and **Tabernacles**.

The First Passover: for more than 400 years the Jewish people had lived in Egypt as slaves; the time had come for God to deliver them out of Egypt (*'the house of bondage'* **EXODUS 13:3**). **EXODUS 11 (vv1-7)** God had already sent nine plagues upon Egypt, but Pharaoh refused to let the Jews leave; finally, God sends the tenth plague, the death of all firstborn in the land. Many have trouble with this, thinking how could God do such a thing? Well, it is His sovereign right and He is righteous in all He does; don't forget that Egypt refused God and worshipped hundreds of false gods. Notice carefully in **v5** '*And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die...*' the word '*in*' is used, not '*of*.' The Israelites firstborn were also '*in*' the land of Egypt, this was a sentence of Divine condemnation to come upon all in the land. Yet in (**v7**) '*But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a*

difference between the Egyptians and Israel.' God's absolute righteousness, holiness and justice continued despite the grace He would indeed show Israel. How? An innocent victim would die for the guilty.

ROMANS 6:22,23 '*For the wages of sin is death...*' in **EXODUS** the 10th plague was the death of the firstborn; the wages of sin is death, therefore, there is a sin problem in Egypt. **ROMANS 3:1-23** '*For all have sinned...*' God's sentence of universal condemnation. His Holiness can never ignore sin, sin must collect its wages – death! God did not spare the angels that sinned nor the world in Noah's time (**2 PETER 2:4,5**). When Jesus '*was made sin for us*' (**2 CORINTHIANS 5:21**) God made no exception in not sparing Him (**ROMANS 8:32**). Israel was just as sinful as Egypt, and God can '*by no means clear the guilty*' (**EXODUS 34:7**); the sentence of death was passed upon all in the land, nothing remained but the carrying out of the sentence; but God had a Divine solution!

EXODUS 12 (vv1,2) God changes the Jewish calendar around the Passover, Nisan was previously the seventh month, but now it would become the first. This new beginning also happens in our lives through Jesus (**1 CORINTHIANS 5:7; 2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**).

EXODUS 12 (vv3-6) the lamb was to be selected on the 10th of the month, it was to be an unblemished male, and it was to be killed on the 14th of the month. Every requirement here foreshadows Jesus Christ. In the events of Crucifixion week, Jesus entered Jerusalem on the 10th of Nisan, four days before the Cross. **LUKE 19 (vv28-36)** Jesus arranges all the details specifically spoken of by the Prophet Zechariah some 500 years earlier. **ZECHARIAH 9 (vv9,10)** "*...thy king cometh unto thee...having salvation...riding upon an ass...*" the very next verse says: "*...and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea, and from the river even to the ends of the earth.*" Notice that Zechariah is prophesying of both Jesus' first and second comings, in other words a 2,000-year gap between verses! The lamb was to be without blemish; Jesus was without sin (**MATTHEW 27:3,4; JOHN 8:46; LUKE 23:4**). The lamb was to be a male (**ROMANS 5:19**).

EXODUS 12 (v7) the motion of doing this will make a cross shape! (**vv8-11**) this is the Lord's Passover, God's provision for sin (**v12-14**) '*When I see the blood, I will pass over you...*' God's eye was on the blood, not the houses condition, or the nationality of those inside, it was upon the blood alone!

HEBREWS 9:16-22 '*shedding*' and '*sprinkling*' are not synonymous. Without the shedding of Christ's blood there could not be salvation, but He has done this. And without the blood being applied through faith, there can be no individual forgiveness.

There is no universal salvation, God must see the blood of His Son, shed for you, to be applied by faith (**ROMANS 3:19-25**). In Christ, a new life is His promise! Have you personally asked Jesus for forgiveness? Jesus is our Passover Lamb! Praise Him every day!