

## THE LAST PLAGUE AND THE FIRST PASSOVER

*God's judgment is withheld by the blood of the lamb.*



THE STORY: EXODUS 11

MONDAY

### Pharaoh was warned, but he does not relent

Pharaoh was warned, but he does not relent – Moses brought warning of the final plague to Pharaoh (Exodus 11:4-8). Moses even told Pharaoh that his own son would die (Exodus 11:5). Pharaoh's response is not recorded, but we are told that he would not allow the Israelites to go (Exodus 11:10). Given all the wonders performed and the miraculous plagues, it is amazing that Pharaoh didn't change his mind. This shows the stubborn power of sin apart from the grace of God.

#### TALK ABOUT IT:

How powerful is the hold of sin apart from the grace of God on our lives? (*Apart from the grace of God, the power of sin has us captured as its slave and we can not free ourselves.*)

Who can break the power of sin over our lives? (*Jesus is the only person who can break the power of sin over our lives. Because he lived a sinless life and died for our sins, He can offer His righteousness to us. It is only when we walk in the blessing of His righteousness that we can be free from the grip of our unrighteousness.*)

#### PRAY:

Pray that God would transform our hearts by His grace to believe and trust in Him. Ask God to give you the righteousness of Christ and to free you from the bondage of sin.





## Israel was warned and obeys

Israel was warned and obeys - Just as Moses warned Pharaoh, he also warned Israel. But he gave Israel a way of escaping the coming judgment. Moses instructed the Israelites to kill a lamb and place the blood of the lamb on the door posts of their homes. Through Moses, God told Israel that when He saw the blood on the door posts, He would pass over their homes (Exodus 12:13). This is where the name Passover comes from. Just as the Lord said, He killed every firstborn. Not a house in all of Egypt escaped without someone dying. Even the firstborn cattle died. But the households of the Israelites were safe because they trusted and obeyed God.

### TALK ABOUT IT:

Why did God tell the Israelites to continue celebrating the Passover as a lasting ordinance? *(God wanted the story of the Passover to be told down through the generations and never forgotten. That way, generations of children would all know about what the Lord did -see 12:26.)*

What is the significance of this story? *(This story clearly demonstrates that a blood sacrifice appeases God. It shows us that salvation comes through the application of blood. It is not that the blood of the animal secured salvation. Rather, the blood of the animals point to the sacrifice of Jesus who would come much later and shed his blood on the cross. It is Jesus' sacrifice, death, and blood which satisfy the wrath of God. With that sacrifice in view, God passed over the Israelite homes.)*

### PRAY:

Ask God to help us trust in Jesus, the Lamb of God, just as Israel trusted in the blood of the lamb on their door posts.



## Where is Jesus?

In the Passover, we have the clearest foreshadowing of Jesus' sacrificial atonement. God promised that if the blood of the lamb was painted on the door frame, the Angel of Death would pass over that home and the firstborn son would not be killed. Similarly, Jesus is the lamb who was slain for us. It is His blood which covers over our sin. So death is defeated.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

How do we place the blood of Christ on our door frames? *(We don't literally place any blood on our door frames. Instead, if we trust in Christ's death on the cross, His blood covers our sins. It is this covering of our sinful hearts which provides us with salvation from death.)*

What celebration takes the place of the Passover in our lives today? *(We celebrate the Lord's Supper, communion. Now that Christ has died and shed His blood for us, we don't need to remember the Passover shadow. Now we can remember what Passover was always meant to show us – Jesus. The Israelites rejoiced that the Angel of Death passed by them that night. We rejoice that Death lost its sting when Jesus rose again! 1 Cor. 15:54-56)*

**PRAY:**

Ask God to help us remember the sacrifice of Jesus every time we read about the Passover celebration in the Bible.



THE STORY: EXODUS 12:31-42

THURSDAY

## Egypt sent the Israelites away with gifts as foretold

Egypt sent the Israelites away with gifts as foretold – The last plague came just after midnight. Before the night was over, Pharaoh sought out Moses and commanded him to get out of bed and leave Egypt. It is interesting to note that Pharaoh had come to understand the power of God in Moses and asked Moses for a blessing (Exodus 12:32). It would not be long until Pharaoh would regret his decision and come after Israel. In the meantime, the Israelites did as God instructed, asked the Egyptians for gifts, and left Egypt with silver, gold, jewelry, and clothing.

**TALK ABOUT IT:**

Did things happen just as God planned them? *(Yes - right down to the Egyptians giving the Israelites all of their treasures. It happened just as the Lord had foretold.)*

How many people left Egypt? *(There would have been over one million! There were six hundred thousand men. Add to that all the women and children and there could have been two million or more! God told Abraham that He would make him a great nation. That word was being fulfilled.)*

**PRAY:**

Thank God for delivering Israel from Egypt. *(Jesus eventually came from the people who were delivered from Egypt.)*



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## On the road to Emmaus.

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Jesus is the most excellent of men, whose lips have been anointed with grace. He is blessed forever. He is the one clothed for battle, who rides on behalf of humility and righteousness. Jesus was a king and a warrior. His battle was not fought against people with weapons and physical strength, but by laying down his life in humiliation upon a cross. Only Jesus can claim a victory for righteousness through humility. There is a distinct parallel with the description of the one who bears the sword in verse three to Revelation 1:16 and 19:11-16.

### TALK ABOUT IT:

What does Psalm 45 say about this king's throne? (*This passage says that the throne will last forever and ever.*)

How is this passage similar to Revelation 1:16 and 19:11-16? (*Both of the men described are kings, bear swords, are riding a horse, and ride for the cause of truth.*)

### PRAY:

Thank God for sending Jesus to conquer sin for all time by His humble sacrifice on the cross.

