OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

PERIOD THREE

THE HEBREW NATION - SET FREE

LESSON 11

Time	PERIOD THREE			THE HEBREW NATION		
Main thought	MAKING A NATION AND TAKING LAND					
Books that tell of each part	EXODUS LEVITICUS NUMBERS DEUTERONOMY JOSHUA					JOSHUA
What this part tells about	SLAVE	MT. SINAI (Law given)	WANDER IN WILDERN		TAKING THE LAND	SETTLING THE LAND



Pharaoh's heart was so hard that God had to do something which hurt very much. How was God going to punish Egypt at this time (Exodus 12:12)?

This punishment was to come to every house in Egypt. It was to come to Pharaoh's house. It would also come to the people of Israel who did not believe God.

God told Moses how the people of Israel could be safe. The people of Israel were to obey God. They were to do exactly what God asked them to do. All those who would obey God would be safe (Exodus 12:13).

God wanted to save the people of Israel (Hebrews 11:28). God wanted to show people how He saves sinners (1 Corinthians 5:7).

1. PASSOVER

READ EXODUS 12:1 to 13:19.

A. The Passover preparation.

The first-born in every house was to die. God wanted to save the first-born of the people of Israel. However, every family in Israel would have to believe God. Those who believed God's words would obey Him. God showed how every family could be safe (Exodus 12:13).

Death would come to every house. Where the people did not believe, the oldest son would die (Exodus 12:12).

God asked the people of Israel to choose an animal (Exodus 12:3). What kind of animal was it to be?



This animal had to be perfect. It could not have any scars or sores. Each family was to keep their lamb for 14 days. This was to make sure their lamb was perfect. This lamb would die instead of the oldest son (Exodus 12:23). Each family was to kill the lamb in the evening.

What were they to do with the blood (Exodus 12:7)?

The blood had to be put on the door posts just like God told them. If the blood was left in the basin, the oldest son would die (Exodus 12:13).

What was the family to do with the meat (Exodus 12:8)?

Could they break any bones (Exodus 12:46)?

READ JOHN 19:33,36.

B. The Passover night.

The death angel visited the homes of those who did not believe what God had said (Exodus 12:12). Where there was not blood on the door posts, the angel killed the oldest son in the family. He also killed the firstborn of the animals (Exodus 12:29). The death angel passed over the houses which had blood on the door posts.

The people of Israel were saved from the death angel by the blood of the lambs who died. They were saved from the rule of Egypt by the power of God.

The people of Israel ate the meat of the lambs at night. They were ready to leave Egypt.

In the morning the people did not have time to put leaven (yeast) in their bread dough. When they were chased out of Egypt, they took their dough as it was (Exodus 12:34). This is why it is called unleavened bread. It was like bannock or biscuits. Later the people of Israel had a feast of unleavened bread. This feast reminded the people of Israel how God set them free from Egypt.

C. The Passover feast.

God killed the first-born of the Egyptians because they would not obey Him. God also showed how great and wonderful He was. He wanted the people of Israel to remember this (Exodus 12:24-27). The people of Israel were to give God their first-born animals. Animals like sheep and cows would be sacrificed. Animals like donkeys had to have another animal die in their place (Exodus 13:12,13).

All the first-born sons of the people of Israel had to have an animal sacrificed in their place (Exodus 13:13). This would remind them that their first-born sons belonged to God (Exodus 13:15). God had saved them.

The people of Israel were to count time from the time of the first Passover (Exodus 12:2). The month of the Passover was to be their first month of the year. We count time from when Christ was born.

D. The Passover today.

The people of Israel still keep the Passover today. They use the unleavened bread. However, they do not have the lamb at their Passover anymore. Somehow they stopped using the lamb in their Passover feasts. This happened after Jesus died on the cross. Most of the people do not know why they do not use the lamb. Many do not know that Jesus Christ is their true Lamb.

E. Pictures of Jesus.

• The Passover lamb - the Lamb of God.

God's way of salvation is through the blood of the Lamb. Look up the following verses. Write down what they say about the Passover Lamb.

John 1:29

1 Corinthians 5:7 1 Peter 1:18,19 Revelation 5:6 Revelation 6:1 Revelation 7:9 Revelation 12:11 Revelation 13:8 Revelation 14:1

The lamb which the people of Israel killed in Egypt was a picture of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ died on the cross for us (John 1:29).

The people of Israel who believed and obeyed God were saved. Today those who accept Christ are saved. The people of Israel who did not believe, lost their first-born sons. Today those who do not believe Christ are lost in sin (John 3:36).

As the death angel passed over the homes which had blood on the door posts, so God passes over everyone who is cleaned with the blood of Jesus Christ.

• The feast of the Passover - the Bread Life.

The people of Israel ate the meat of the lamb. The Christian feeds on Jesus Christ, the Bread of life. The Christian feeds on Jesus when he reads the word of God. The Christian feeds on Jesus when he has fellowship with Him (John 6:53-56). As each son of Israel ate unleavened bread, so each Christian is to take communion. This is to remind him that Jesus died for him (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

The people of Israel were to keep a feast every year. They were to remember the time they left Egypt. They were to remember that their first-born lived.

The Christian is to take communion. This reminds him of the death of Christ, the Lamb of God (John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 11:26).

2. SET FREE

A. God set the people of Israel free.

• Set free from slavery.

The people of Israel had been slaves in Egypt. The night of the Passover, the Egyptians chased the people of Israel out of Egypt (Exodus 12:31-33). The people of Israel left the

country of Egypt. They were set free. They were slaves no more.

• Given a guide and leader.

As the people of Israel left the slave rulers, they needed someone to lead them. God gave them Moses and Aaron as leaders. What did God give them as a guide (Exodus 13:21)?

• Kept safe from Pharaoh's army.

After the people of Israel left Egypt, Pharaoh wanted them to come back. He called his army. The army of Pharaoh followed the people of Israel (Exodus 14:5-8).

Did the people of Israel trust God when they saw the Egyptians coming (Exodus 14:10)?

God kept the people of Israel safe that night. How did God protect them (Exodus 14:19-20)?

They were kept safe from Pharaoh's army.

• Set free through the Red Sea.

The people of Israel were in a place where they could not get away. The mountains were on both sides of them. The Egyptian army was behind them. The Red Sea was before them. They had no boats to cross the Red Sea.

God made a way across the Red Sea.

How did the people of Israel cross the Red Sea (Exodus 14:21,22)?

It must have been a very wide crossing in the Sea. Nearly 3,000,000 people crossed the sea in a night.

• Set free from the Egyptians.

The Egyptian army followed the people of Israel into the Red Sea (Exodus 14:23).

What happened to their wagons (Exodus 14:25)?

What happened to the Red Sea when Moses raised his rod (Exodus 14:27)?

What did God do to the Egyptians (Exodus 14:26-28)?

B. Results of being set free.

• People feared God.

God showed the people of Israel how great and wonderful He was when He brought them out of Egypt. When the people of Israel saw what God did, they had great fear for Him. They also chose Moses to be their leader (Exodus 14:31).

• People praised God.

The day that the people of Israel were set free was a great day. There was happiness. They praised God. They knew they were set free from the Egyptians. The people of Israel were on their way to their own country.

Exodus chapter 15 is a song of praise to the Lord. Moses and the people of Israel praised the Lord for setting them free from Egypt. READ THIS CHAPTER CAREFULLY.

Can you praise the Lord for setting you free from the old sinful life? Many people have been set free of the fear of Satan when they chose Jesus to be their Lord. Many people have been set free from drunkenness when they chose Jesus to be their Lord.

3. TRAVEL TO SINAI

How soon the people of Israel forgot all that God did for them. They soon grumbled and complained. Are we the same?

Israel complained A. Wilderness of Shur. Marah. People complained about (Exodus 15:24)	God gave God gave them (Exodus 15:25) They found (Exodus 15:27)
Elim. B. Wilderness of Sin. People complained about (Exodus 16:3)	God gave them (Exodus 16:13) (Exodus 16:14)
C. Rephidim. They wanted water. People complained about (Exodus 17:2,3)	God gave them (Exodus 17:4-6)

The rock is a picture of Jesus Christ (John 19:34,35). Like Moses hit the rock, so the side of Jesus was hit (1 Corinthians 10:4).

• The people fought a war.

Who came to fight against the people of Israel (Exodus 17:8)?

Who was the captain of Moses' army (Exodus 17:10)?

How did Moses help the army fight (Exodus 17:11)?

Was Moses able to hold up his hands alone (Exodus 17:12)?

Moses held up his hands to show that he was praying for the army of Israel. When we pray for others, it is like holding up our hands for them. Sometimes people need much prayer. Aaron and Hur held up Moses' hands for Israel (Exodus 17:12). Sometimes many people need to pray together for one person.

• Jethro met Moses.

Jethro was the father-in-law of Moses. He was a priest of the Midianites. Jethro did praise and worship God. He worshiped God when Moses told him how God brought Israel out of Egypt. Moses judged all the people. This was too much for him. What did Jethro ask Moses to do (Exodus 18:17-22)?

God used Jethro to tell Moses what to do. Many times God uses people to show us what to do.

4. IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

These chapters have the clearest picture of salvation we can find in the Old Testament.

The blood of the lamb saved the first-born from death. The people believed what God said and obeyed Him. The blood of the Lamb of God saves us from eternal death. We believe what God says and we accept Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God (1 Peter 1:18,19).

Going through the Red Sea separated the people of Israel from the land of Egypt.

Going through baptism is a picture of how the Christian is separated from the old sinful life, (Romans 6:4). With baptism the Christian says, "I want to die to the old sinful life. I want to live the new life in Christ."

God gave the people of Israel what they needed in the wilderness. God gives the Christians what they need in this life (Philippians 4:19).

WORDS TO LEARN

- 1. complain to say that things are not good enough.
- 2. feast a time when people remember something good that happened. They do this by eating together.
- 3. first-born the oldest in the family, the one born first.
- 4. judge to tell if something is right or wrong.
- 5. leaven yeast that which makes bread rise.
- 6. Passover when the death angel passed over the homes in Egypt of those who believed and obeyed God.
- 7. rod a heavy stick used by shepherds.
- 8. results that which we get because of something that happened; example We study hard and as a result we get good marks.
- 9. slave a person who is owned by someone and is not paid for his work.
- 10. slavery when people are kept as slaves.

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