

3-17-2024, COTR Texarkana

Title: Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb

Purpose: Proclaim Jesus Christ as God's Passover Lamb, the Savior of the world, and provoke people to believe in and follow Him.

Truth for Today: Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb, the Savior of the world.

Text: Matthew 26:2-5

Topic: Passover, Lamb of God, Blood, Sacrifice

## Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb..."He Did It for Me"

### I. Introduction

- A. **Mortgage paid off!** Celebration soon with banker and missionary. Now we'll take this extra money and invest it in the Great Commission in a bigger way. **Today 3 mission trips:** LaNell Pakistan/ Ghana, Pastor Travis Cuba, Team in Mexico construction.
- B. **[Matthew 26:2-5 (NLT)]** "As you know, **Passover** begins in two days, and the Son of Man will be handed over to be **crucified.**"<sup>3</sup> At that same time the leading priests and elders were meeting at the residence of Caiaphas, the high priest,<sup>4</sup> plotting how to capture Jesus secretly and kill him.<sup>5</sup> "But not during the **Passover celebration,**" they agreed, "or the people may riot." The Passover and crucifixion are linked together.
1. In 2 weeks, we celebrate 2 of the greatest events in world history, the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Savior of the world. Today we'll see the purpose of the crucifixion of Jesus in an ancient celebration called the Passover.
  2. This message is foundational to the Christian faith. Our Christian faith and the NT are rooted in the OT. The 2 Testaments explain and complete God's plan of redemption for fallen humanity. We'll see the reason why the Christian faith is superior to any other world religion and answer the question, why was Jesus crucified and portrayed in the Bible as the Lamb of God.
- C. Title: Jesus Christ, the Passover Lamb..."He Did It for Me"

### II. Jesus Christ in the 1st Passover

- A. Context of redemption history: (Def. redemption: the release of a person in exchange for some type of payment.<sup>1</sup> **(// kidnap)** The ransom or deliverance of people from the bondage and penalty of sin by the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup> **He did it for me.** Redemption's story begins in Genesis and ends in heaven in the Book of Revelation. Adam and Eve sinned and separated people from God. God implemented a plan to restore the relationship between Him and us through the death and resurrection of Jesus. The Jewish people were God's chosen people. They were in the lineage of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. Part of their history includes slavery in Egypt for 400-430 years and ending in a miraculous deliverance through 10 plagues of judgment against Egypt. The last plague was the death of every firstborn Egyptian child.
1. **[Exodus 11:4-5 (ESV)]**...Thus says the LORD: 'About midnight I will go out in the midst of Egypt,<sup>5</sup> and **every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die...**] E.g., of God's righteous judgment against people who reject His offer of salvation.

- B. 3500 years ago; before the 10<sup>th</sup> plague, [Exodus 12:1–13 (NLT) While the Israelites were still in the land of Egypt, the Lord gave the following instructions to Moses and Aaron...<sup>3</sup> Announce to the whole community of Israel that...each family must choose a **lamb** or a young goat **for a sacrifice**...<sup>5</sup> The animal you select must be a one-year-old male...with **no defects**.<sup>6</sup>...Then the whole assembly of the community of Israel must **slaughter their lamb** or young goat at twilight. <sup>7</sup> They are to take some of the **blood and smear it on the sides and top of the doorframes of the houses** where they eat the animal.]
1. The 1<sup>st</sup> foreshadowing of Jesus in the Passover was as a sacrificial lamb. John the Baptist 1500 years later, [John 1:29 (NLT) The next day John saw **Jesus** coming toward him and said, “Look! **The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**] Angels, [Rev. 5:12–13 (ESV) saying with a loud voice, “**Worthy is the Lamb** who was **slain**...] Jesus as the Lamb or Lamb of God is mentioned 35 times in the Book of Revelation.
  2. Why was Jesus crucified? [Heb. 9:22 (ESV)...**without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.**] Why? [Deut. 12:23 (ESV)...**the blood is the life...**] Jesus shed His blood on the cross to pay the penalty of our sin. His gave His life for ours. He paid penalty for our sin and took the judgment we deserve.
    - a. Sin separates us from God and brings judgement in this life and for all eternity. Sin is humanity’s biggest problem. God’s solution was Jesus’ ‘substitutionary atonement’. **He did it for me**. \*The Lamb’s death was to God, an acceptable sacrifice for our sins. [Ro. 5:9 (NLT) And since **we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ**, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. Ephesians 1:7 (NLT) He is so rich in kindness and grace that **he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins.**] God has laws that govern everything, e.g., gravity, thermodynamics, weather patterns, the position and rotation of the earth are physical laws that govern the universe. The atonement, covering and forgiving sin, through the substitution of a blood sacrifice is a spiritual law.
    - b. Only through the blood of Jesus Christ can our sins be forgiven. [Hebrews 7:27 (NLT) Unlike those other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices every day. They did this for their own sins first and then for the sins of the people. But **Jesus did this once for all when he offered himself** as the sacrifice for the people’s sins.] **He did it for me**
  3. The 2<sup>nd</sup> foreshadowing of Jesus in the Passover was being sinless, ‘without defect’. [Vs. 5 The animal you select must be a one-year-old male...with **no defects.**] Jesus lived a perfect, sinless. [Hebrews 4:15 (NCV) For our high priest (*Jesus*)...was tempted in every way that we are, but **he did not sin.**] This is what makes Christianity superior to any other religion. Jesus met God’s condition as a sinless substitute for the judgment we deserved. **He did it for me**
- C. [Vs. 8 That same night they must roast the meat over a fire and eat it along with **bitter salad greens** and bread made without yeast.]

1. The 3<sup>rd</sup> foreshadowing of Jesus in the Passover is ‘bitter salad greens’ that remind us of our need for a Savior. Bitter herbs symbolized sorrow or grief for past sin, or the Israelites’ bitter experience of oppression in Egypt.<sup>3,4</sup> . We’re reminded of the pain and bitterness sin causes in our lives and our need for a Savior, e.g., **bitterness of death. He did it for me**
- D. [Vs 11 “These are your instructions for eating this meal: **Be fully dressed**, wear your sandals, and carry your walking stick in your hand. Eat the meal with urgency, for this is the **Lord’s Passover**.]
  1. After the Passover, Israel would be freed from slavery in Egypt and go to the Promised Land.
- E. [Vs 12 On that night I will pass through the land of Egypt and strike down every firstborn son...in the land of Egypt. **I will execute judgment** against all the gods of Egypt, for I am the Lord! <sup>13</sup> But **the blood** on your doorposts will serve as a sign... **When I see the blood, I will pass over you. This plague of death will not touch you...**<sup>29</sup> And that night at midnight, **the Lord struck down all the firstborn sons in the land of Egypt.**] Godless Egypt was judged; Israel, God’s people, were spared.
  1. The 4<sup>th</sup> foreshadowing of Jesus in the Passover is freedom from the bondage and control of sin. Immediately after the Passover, they were freed from bondage and blessed with the material wealth of Egypt. [Romans 6:22 (NLT) But **now you are free from the power of sin** and have become slaves of God. Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life.] **He did it for me!**

### III. Conclusion

- A. The 5<sup>th</sup> foreshadowing of Jesus in the Passover is the power of His blood to protect us from the eternal judgment of sin. Jesus on the cross [John 19:30 (NCV) When Jesus tasted the vinegar, he said, “**It is finished.**” Then he bowed his head and died.] ‘It is finished’ means His mission to pay the penalty of sin was complete. The Lamb of God had taken away our sins. Now all people have an opportunity to have a relationship with God if they believe and follow Jesus. **He did it for me!**
  1. On Good Friday, may we all pause to remember that Jesus, our Passover Lamb was sacrificed for us.
- B. Response Souls: Jesus made salvation available to everyone, but we’ve got to believe in Him and follow Him to be forgiven, saved and have eternal life. Have you? Are you a believer in Jesus Christ and are you following Him?

### IV. Bibliography/ Resources: Logos Bible Software and Library, Platinum Edition, was used to prepare this message.

1. Achtemeier, P. J., Harper & Row and Society of Biblical Literature. (1985). In *Harper’s Bible dictionary* (1st ed., p. 856). Harper & Row.
2. Webster, N. (2006). In *Noah Webster’s first edition of An American dictionary of the English language*. Foundation for American Christian Education.
3. Hannah, J. D. (1985). *Exodus*. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures* (Vol. 1, p. 128). Victor Books.

4. Jamieson, R., Fausset, A. R., & Brown, D. (1997). [\*Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible\*](#) (Vol. 1, p. 55). Logos Research Systems, Inc.

V. Supplemental Material

- A. Modern day Easter, what do bunnies and eggs have to do with the resurrection?
  1. // Santa and Christmas, a diversion from the real meaning.