

# The Innocent Substitute

## Exodus Chapter 12

Comment: During the last nine miracles, how many people were delivered from Egypt? NONE. This tenth miracle or judgment will show us the only way in which people can be delivered/saved.

Exd 12:1 **1) Instructions Concerning Passover** vs 1 - 13

### How to Pick a Lamb

Now the LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,

Exd 12:2 "This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year to you.

- *This was in March or April, The redemption and deliverance of Israel is so significant that God tells them that all things are new. Even your calendar system.*
- *2 Cor 5:17 "Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."*
- *What an interesting concept of a New Years Celebration. Instead of having a party they have Passover. Instead of getting drunk they get sober. Instead of making resolutions for themselves they remembered what God has done.*

Exd 12:3 "Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'On the tenth of this month they are each one to take a lamb for themselves, according to their fathers' households, a lamb for each household.

- *Someone once observed the progression concerning the lamb. It was at first A lamb, then THE lamb to YOUR lamb and finally IT. This lamb moves from any lamb in particular; to THE lamb that has a specific special purpose; to YOUR lamb that has a personal association; to IT meaning a singular Lamb. Exodus 12:6 makes it seem there is only one lamb that will be sacrificed for Israel. This singular Lamb points to the singular Lamb of God.*
- *Isaiah 53:7 "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."*
- *John 1:29 "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."*
- *1 Cor 5:7 "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:"*
- *1 Peter 1:18-21 "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, [as] silver and gold, from your vain conversation [received] by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God."*
- *Rev 5:13-14 "And every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, heard I saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, [be] unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever. And the four beasts said, Amen. And the four [and] twenty elders fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever."*
- *The Passover Lamb is a type or picture of the True Passover Lamb - Jesus the Messiah*
- *Spurgeon "When God laid sin upon Christ it must have been in the intent of his heart that he would never lay it on those for whom Christ died."*

Exd 12:4 'Now if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take one according to the number of persons {in them;} according to what each man should eat, you are to divide the lamb.

Exd 12:5 Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.

Exd 12:6 'You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it at twilight.

- *On the tenth of the month a household needs to select a year old mail lamb that has not acquired any blemishes nor born with a blemish. They will be instructed to eat it and if the household is a small household, they need to consider inviting neighbors to join them.*

- You can imagine that for four days the family has this perfect cute lamb around the house. You can picture the children bonding with the lamb and naming it. But in four days you will slit its throat, butcher, roast and eat this cute innocent lamb. A innocent substitute is more realized by the bonding.
- The language here the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel (many) is to kill it (the one). God is clearly focused on one lamb. Even though at moment in this account many households will kill for themselves a lamb thus many lambs will be sacrificed.

#### Exd 12:7 **How to Cook and Eat a Lamb**

'Moreover, they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

Exd 12:8 'They shall eat the flesh that {same} night, roasted with fire, and they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

Exd 12:9 'Do not eat any of it raw or boiled at all with water, but rather roasted with fire, {both} its head and its legs along with its entrails.

Exd 12:10 'And you shall not leave any of it over until morning, but whatever is left of it until morning, you shall burn with fire.

- Kill it at Twilight (from sunset to nightfall)
- Mark the doorpost and lintel with the blood
- Roast it whole (Head, Legs and entrails)
- Do not boil or eat raw
- Eat with Unleavened Bread - Sense of haste again because there is not time for the bread to rise when deliverance will come.
- Eat with Bitter Herbs - To remember the bitterness that was in Egypt

#### Exd 12:11 **How to Dress to Eat a Lamb**

'Now you shall eat it in this manner: {with} your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste—it is the LORD'S Passover.

- The proper attire is:
- Girded Loins (The Lower garment tied up between the legs so as to provide mobility and agility)
- Sandals on feet (Not in the corner by the front door; But ready to leave if needed)  
- Little did they know these sandals are going to last for the next 40 years
- Staff in Hand (staff speaks of taking a trip. The staff was for balance, reaching, nudging)
- Eat in Haste (With purpose and with idea of needing to get to something else)

This is interesting in that you should realize that they didn't know that they would be leaving soon. Their meals were taken not with such expectancy for departure. Future Passover Celebrations will not be in such a haste. The celebration will be one of remembrance and it is much longer with praise/prayer and time to appreciate this deliverance of God.

- When we receive the Lamb/Christ we need also to be expectant for deliverance.

#### Exd 12:12 **The Lord's Passover**

'For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments--I am the LORD.

Exd 12:13 'The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy {you} when I strike the land of Egypt.

- The Lord will kill all the first born who are IN Egypt (not just OF Egypt)
- Man and Beast will be struck down
- But there will be a sign. That favors the one who displays the sign but it is a sign for the Lord to see.
- Roman 5:8-9 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him."

- *Colossians 1:20-22* "And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, [I say], whether [they be] things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in [your] mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled in the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:"
- *Hebrews 9:11-15* "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption [for us]. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions [that were] under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance."
- *If an Israelite DIDN'T believe the power of the blood but sacrificed the lamb and eat, judgment would still come.*
- *If an Egyptian DID believe the power of the blood, and observed this Passover properly this household would be spared judgment.*
- *An intellectual agreement was not enough to be spared. They had to do what God said to do.*
- *For us we need to apply the blood to our lives by faith. And when God sees the blood applied to our lives His judgment will pass over us. We must do what God told us to do. Repent and Believe. It isn't about us cleaning ourselves up, or ever understanding how all this works. We simply need to apply the Blood of Jesus to our lives. This and only this washes our sin away. We need to humble ourselves and receive the simplicity of His sacrifice for forgiveness and God will spare us and receive us to His heaven.*

Exd 12:14 **2) Instructions Concerning Unleavened Bread** vs 14 - 28

'Now this day will be a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it {as} a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations you are to celebrate it {as} a permanent ordinance.

- *To this day the Jews still celebrate the Passover. This word remains true.*

Exd 12:15 'Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, but on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses; for whoever eats anything leavened from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.

Exd 12:16 'On the first day you shall have a holy assembly, and {another} holy assembly on the seventh day; no work at all shall be done on them, except what must be eaten by every person, that alone may be prepared by you.

Exd 12:17 'You shall also observe the {Feast of} Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts (KJV=army) out of the land of Egypt; therefore you shall observe this day throughout your generations as a permanent ordinance.

- *The word host (tsaba) means host but in the understanding of a host military men or a host of those going out to battle.*
- *These people have been slaves for 400+ years. They know only how to be slaves. Eventually they will be engaging in battle and they will need to be warriors. This transition will happen as they wander in the wilderness.*
- *God is already calling them what they will be. (Rom 4:17 "God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.")*
- *We are the same way. We were slaves to sin. (Rom 6:6+17) We eventually change from a slave mentality to a warrior mentality.*
- *2 Cor 10:3-6 "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. {We are} destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and {we are} taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ, and we are ready to punish all disobedience, whenever your obedience is complete."*

Exd 12:18 'In the first {month,} on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening.

Exd 12:19 'Seven days there shall be no leaven found in your houses; for whoever eats what is leavened, that person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether {he is} an alien or a native of the land.

Exd 12:20 'You shall not eat anything leavened; in all your dwellings you shall eat unleavened bread.' "

- *On the 1<sup>st</sup> month, from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>, all Israel is to remove leaven from their homes. On the first day (the 14<sup>th</sup>) and the last day (the 21<sup>st</sup>) they are to assemble. This is to be a holy assembly to bring the congregation to holiness.*
- *Holiness is the purpose through this memorial. To remove leaven; a type for sin. Not to eat leaven; suggesting that behavior not be sinful. And to cut off whomever eats leavened; to distance sinful people from you.*
- *Let's Review:*
  - *10<sup>th</sup> Pick a Lamb*
  - *14<sup>th</sup> Slaughter the lamb, Roast and Eat the Lamb PASSOVER*
  - *14<sup>th</sup> Remove all leaven*
  - *14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> do not eat anything leavened.*
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Exd 12:21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go and take for yourselves lambs according to your families, and slay the Passover {lamb.}

Exd 12:22 "You shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood which is in the basin, and apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and the two doorposts; and none of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning.

- *Moses speaks to the elders of Israel who will then inform all Israel of the Lord's instructions. Moses is done talking to Pharaoh.*
- *Slay the lamb. Here he calls the Lamb the Passover. 1 Cor 5:7 "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us:"*
- *Hyssop is commonly used for cleansing or washing. Hyssop is a bushy evergreen herb that blooms from June to October. With three varieties, the flowers can be blue red and white. Hyssop is highly aromatic. From the leaves and flowers oils and teas respectively are made.*
  - *In Leviticus 14:6, the ceremony for the cleansing of a leper used hyssop to apply blood. In Numbers 19:6 hyssop was used for to make the ashes of a red heifer for the water of purification. In Numbers 19:18 hyssop was used to apply the purification water.*
  - *Hyssop was even connected with Jesus' great sacrifice for sin. John 19:29 points out when Jesus was offered sour wine to drink on the cross, the sponge soaked with it was put on a bunch of hyssop.*
  - *This is why David, in his great Psalm of repentance, says "purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean" (Psalm 51:7). Hyssop was always connected with purification through sacrifice.*

Exd 12:23 "For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite {you.}

- *The Lord will pass through to smite, but the determining factor is the blood on the lintel and doorposts. The Lord sees the blood and He will not allow the destroyer to affect that home with the blood.*
- *Do not know who or what the destroyer is. We can know that this destroyer is under the control of the Lord and will only smite the first born, and only those houses that are not covered by the blood.*

Exd 12:24 "And you shall observe this event as an ordinance for you and your children forever.

Exd 12:25 "When you enter the land which the LORD will give you, as He has promised, you shall observe this rite.

- *After 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, Joshua led the Children of Israel into the Promised Land. Chapter 4 + 5 of Joshua tells us that Joshua was magnified in the eyes Israel and became a great leader. Joshua did 2 things when he first crossed over. He circumcised all of those who were born in the wilderness and then they celebrated Passover. Exodus 12:48 says, "No uncircumcised person shall eat of it." speaking of the Passover.*

- *The Joshua account is amazing in that the timing was on the 10<sup>th</sup> of the first month. The exact time that they left Egypt and just in time to celebrate Passover (Joshua 5:10) as the first act upon entering the Promised Land. God will is accomplished in His perfect timing.*

Exd 12:26 "And when your children say to you, 'What does this rite mean to you?'

Exd 12:27 you shall say, 'It is a Passover sacrifice to the LORD who passed over the houses of the sons of Israel in Egypt when He smote the Egyptians, but spared our homes.' " And the people bowed low and worshiped.

- *Consistently, the Lord always is teaching parents to teach the children the histories and rituals of the Lord.*
- *We are to give instructions to our children (Exd 13:8-10,14-16; Deu 4:9,10; 6:6-9; 11:19,20; 31:12,13; Jos 8:35; Psa 34:11; 78:1-8; Pro 1:1,4; 22:6; Isa 28:9,10; Joe 1:3; Jhn 21:15; Act 22:3)*
- *Deut 4:9 "but teach them thy sons, and thy sons' sons;"*

Exd 12:28 Then the sons of Israel went and did {so;} just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

- *More than listening to Moses & Aaron, More than understanding the instructions, THEY DID IT*

Exd 12:29 **3) The Time Has Come** vs 29 - 41

Now it came about at midnight that the LORD 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.

Exd 12:30 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.

Exd 12:31 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, worship the LORD, as you have said.

Exd 12:32 "Take both your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and go, and bless me also."

- *PHARAOH SAID GO!*
- *At Midnight The Lord did as He said. Exodus 11:1 is fulfilled "He will drive you out"*
- *There Was NO HOME WHERE THERE WAS NOT SOMEONE DEAD in Egypt.*

Exd 12:33 The Egyptians urged the people, to send them out of the land in haste, for they said, "We will all be dead."

- *THE PEOPLE SAID GO!*
- *The Egyptians didn't know the extent of this judgment. Will it go beyond the 1<sup>st</sup> born?*

Exd 12:34 So the people took their dough before it was leavened, {with} their kneading bowls bound up in the clothes on their shoulders.

Exd 12:35 Now the sons of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, for they had requested from the Egyptians articles of silver and articles of gold, and clothing;

Exd 12:36 and the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have their request. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

Exd 12:37 Now the sons of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, aside from children.

- *600,000 men add to that women, sons and daughters. Upwards around 2 million people. Think of the task of getting that many people to move out. Think of how many opinions as to when, how fast, who should be up front, in the rear, the children needing to go potty, or asking are we there yet?*
- *Psalm 105:37-38 "He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and [there was] not one feeble [person] among their tribes. Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them."*
- *God had them prepared. God knew how to get them going. They were all miraculously healthy.*

Exd 12:38 A mixed multitude also went up with them, along with flocks and herds, a very large number

of livestock.

- *A mixed multitude - even some Egyptians are leaving also. Converts / Fearful*
- *All the animals as well. Very large herds.*

Exd 12:39 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.

Exd 12:40 Now the time that the sons of Israel lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years.

Exd 12:41 And at the end of four hundred and thirty years, to the very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

- *God is clearly in control. This is not the only time that we have seen the timing of thing to the very day. How many other times do these things happen and we don't even realize the timing.*
- *Daniel 9 speaks of the time from the issuing of the decree to rebuild and restore Jerusalem until Messiah is 69 7's or 483 years to the day. Artaxerxes made a decree giving Nehemiah permission, safe passage and supplies to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the city and the walls in 445 B.C. (Nehemiah 2:1-8) Some say the 483 years were completed at the triumphal entry of Jesus (if dated at 32 A.D.). Sir Robert Anderson's significant work The Coming Prince follows this argument in great detail.*
- *An interesting parallel is in the inter-testament period. Or what is called the 400 silent years. Malachi completed his book some 400 years BC. Jesus was born around 5-4 BC and baptized around 30 years later. While the exact numbers cannot be calculated accurately, we can see a close parallel to 430 years and our deliverer.*

Exd 12:42 **4) A Solemn Observance** vs 42 - 51

It is a night to be observed for the LORD for having brought them out from the land of Egypt; this night is for the LORD, to be observed by all the sons of Israel throughout their generations.

- *This has now been repeated 3 times. This is to be observed by all Israel throughout their generations*
- *As Christians look back to Calvary and remember it with Communion. The Jews look back to Passover and remember it with a meal also called Passover or a Passover Seder.*

Exd 12:43 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "This is the ordinance of the Passover: no foreigner is to eat of it;

- *It is NOT to be eaten by a foreigner*

Exd 12:44 but every man's slave purchased with money, after you have circumcised him, then he may eat of it.

- *Your Slave can eat as long as he has been circumcised.*

Exd 12:45 "A sojourner or a hired servant shall not eat of it.

- *A Visitor and Hired Help cannot eat of it*

Exd 12:46 "It is to be eaten in a single house; you are not to bring forth any of the flesh outside of the house, nor are you to break any bone of it.

- *Passover is to be eaten at the family level.*

Exd 12:47 "All the congregation of Israel are to celebrate this.

- *Family level but all families of Israel are commanded to participate.*

Exd 12:48 "But if a stranger sojourns with you, and celebrates the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near to celebrate it; and he shall be like a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person may eat of it.

- *The rule boils down to circumcision. This was the sign of Israel. The circumcised shall eat of it.*

Exd 12:49 "The same law shall apply to the native as to the stranger who sojourns among you."

Exd 12:50 Then all the sons of Israel did {so;} they did just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron.

Exd 12:51 And on that same day the LORD brought the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their

hosts.

- *All this happened as the Lord said it would and all Israel obeyed the Lord*
- *It is the hope, as we read these passages that our parallel observance of Communion will be as holy and have as intense importance in our lives as God has established Passover. Because we live in grace, as apposed to Law, it is easy to develop an attitude of pick and choose how to celebrate Jesus. By contrasting Passover and Communion, hopefully we can cherish a more devoted participation in remembering God's Deliverance.*

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