

EXODUS

Christ Our Passover
Speaker: Pastor Ashwin Ramani
sermon study summary
October 22 / 23, 2022

INTRODUCTION

The book of Exodus can be called “The Gospel According to Moses.” The Exodus serves as a type or pattern for the Christian life. Israel in bondage to Pharaoh is a picture of humanity in bondage to sin. The Passover is a type that points to the salvation we have in Christ; the judgment on Pharaoh and all the firstborns of Egypt is a foreshadowing of the coming judgment. The account of Israel being delivered from slavery, walking through the wilderness and finally reaching the Promised Land is a striking picture of the Christian’s deliverance from the slavery of sin. Our journey on earth is a pilgrimage as we walk towards the new heaven and earth – the ultimate Promised Land.

The first nine plagues show God’s patience, giving Pharaoh numerous opportunities to repent. The tenth plague served a “knockout punch” to Pharaoh and the gods of Egypt. The death of the firstborn shows that “...people are destined to die once, and after that to face judgment” (Heb. 9:27)

In Exodus, God reset the calendar and declared the spring month of Aviv to be the start of the new year. The Passover offered a new start, a clean slate, a fresh beginning. Passover ever since then has been an instructional tool, celebrating God’s great salvation.

Every family was to select a perfect lamb on the 10th day of the month and keep it until the 14th, giving the family time to certify that the lamb was indeed perfect. On the 14th of Aviv the lamb was slaughtered and its blood was collected in a basin and applied to the doorposts with a leafy branch of hyssop.

That night God walked through the land of Egypt as Judge. There was death in every household, including the Israelites. The death of the lamb was substitutionary. It was either the death of a lamb or the death of a firstborn son. Where the lamb died, the firstborn was spared, and judgment was averted.

The distinction between life or death, mercy or judgment, was no longer a matter of Israelite or Egyptian. It was the matter of a conscious personal decision. The Israelites got no special treatment. God said, “When I see the blood, I will pass over you” (Exodus 12:13).

The Passover meal was eaten in haste, demonstrating their faith—they were set to leave Egypt, even though they were still in bondage. They celebrated their liberation even before they were liberated. On paper, they were still slaves to Pharaoh, but mentally and spiritually they were free. Their actions declared, “We don’t belong to Pharaoh; we belong to God.”

Jesus is our Passover Lamb. As John the Baptist said when he saw Jesus, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29). Jesus is our sinless Saviour, a perfect sacrificial lamb, without any blemish. He paid His own blood to set us free from our sins.

The Passover lambs of the OT were a type of the final Passover Lamb, Jesus. Now there are no more sacrifices needed because Jesus is the ultimate sacrifice!

If you are washed in the blood of Jesus, you don’t ever have to fear God’s judgment. When God sees the blood, He will Passover. When He sees the blood, He sees the righteousness of His Son, and we are spared from judgment.

If you have taken refuge in the blood of Jesus, thank God for saving you. If you have not placed your faith in Jesus – open your heart today – let Him wash you and forgive you and give you the assurance of eternal life.



EXODUS

sermon study guide

IN – PURSUE RELATIONSHIP

1. Tell of a time when someone unexpectedly paid for your meal. How did it make you feel?
2. What traditions do you practice that remind you of what God has done for you at Easter or Christmas? What was your most memorable experience?

UP – PURSUE GOD

3. *Read Exodus 12:1-7, 11-13.* What do you think it felt like for the Israelites engaging in the details of the Passover? Or for the Egyptians or Pharaoh observing them? Where did the Israelites need to show faith?
4. *Read John 1:29, 1 Peter 1:18-19 and 1 Corinthians 5:7.* How was John the Baptist's proclamation radical to the Israelites of Jesus' day? What details of Passover do you see in Jesus' life and death?

OUT – PURSUE MISSION

5. How could the Passover narrative be used to explain the gospel to a non-believer? What details from the Exodus Passover are relevant to you today?
6. J.I. Packer said, 'The Bible closes the door on any notion of universal salvation.' Seeing the stark reality of God's judgment in the Exodus story, who in your circle of influence needs the gospel and what are you doing about it?

For Personal Reflection / Prayer:

Pastor Ashwin challenged those who are Christians to remember our salvation, what you were redeemed from — our past, our sins, our old ways. Take time to thank the Lord for the way He 'drew you out of Egypt'. Ask God to show you what you are saved to do.

THE WORD (NIV)

Exodus 12:1-7, 11-13

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ² "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³ Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb[a] for his family, one for each household. ⁴ If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. ⁵ The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶ Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the members of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. ⁷ Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs.

¹¹ This is how you are to eat it: with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste; it is the Lord's Passover.

¹² "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood ¹³ will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.

John 1:29

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

1 Peter 1:18-19

¹⁸ For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

1 Corinthians 5:7

Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch—as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

This week's writers: Elsa Henderson, Gene and Karen Gibbs, and Jorel Quemuel

