

The Great Exodus

We've reached Exodus 12 in our weekly scripture reading. As we say, "There's a lot of meat on that bone." Today, we'll consider the major themes and remember how blessed we are to be saved by the Lamb of God. What a privilege to serve Him!

Background:

- A new Pharaoh.
- Large Hebrew community in Egypt.
- Persecution. Moses in Pharaoh's family.
- 40 years later - Moses flees.
- 40 years later - Moses returns.
- Pharaoh's hardened heart.
- 9 plagues before the 10th and final blow.
- Many believe these plagues represent a deconstruction of Genesis 1. Water tainted. Heavenly lights are blotted out. Creatures leave their natural place and routine instead of maintaining harmony. Life diminishes instead of flourishing.

The Passover Meal

- *Then*
 - Gathered to eat. (Vs.3-4)
 - A male lamb without blemish. (Vs.5-6)
 - Unleavened bread, aka, bread of affliction in Deut. 16:3. (Vs. 8)
 - Bitter herbs. (Vs. 8)
- *Now*
 - Gathered to eat. (Matthew 26:17-19; 1 Corinthians 11:17,20,33)
 - The Lamb of God. John 1:29-34; Isaiah 53:7, 11; Rev 5:6; 1 Corinthians 5:7; 10:14-17
 - Unleavened Bread. His body. Matthew 26:26
 - Wine. His blood of the new covenant. Matthew 26:27-28
 - We have bread (body).
 - We have a drink (blood of covenant).
 - We don't eat a lamb or bitter herbs, rather a lamb who suffered bitterly on our behalf. A lamb who liberated us from a bitter reality - we were slaves to sin.

The Lord's Passover

- The Lord Passed By Vs. 12-13.
 - A male lamb without blemish.
 - Killed at twilight.
 - Put it's blood on the lintel and two doorposts with hyssop branch - 19:29
 - (This lamb who's bones were not to be broken - John 19:36)
- The Destroyer Vs. 23
 - Referenced in Hebrews 11:28.
 - Referenced in 1 Corinthians 10:10.

- *the destroyer* Paul seems to be implying that God's judgment in Num 16:41–50 was carried out by an angel figure.
- God sees the blood and will restrict the Destroyer. Yet, the Lord is said to pass through Egypt. The language is familiar. It how the Bible discusses the relationship between "the Angel of God" and Jehovah. Not only does this angel destroy and wipe out in such passages as 2 Samuel 24; 1 Chronicles 21, but . . .
- The Angel of God
 - Gen. 16:17 Told Hagar he would multiply her offspring. Hagar says she's seen God.
 - Gen. 22:16 Swears by Himself to multiply Isaac's offspring.
 - Gen. 32 He blesses Jacob.
 - Genesis 48:15-16 Blesses Jacob
 - Exodus 3 Calls Himself "I AM." So did Jesus in John 8
 - Exodus 23 Was to be obeyed and will pardon sin. God's name is IN him. Totally unique.
 - (When Jesus said He'd manifested God's name, what was He saying? He was the embodied name of Jesus. If you've seen Me, you've seen the Father. Jesus said the Father is in Me. So when God said, "I AM," and Jesus said He was "I AM" . . . and the angel of the Lord spoke this . . . we need to connect the dots.)
 - Joshua 5 Accepts worship and tells him to take off his sandals.
 - Judges 2 Instructs to break their altars so he wouldn't break covenant with them.
 - Judges 6 Gideon thought he was going to die since he'd seen his face.
 - Judges 13 When asked his name, he asks why Manoah wants to know, "seeing it is wonderful." Isaiah 9:6 anyone?
 - Zechariah 3 Removes iniquity.
- Jude 5 states, "Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe."
 - Consider for a moment that the Destroyer may have been "the Angel of the Lord", who was God (Jesus). Imagine Jesus showing His grace and judgment. Imagine Jesus telling Abraham to stop the sacrifice of his only begotten son. No, Jesus would do that Himself.
- Jesus, ultimately, is the destroyer
 - The devil himself - Hebrews 2:14
 - The works of the devil - 1 John 3:8
 - Our death - Colossians 2:14
 - Our slavery - Romans 6:16-22

So when your kids ask you about our memorial, you tell them . . .

- What Jesus did for us and what it means. Exodus 12:26-27
- That is makes us a distinct people: Exodus 11:6-7; 1 Peter 1:13-19