

The Prophecies of Passover - Passover and Communion Changes

The first passover required that the blood of the sacrificial lamb be applied to the two side post and the lintel of the door, seen in: ***Ex 12:5-7; 5 "Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: 6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. 7 And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it."***

The blood, on the door post and lintel, is the prophetic picture of the complete work of eternal salvation for all of God's people, wrought by Christ on the Cross. What do you mean? The blood on the door post and lintel was only applied once, at the first passover. The next time they keep the feast it will be a memorial feast and they will already be free from bondage. Likewise, Christ only died once for the eternal redemption of all of God's people, seen in: ***Heb 9:11-12; 11 "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; 12 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."***

Why were the plague, of the death of the firstborn, and the passover feast necessary? For two reasons: First: It was necessary to humble the hearts of the Egyptians, which would bring to pass the freedom of Israel from bondage. Second: It was necessary to instill faith, and reverential fear of God, in the hearts of the Israelites. They needed to see, and understand, God was the only power that could free them from the plague of death and Egyptian bondage. They needed to see that God was their merciful Saviour, because of the application of blood, and so do we need to understand the same.

The application of the blood, to the door posts and lintel, is prophetic of the new birth taking place. How, you ask? remember, the Israelites were under the penalty of the death of their firstborn, just like the Egyptians were. It was only the application of the sacrificial blood to the door post and lintel, which took that plague of death of the firstborn from them, seen in: ***Ex 12:23 For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you."*** Today, all people are under the law penalty of death for sin. However, with the application of the blood of Christ to the door entrance of our hearts, which door is Christ, which is done at our new birth, we are delivered from that bondage to satan and sin. How do we know this? According to scripture: When we are born-again, immediately our eternal sin debt is removed, and we receive the gift of eternal life. This can only happen by Christ choosing to apply his shed blood to us. This application removes us from the sin debt forever and gifts us with eternal salvation. This gift removes us from the eternal penalty of death for sin, just as the application to the door posts and lintel was salvation from death to the Israelites.

The new birth only happens once; just as the application of the blood to the door posts and lintel only happened at the first passover. In all other references to the passover it is a memorial feast. There is no mention of applying blood to the door posts and lintel because: There is no plague of the death of the firstborn. Israel is already free from the bondage of Egypt. Israel will not live in houses again, until they are delivered into the land of promise. They will be a nomadic people, and they will carry their

tents with them. The new birth is eternal; meaning resurrected soul cannot die again, so you can only be born again once.

For Israel, at this second passover, this is a memorial feast, seen in: **Ex 12:14 "And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever."**

For us today, the Lord's Supper is a time to remember that we have been chosen by God, born-again by the power of God, and our sins eternally forgiven by the shed blood of Christ. We have been given the gift of eternal life, and we have salvation in Christ here in time, all through the finished work of Christ Jesus. The Lord's Supper is a memorial feast for us as Jesus told his disciples in: **1Co 11:23-26; 23 ¶ For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: 24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. 25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. 26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."**

Passover: The 2nd passover feast observed. **Nu 9:1-5; 1 ¶ "And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying, 2 Let the children of Israel also keep the passover at his appointed season. 3 In the fourteenth day of this month, at even, ye shall keep it in his appointed season: according to all the rites of it, and according to all the ceremonies thereof, shall ye keep it. 4 And Moses spake unto the children of Israel, that they should keep the passover. 5 And they kept the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month at even in the wilderness of Sinai: according to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so did the children of Israel."** No mention of the blood on the door posts and lintel.

Passover: Those not able to participate at set time. **Nu 9:6-10; 6 "And there were certain men, who were defiled by the dead body of a man, that they could not keep the passover on that day: and they came before Moses and before Aaron on that day: 7 And those men said unto him, We are defiled by the dead body of a man: wherefore are we kept back, that we may not offer an offering of the LORD in his appointed season among the children of Israel? 8 And Moses said unto them, Stand still, and I will hear what the LORD will command concerning you. 9 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 10 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If any man of you or of your posterity shall be unclean by reason of a dead body, or be in a journey afar off, yet he shall keep the passover unto the LORD."** God intended for all of Israel to partake in the passover.

Passover: God's provision that all may partake. **Nu 9:11-12; 11 The fourteenth day of the second month at even they shall keep it, and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 12 They shall leave none of it unto the morning, nor break any bone of it: according to all the ordinances of the passover they shall keep it."** God recognizes that there will be times when a person may be unable to attend the set passover feast, which may be by some uncleanness, or it may be that the person was just physically unable to attend. If any missed the appointed time, then God appointed a second time, one month later, whereby those who missed the first would be able to participate. This tells us that we should not miss our times of communion, and if we do there is a way provided whereby, we may still be participants in the communion service.

Passover: Refusal to participate. **Nu 9:13** *"But the man that is clean, and is not in a journey, and forbeareth to keep the passover, even the same soul shall be cut off from among his people: because he brought not the offering of the LORD in his appointed season, that man shall bear his sin."* God here teaches us a lesson, of the serious intent of God, that all, who are eligible, are to participate in the passover supper. We are also given similar commands by Christ in: **Joh 6:53** *"Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you."* Participating in the Lord's Supper shows you are alive in Christ; and demonstrates your submission to his divine authority.

Passover: Stranger's participation. **Nu 9:14** *"And if a stranger shall sojourn among you, and will keep the passover unto the LORD; according to the ordinance of the passover, and according to the manner thereof, so shall he do: ye shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger, and for him that was born in the land."* This does not mean just anyone can participate in communion. Scripture teaches that the stranger that dwelt with Israel must submit to all the same law requirements that Israel was living under. They became citizens of Israel, just of a different bloodline. Today, scripture teaches we must be born-again, be baptized, and in good standing, to participate in the Lord's Supper. Just as God made provision for the stranger, so he has made provision for those who have made public confession of faith in Christ, been baptized by immersion, and are in good standing in their church fellowship are equally able to participate in the Lord's Supper. Any others are not to participate in the communion ordinances. After all, Christ ate, and established the ordinance, with his disciples. He did not invite the world.

With the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, the sacrificial law service was completed. This is why the passover was changed to the Lord's Supper, by Christ through his teaching, when he kept the feast with his disciples. Now it is a memorial time of remembering Jesus was the sacrificial lamb, by type under the law service. Jesus spoke to this directly in the New Testament in: **Mt 26:26-28; 26 ¶** *"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. 27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; 28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."* There is almost verbatim text seen in: **Mr 14:22-24** and **Lu 22:19-20**. One thing that stands out is: Passover was a feast of which the sacrificed lamb was the main course. We point out: Jesus only blessed and broke bread (as an emblem of his body) and blessed the cup of wine (as an emblem of his shed blood.) The sacrificial lamb was not mentioned. Why? Because Christ is the sacrificial lamb, and if you eat the bread and drink the wine you are eating The Sacrificial Lamb.

Jesus added foot washing to the supper in: **Joh 13:2-5; 2** *"And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him; 3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God; 4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. 5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded."* Skip to: **Joh 13:13-15; 13** *"Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. 14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you."*

- Ought is from the Greek word opheilo (pronounced: of-i'-lo) and means: to owe, to be under obligation, must, should.
- Example is from the Greek word hupodeigma (pronounced: hoop-od'-igue-mah) and means: an exhibit for imitation, a pattern.

Many people do not practice foot washing with the Lord's Supper. These two definitions will help you understand; this is a commandment from Jesus to be exercised. The definition of ought; makes foot washing a requirement. The definition of example; gives you the pattern by which the requirement is to be fulfilled. Failure, to do the commandments of Jesus, is a sin against Christ and shows rebellion against his authority.

We pray that God will help us all to be faithful and humbles servants to Christ, Amen!