

Passover 5778 – 2018

We are NOT celebrating Passover out of an obligation to the Ceremonial Law of Moses from the Old Testament. We are celebrating Passover because it is one of the most beautiful pictures of Jesus a Christian can discover. In discovering it, you will discover things about Him you are missing.

That said...a Disclaimer: *Colossians 2:16-17* “Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or **with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.**”

If you never celebrate Passover, you are still just as holy.

If you love Good Friday and Easter, celebrate them with all your heart.

Jesus is worthy of being celebrated every hour of every day,

And In Eternity We Will Celebrate Him Continuously!

1) What Happened to Passover in the Christian Church?

Jesus said He eagerly desired to eat the Passover, and asked us to celebrate it to honor Him.

The apostles treasured the Feasts of the Lord and passed them on to the early church fathers so, why is Passover NOT celebrated at most churches.

Rome Happened. Anti-Semitism Happened. During the Jewish Revolt of 132–136, most of the Jewish population was essentially wiped out – killed, sold into slavery, or forced to flee.

Within one generation of the death of the Apostle John, and with the growing power of Rome, **the Eucharist (communion) was celebrated on Easter and anything “Jewish” became increasingly outlawed.**

In 155 A.D., Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna and a disciple of John, appealed to The Roman Bishop Anicetus to celebrate the Passover, “because he had always observed it with John the disciple of our Lord, and the rest of the Apostles, with whom he associated.” He was eventually martyred.

The Bishops of Asia, led by Polycrates, sent a letter to Victor and the church of Rome, listing all the Saints who had died or were martyred since the time of Jesus, saying, “All these observed the fourteenth day of the Passover according to the Gospel, deviating in no respect, but following the rule of faith. And I also...For seven of my relatives were bishops; and I am the eighth. And my relatives always observed the day when the people put away the leaven...For those greater than I have said 'We ought to obey God rather than man'. **In 197 A.D., Victor, the Bishop of Rome insisted that all churches accept the Dominical Rule of celebrating Easter rather than Passover.**

By 380 A.D., Christianity became the state church of the Roman Empire, but the Christian emperors persecuted the Jews and restricted their rights. **At the Council of Nicea, (325 A.D.)** Constantine, as Emperor of Rome, established his infamous '**Easter Edict,**' cursing and cutting off all Believers who would dare follow any traditions of the hated 'Jews'. **Constantine made observing any Jewish tradition a heresy punishable by persecution and death:** “And first of all, it appeared an unworthy thing that in the celebration of this most holy feast we should follow the practice of the Jews, who have impiously defiled their hands with enormous sin, and are, therefore, deservedly afflicted with blindness of soul...Let us then have nothing in common with the detestable Jewish crowd; for we have received from our Saviour a different way. A course at once legitimate and honorable lies open to our most holy religion. Beloved brethren, let us with one consent adopt this course, and withdraw

ourselves from all participation in their baseness..."

The Council of Laodicea (363 A.D.) enacted the following canon "**Christians shall not Judaize and be idle on Saturday, but shall work on that day**; but the Lord's day they shall especially honor, and as being Christians, shall, if possible, do no work on that day. **If, however, they are found Judaizing, they shall be shut out from Christ.**"

Saint Chrysostom (c. 349 – 407) wrote that **those of Jewish origins, who defile the Church by the observance of the Jewish feasts and festivals**, were "heretics" and should not be allowed inside the Church.

Since then the Roman Solar Calendar, was used to set the date of **Easter based on the vernal equinox**. Ignoring anything Jewish, like Passover, it set the day of the crucifixion according to a misunderstanding of Mark 15:42. *"And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath."* The only "Sabbath" they understood was the weekly Sabbath, (which began on Friday night).

In fact, the day of **Passover is also considered a Sabbath Day**, which means **there are usually two Sabbaths during Passover week**. The crucifixion was on Thursday (before the Passover Sabbath), and then the normal weekly Sabbath fell on Friday.

Sadly, few Christians are aware of how to celebrate it, or that the symbols all point to Jesus and spending an evening focusing on Him will strengthen our faith.

Why did I tell you that?

Something was taken from you.

You haven't missed it because you didn't know that it was gone.

The thief comes to kill steal and destroy.

Think of all the things he could have stolen.

He chose that...Passover...Why?

Who's on the throne? The Lamb.

Most of us live our version of a Christian life, based on what we are taught.

Is there more about Jesus that you don't know yet?

Jesus promised that if we seek Him with all our heart, we will find Him.

I want to show you the things that He has revealed about Himself in Passover.

Millions of Jews around the world will celebrate Passover tonight but they don't know that the Lamb is Jesus. Why?

Because the thief stole it from them.

If we don't get Lamb back, how will we ever give Jesus back to them?

Passion Week

Sunday 10th Day	Monday 11th Day	Tuesday 12th Day	Wednesday 13th Day	Thursday 14th Day	Friday 15th Day	Saturday 16th Day	Sunday 17th Day
Palm Entry			<p>Chagigah Peace Offering (Festivals)</p> <p>Never appear before the Lord empty handed</p> <p>Disciples Prepare Meal</p>	<p>Dawn: 1st Tamid Daily Sacrifice</p> <p>9:00am-3:00pm Jesus Crucified</p> <p>1:30-2:30: (Early) 2nd Tamid Daily Sacrifice</p> <p>2:30-3:30 Lambs Slaughtered</p> <p>Blood on Altar</p>			<p>First Fruits Wave Offering</p> <p>8th Day of Feast</p>
Monday 11th Twilight	Tuesday 12th Twilight	Wednesday 13th Twilight	Thursday 14th Twilight	Friday 15th Twilight	Saturday 16th Twilight	Sunday 17th Twilight	Monday 18th Twilight
			<p>Leaven Removed</p> <p>Galilean Last Supper with Chagigah Offering</p> <p>Fast of Firstborns Begins</p>	<p>Passover Seder</p> <p>Feast of Unleavened Bread</p>		<p>Resurrection Before Sunrise</p>	

2) Celebrating Passover on Victory 91.5

In 2015, I taught Passover from the perspective of **Jesus as our Bridegroom** and **Us as the Bride of Christ**.

In 2016, I taught how Passover is literally an invitation from Jesus to meet with us and eat together to celebrate Him and enjoy each other.

In 2017, last year we looked at how God wars against our enemies (like He did against Pharaoh).

In 2018, this year, since the number eight, Chet, has to do with walls and boundaries, I'm going to show you how God established Passover to tear down walls, erect walls, and make doors for us.

Every Year is Different so every Passover is Different.

We are going to spend two mornings looking at this, today and tomorrow.

I'll break down the big timeless picture today.

Tomorrow we will have a basic Passover Seder (built for Gentiles) and we will stream it on Facebook Live so you can take part too.

For the Jews, Pesach (Passover) means retelling the story of Moses and their Exodus from Egypt, while having a long fun meal with lots of special food items.

Since most of you listening are Gentiles, I am going to redo the normal Passover Seder to put the focus not just on Egypt with the Israelites, but on what God has done for all mankind (all of us) from Eden to Egypt and from Jesus on the Cross to the Modern Day Church and we will track all the way to the Wedding Supper of the Lamb in Heaven. We are going to celebrate the Timeless Passover and we will eat great foods and tell lots of stories.

As Christians, Why Should We Care About Passover?

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and

- is profitable for doctrine,
- for reproof,
- for correction,
- for instruction in righteousness,
- that the man of God may be complete,
- thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Are you Complete and Thoroughly Equipped for every good work?

Is it possible that it's because you are missing the doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness that the Israelites neglected to their peril?

As Christians, we think of Jesus becoming flesh, dying for our sins, and rising again 2,000 years ago.

When God put on flesh, **Jesus was referred to as the Passover Lamb**:

In John 1 John the Baptist said of Jesus, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

In 1 Corinthians 5 Paul referred to Him, like this: "For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed."

They were both called Jesus the Passover Lamb, 1500 years after the Passover Lamb was slain in Egypt. But the story is much bigger than that. The Passover story is literally timeless.

Jesus is the Beginning and the End. He was redeeming us long before the cross, and even though He walked the earth 2,000 years ago, He never stops being a Lamb.

In fact, Jesus loves to reveal Himself to us, so that we can encounter Him in a new way and come to know Him even better than we already do.

In the Old Testament period, there are 8 recorded appearances when God assumed a temporary physical form. Three times He appeared as a man, once in a burning bush that was not consumed, and four times as the Angel of the Lord.

He Appeared to Hagar as the Angel of the Lord to spare Ishmael. (Genesis 16:9-13)
She said, 'Have I also here seen him who sees me?' (Genesis 16:13).

God Appeared to Abraham and Sarah at Mamre before He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 18:1-33)

God Again Appeared to Abraham on Mount Moriah when He told Abraham to sacrifice Isaac (Genesis 22:11-14)

The Lord Appeared to Jacob at Peniel wrestling all night with him (Genesis 32:24-43)
And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

He Appeared to Moses in The Burning Bush (Exodus 3:2-4:17)

God Appeared To Gideon as the Angel of the Lord (Judges 6:11-24)
Now Gideon perceived that He was the Angel of the Lord. So Gideon said, 'Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the Angel of the Lord face to face' (Judges 6:22).

He Appeared to Samson's Parents (Judges 13:2-23)

And lastly, The Lord Was in The Fiery Furnace (Daniel 3:23-29)

That's 8 different encounters and revelations of Jesus in the Old Testament.

3) Let's Look In The New Testament Period.

Now, stop and allow God to give you **the revelations** that He gave to his dear friend John 2,000 years ago.

1. As a Jew, John grew up celebrating **Passover** in his home, and he went to the **synagogue**.
2. As a **Disciple He walked with Jesus**, as one of His closest friends for 3 ½ years; he stood **at the Cross** and **watched Jesus crucified and laid in the tomb**.
3. John met **the resurrected Jesus** repeatedly for one whole month. Hundreds of people met the resurrected Jesus, but most did not recognize Him.
 - Two of the disciples were walking to Emmaus when, "**Jesus himself came up and walked along with them; but they were kept from recognizing him...Later, their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight.**"
 - Are you being kept from recognizing Jesus, because you only receive and expect Him one way?
4. John encountered Jesus **as He ascended into heaven, and** as the Holy Spirit was poured out on **Pentecost**.
5. In the Book of Revelation, the word **revelation** means **revealing**.
So it's **The Reveling of Jesus** – or His effort to help us come to know Him better.

So we arrive on the Isle of Patmos as John is a very old man, and he has an **open vision into heaven** and who should he meet:

- **Someone like a son of man,**
- **The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow,**
- **and his eyes were like blazing fire.**
- **His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace,**
- **and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters.**
- **In his right hand he held seven stars,**
- **and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword.**
- **His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.**

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead.

Then he placed his right hand on me and said:

- **"Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades."**

So, like the men on their way to Emmaus, **John doesn't recognize Jesus**, despite all that they have experienced together.

6. Later in the same vision in Revelation 5 John says "And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, **stood a Lamb as though it had been slain**...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, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and **to the Lamb, forever and ever!**"

Of all the ways He could have revealed Himself to one of his closest friends, **He chose the Lamb.**

7. In Revelation, John refers to Jesus as the Lamb 28 times.

“...to the Lamb, forever and ever!”

Forever means, He will always be a Lamb, as well as a Man, as well as a Lion.
Passover never ends.

Do you still only want to relate to Jesus the man, and not Jesus the Lamb?
Are you ready for the judgement at the end of the world?
Is your name written in the Book? And just whose book is it?

Revelation 13:8 All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in **the Lamb’s book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.** Not 2,000 years ago, but in the Garden at creation.

Ask Yourself: Why is Jesus Still a Lamb?

- He waited 4,000 years to reveal Himself as the man Jesus Christ.
- Jesus the man is **the highest revelation** of the Son of God.
- The name of **Jesus is the name above all names**, every knee will bow and tongue confess that He is Lord.
- **Why does He flip back to revealing Himself as The Lamb, after He returns to heaven in His glorified resurrected body?**
- **And why has He spent the last 2,000 years sitting at the right hand of the Father on the throne as the Lamb?**

4) What is Passover?

Are we remembering The Passover Lamb Slain in Egypt?
Or The Animals God slew to Cover Adam and Eve's nakedness?
Is it one of The Pesach Lambs from Bethlehem raised only To Be Sacrificed?
Is it about The Birth of The Messiah in Bethlehem of Judea?
Or is it Jesus on the Cross?
Or Our Own Salvation and Baptism?

Is The Seder Meal the Fruit from The Tree of Life that gives Eternal Life?
Or the Bread and Wine of Melchizedek that became The Weekly Sabbath Meal?
Or The Passover Meal of Lamb and Unleavened Bread and Bitter Herbs?
Is it The Last Supper?
Is it The Body and Blood Of Jesus?
Or is it The Wedding Supper of The Lamb in Revelation?

The creation or foundation of the world was **6,000 years ago**.
That's just as much a part of **Passover as Egypt or the cross**.
He was slain from creation **for the whole world**
In Egypt the lambs were slain **for the oldest Israelite sons**
On the cross, Jesus died **for the whole world**
On the throne Jesus is reigning as a lamb **for the whole world**
What God did in Egypt is not just a Jewish celebration

Jesus was and is the Lamb from Creation to Passover to Calvary to the Throne.
Why is He Still a Lamb?

Psalms 84:5 "**Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.**"

For 6,000 years, every man, woman, and child who has lived has needed the same thing:
a way back.

Some way to be restored back to God.

To be able to walk in relationship with Him, with some way to deal with the reality of their stumbling and bumbling.

God gave us **The Moral Law**:

- **1 law for Adam and Eve**
- **7 laws for Noah**
- **10 Commandments**
- **613 ceremonial laws of Moses**
- **11 laws of David** in Psalm 15 (Lord, who may abide in Your tabernacle? Who may dwell in Your holy hill? He who walks uprightly, and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart; He who does not backbite with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbor, nor does he take up a reproach against his friend; In whose eyes a vile person is despised, but he honors those who fear the Lord; He who swears to his own hurt and does not change; He who does not put out his money at usury, nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.
- **4 Laws of David in Psalm 24**
Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place?
 - He who has clean hands

- and a pure heart,
- Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol,
- Nor sworn deceitfully.
- **6 laws of Isaiah 1**
 - Cease to do evil,
 - Learn to do good;
 - Seek justice,
 - Rebuke the oppressor
 - Defend the fatherless,
 - Plead for the widow.
- **3 laws of Micah**
He has shown you, O man, what *is* good; and what does the LORD require of you
 - But to do justly,
 - To love mercy,
 - And to walk humbly with your God?
- **1 law of Habakkuk:** Habakkuk 2:4 “Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him;
 - But the just shall live by his faith.
- **2 law of Jesus** When Jesus was asked what is the greatest commandment, He said
 - To love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your mind and all your soul
 - and to love your neighbor as yourself,’

Neither are in the 10 commandments - But the whole law hangs on these 2.

The problem with the moral law was the same in Eden, in the desert, in the promised land, with and without priests, and the problem is just as bad today.

If you struggle with sin **and feel like you have to punish yourself before you can return to God** for His forgiveness and restoration, you need to encounter the Lamb who yielded up its neck to be sliced so that its blood could pour out and defend the sinners from the Destroyer who came because of their sins.

Until you crouch safely behind that blood covered door and eat the Lamb, and then walk outside the next morning because of that blood, you won't realize the power of resurrection.

Why do we stumble and fall? We forget He is literally with us.

Behind the bloody door we must remember He is in the room to take and eat and drink.

Until you open that door too early and walk outside into the real threat of the Destroyer, and hear the testimony of the blood on that door calling you back in to safety, you will never feel secure when you fall.

That's why I am going to share all that I am going to teach for the next two days.

5) The Meaning of the English word Passover

Exodus 12:12-13, God says, "And I shall pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and I shall smite every firstborn in the land of Egypt from human to animal...and I will see the blood [on the doorposts], **fasachti** you...."

It's commonly translated as "**and I will pass over.**" However, it is such a rare word in the Bible, that its translation is uncertain.

At the time of Jesus, the word was translated as, "**I will have compassion or have mercy.**" But in it's also often translated it as "**to protect**".

P-S/X-CH is a primitive root that can mean:

- to hop, that is, (figuratively) skip over (or spare)
- to hesitate
- to limp or to dance
- to halt, become lame, leap, or pass over.

It was William Tyndale who invented the English word Passover.

The reformer and translator, is the true father of the English Bible.

Tyndale was the first to translate the Bible into Modern English from the original languages of Hebrew and Greek and provided the basis for the King James Translation

But if we go back much further than Tyndale, the original word that became Passover was P-X-CH in Ancient Hebrew, not Pesach. The letter "s" in "pesach" is incorrect because ancient Hebrew had no letter "s". X is the original sound of the letter (now called) samech.

- **Peh/Pey** became the Greek word pi, which became our common **letter P**.
Picture = open mouth - It means mouth, and by extension **word**, speech, and breath.
So the Peh/Pey speaks of the Spoken Word of God.
- **The ancient XaN or current samech** means to lean upon, to uphold or to support (like a prop, supporting and upholding a tree to enable it to weather storms safely).

Picture = thorn or The laying on of hands upon the head of a sacrificial animal like a bull. Because Greek came partly from ancient Hebrew, the modern Hebrew letter samech is equivalent to a Greek XI (letter name) or English X (letter shape).

In Greek, the word Christos (Christ) begins with the letter "X," or chi.

The 2nd letter of Pesach, the S, essentially speaks of the Christ or Messiah, He is a part of the very word Pesach.

- The 3rd letter in Pesach is the (CH). The Hebrew number and letter for 8 is Cheth - it means **change**. Its pictograph looks like **a wall or a boundary**.



Here are a few walls that are unique to Pesach:

- The door covered in blood became a wall that the Destroyer could not enter
- The Red Sea became a wall to hold back the water to let the Israelites walk thru
- God became a wall of fire to protect them from the Egyptian army
- Due to their rebellion, the Promised Land became a wall the Israelites could not enter
- 40 years later Jericho was surrounded by walls that could not stand against God

We have been given **authority** from Jesus for such a time as this. What we do affects our authority, empowers our authority or steals from our authority.

So the 3rd letter of Pesach, the CH means Change / A Wall

So what was God communicating through the three letters of the word Pesach?

- 1. The Spoken Word of God**
- 2. The Christ**
- 3. Change / A Wall / A Boundary**

When taken together it becomes:

The Spoken Word of God by Christ brings Change in a Wall or Boundary.

Because we are speaking of Pesach, we know the Wall in question has something to do with what was causing separation. There were two such walls.

1. The first wall was Sin that was separating us from God and God from us.

2. The second wall occurred late on Pesach when the Door of Blood became like a Wall to keep the Destroyer out of the homes of the Israelites, which would allow them to find freedom in a relationship with God that would physically set them free from slavery in Egypt, but also spiritually set them free from sin.

6) When a New Pharaoh Came to Power

The Pharaoh of Joseph's time was probably a **Hyksos king with the Semitic name Salitis**. The Semitics were descendants of Shem (like Abraham) who spoke Hebrew and Arabic. The Hyksos conquered and ruled the upper Nile Delta area for about 150 years.

When the Egyptians came back into power they would have seen the Israelites as the same as the Hyksos, so they would have hated them and made them slaves. And since they had been invaded by Semitic people they were wary that the Israelite population was increasing and could help the Canaanites return to power. So they made them slaves, in the sense that they were forced labor.

When we arrive at the story of Moses, Pharaoh is now killing the Israelite baby boys by throwing them in the river, hoping to shrink the size of their population. **The children are offerings to Hapi**, the spirit of the Nile.

God arrives on the scene ready to deliver His Children and **punish their task masters**.

And reveal Himself to the Egyptians and to His Children because they had been in Egypt for four generations.

The gods of Egypt were more real to them than the true living God.

The plagues were His way to reveal Himself as the true God.

It's not about what happened 3500 years ago.

It's about the idols in your heart and in my heart.
And what God has to do to push them over so He can reveal Himself.
So that He can ascend the throne of our heart.
He has to get us out of Egypt and Egypt out of us.

Death is passing over. Maybe not tomorrow or next week or next year. But death is coming.
And there must be blood on our door.
Jesus' head, hands, and feet were that door. In heaven He will still bear those scars.
Because He is the Door of Blood that enables us to live.
He is the lamb that was slain to take away the sins of the world.

The God of War

God dealt with their top ten idols / false gods
He was saying, "Your hope is in...this false god...but your prayers will only be answered by the Living God. **Passover is all about how God fights for you.**

Deuteronomy 20:4 For the LORD your God is the one who goes with you, to fight for you against your enemies, to save you.'

Deuteronomy 20:1 "When you go out to battle against your enemies and see horses and chariots and people more numerous than you, do not be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, who brought you up from the land of Egypt, is with you.

Exodus 15:3 "The LORD is a warrior; The LORD is His name.

Deuteronomy 33:27 "The eternal God is a dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms; And He drove out the enemy from before you, and said, 'Destroy!'

Passover is about re-discovering the God of War who fights for your life and eternity.

The Bible says, "Moses and Aaron did just as the Lord commanded them. Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh."

Aaron does the talking for Moses, but spiritually speaking they are walking into the palace filled with idols and knocking them over one statue at a time

First plague of blood lasted 7 days. The Ninth plague of darkness lasted 3 days.

They visit, knock over the false god and leave Pharaoh and the people to suffer.

Exodus 11 says, Moses himself was highly regarded in Egypt by Pharaoh's officials and by the people.

Moses and Aaron are sent as messengers of the Lord, to Pharaoh, to instruct him to let the children of Israel go "so that they may serve the Lord."

Pharaoh responds, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go." His answer was soon to come.

The plagues were going to reveal something to everyone: The power of God to Moses - The Deliverer to the children of Israel - The real God to the Egyptians and Pharaoh. They are still remembered by the whole world thousands of years later.

God was there to execute judgment against the false gods (over 80 gods including pharaoh) Only 10 plagues because 10 means complete. So they were completely plagued, He withheld nothing.

Their many deities were believed to be present in, and in control of, the forces of nature. Rituals such as prayers and offerings and magic were efforts to provide for the gods and gain their favor.

The Living God was there to teach the Israelites and Egyptians that He alone was God so He struck at their economy and their confidence in their gods.

Every plague was directed at one or more of these false gods. The plagues were not random to the Egyptians or to the Israelites.

Let's move from Egypt to our own hearts. What is God saying?

- What you cling to, defines you
- Many Egyptians were also delivered in the exodus
- The Egyptians who followed became followers of God. They were redefined.
- What you choose to follow, you will lose because God is revealing its impotence. It's inability to rule.
- Temptation that is irresistible, reveals a hardened heart
- He is revealing their weaknesses and their destiny
- He is separating you from your sins and your masters

7) Plagues and The gods of Egypt [1446 BC] (Part 1)

1. **The Very First Plague, Turning the Nile into Blood**, was a direct hit on quite a few gods:

And it would remain blood for 7 days, an entire week to prove God's complete dominance.

Khnum was the guardian of the Nile sources.

Hapi was the spirit of the Nile and a water bearer

They sang songs of adoration to His idol was shaped like a crocodile.

Osiris was the god of the underworld – the river Nile was considered his bloodstream.

When the Nile turned to blood, the fish died. Several of their gods protected the fish.

Blood was everywhere in Egypt, even in the wooden buckets and stone jars that were used as offering bowls before the gods of Egypt.

It was probably the first plague because the Nile had protected Moses when he was placed in its waters by his mother as a baby.

Moses himself was highly regarded in Egypt by Pharaoh's officials and by the people.)

God was saying that He had protected Moses, not these false gods. Moses was His prophet.

2. **The Plague of Frogs:** The Egyptians deified frogs.

They were sacred and could not be killed – it was actually a crime punishable by death.

So the plague forced the Egyptians to tread on them and watch them all die and rot.

The frog goddess was called **Heket** who assisted women in childbirth.

3. **The Plague of Lice: Geb** was the Egyptian God over the dust of the earth.

Aaron was told to stretch forth his rod and smite the dust of the earth.

When he did the dust became lice throughout all the land, on both people and beasts.

The magicians of Pharaoh profess, "this is the finger of God."

This was the **last plague that required Aaron's involvement** - Moses steps up.

It's also **the last plague that affected the Israelites**.

4. **The Plague of Flies: Khepri** - Egyptian God of creation, had the head of a fly.

Pharaoh begins bargaining telling them they may sacrifice but only "in the land" not a "three days journey".

5. **The Plague of Cattle Disease:** There were a lot of cow gods in Egypt:

Hathor was the goddess of love, beauty and joy – and was represented by a cow.

Ptah and **Mnevis**, were sacred bulls.

This plague created a huge economic disaster (food, transportation, military supplies, farming, and economic goods that were produced from cattle).

6. **The Plague of Boils:**

Sekhmet was supposed to have the power of both **creating epidemics and ending them**.

Serapis was the deity charged with the **responsibility of healing**.

Imhotep was the god of **medicine** and guardian of the healing sciences.

Isis- Egyptian Goddess of **Medicine and Peace**.

This plague made the people & the magicians "unclean."

They can't even stand before Pharaoh; this is their last appearance in the story.

8) The Plagues and The gods of Egypt (Part 2)

7. The Plague of Hail and Fire Raining Down:

Nut was the sky goddess. Flax and barley were ripening in the fields.

8. The Plague of Locusts:

Isis and Seth had responsibilities relating to agricultural crops.

Seth was the god of Storms and Disorder. This wonder definitely affected their life source. By hitting them in their food supply, the Lord displayed the possibility of eminent death if a change of heart did not occur. Yet still, Pharaoh would not listen.

9. The Plague of Darkness:

Ra was the sun god – considered one of Egypt's greatest gods because they thought he provided life-giving light and warmth every day.

Three days of palpable darkness, that was so immense it could be physically felt, covered the land of Egypt.

The sun, the most worshipped God in Egypt other than Pharaoh himself, gave no light. Darkness was a representation of death, judgment and hopelessness.

Darkness was a complete absence of light.

Can you imagine Moses walking out as the shadow of darkness follows him out of the palace to leave Pharaoh in the dark until he acknowledged the living God.

10. Death of Firstborn:

Jesus, The Lamb, **Can Not Save You Without Your Cooperation.**

We Are Saved By Grace Through Faith. **God Acts And We Act.**

The 10th Plague is **The First Plague That Requires The Israelites To Do Something**

The Foolishness of Sacrificing a Lamb in Egypt

Did God ask the Israelites a harder thing than we realize when He asked them to sacrifice lambs in Egypt for Passover?

It was an unforgiveable insult to the Egyptians who worshiped them as gods.

Exodus 8 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said, "Go, sacrifice to your God in the land." And Moses said, "It is not right to do so, for we would be sacrificing the abomination of the Egyptians to the Lord our God. **If we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, then will they not stone us?**

The Egyptians worshipped Aries, and therefore abstained from killing sheep, and held shepherds in contempt.

Sacrificing the Egyptian gods and **smearing the blood of their gods on their doorposts** was an amazing act of bravery and trust in God.

To the Egyptians **eating lamb was an abomination.**

Joseph's brothers were fed separately from the other Egyptians, and He encouraged his brothers to list their occupations as shepherds in order to allow them to live in Goshen and isolated from the rest of Egypt.

The astrological **symbol of the month of Nissan is Aries, the ram,**

The 15th day (Pesach) is the full-moon,

They were slaughtering hundreds of thousands of their ram-god when it was supposed to be at the height of its powers, The Egyptians were powerless to prevent it!

Min was the god of procreation and reproduction.

Isis was the symbol of fertility or power to produce offspring.

Hathor goddess of love was one of seven deities who attended the birth of children.

The **Apis** bull was a firstborn animal and greatly revered.

Pharaoh was considered a god so the death of his firstborn was the death of the son of god!

- God's judgment was not against pharaoh but against the first born son of pharaoh and every other first born.
- Why not pharaoh? Most likely he was the first born.
- To tempt him to attack later to destroy entire army in the Red Sea.
- He would go in thinking that he could not be killed by God because he survived the 10th plague.

Osiris was the God of the underworld and life and death. All of Egypt was about to learn that death wasn't a god but an angel sent to open every locked door in Egypt to snatch the life from their first born.

*****Osiris** was also worshipped as the God who caused the Nile to flood. The Egyptian army marched into the Red Sea probably assuming he would protect them. A false god is the wrong god to put your hope in. So is sin.

Death really is like Osiris.

If the death angel could have entered the Jewish homes, he would have.

Jesus was slain from foundation so death or Satan was present.
Every servant or angel of his, that are under his lie are called Satan.

The Danger of lying is believing your own lie. Demons are trapped in their deception. They can't know the truth because they would be set free. There is no forgiveness available. Their punishment is the darkness. Chains of darkness hold them.

Why didn't Jesus destroy Satan and death when he fell?

We would always be susceptible to falling just like Lucifer

9) Death or the Destroyer

Exodus 12:12-13 "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 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.

But by verse 23 the Details shift. Exodus 12:23 **NIV KJV NAS**

When the LORD goes through the land to strike down the Egyptians,

He will see the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe and will pass over that doorway, and **He will not permit the destroyer to enter your houses and strike you down/smite you.**

Exodus 12:23 **New Living Translation**

For the LORD will **pass through** the land to strike down the Egyptians.

But when He sees the blood on the top and sides of the doorframe, the LORD will **pass over** your home.

He will not permit his death angel to enter your house and strike you down.

In a similar encounter with death in 1 Chr. 21 he is referred to as "the destroying angel"

When God sees the blood on the door-posts, He covers (or protects) those houses.

Death is a person - not a thing

Death, as we know it, has temporary authority over all of creation, to rule over when it is appointed for them to encounter death.

In the garden **sin and death first entered earth**

and robbed man of his covering of glory

and introduced physical death to everyone,

the shedding of blood was a "covering" for sin.

Righteousness became their clothing.

Jesus becomes our covering - Death is on a collision course with judgement,

1 Corinthians 15:20-26 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep...

Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power.

For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.

The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. For "He has put all things under His feet."

Revelation 1:18 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead.

Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid.

I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One;

I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever!

And I hold the keys of Death and Hades.

Revelation 6:8 **Then I looked and saw a pale horse.**

Its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed close behind.

And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill by sword, by famine, by plague, and by the beasts of the earth.

Revelation 20 “And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever...The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and **Death and Hades** gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what they had done. **Then Death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.**”

He is always coming to kill, steal, and destroy. The destroyer is always present.

His agenda. To ascend the throne of God. Michael cast him down.

But what is a throne? There is the literal one and He is enthroned on our praises.

So is Lucifer. Lies enthrone him. Sin enthrones him in our life until we are a demoniac.

He's after authority. Christians are the highest authority on earth.

We are light. He is drawn to it but can't hold it anymore. He was cast out of the third heaven.

In dying and rising, Jesus placed Satan and death under our feet.

The earth was His footstool so He has to make it our footstool too.

10) The House of Blood – The Door

The most important lesson of Pesach is the Power of the blood.

The blood (the door) lets us enter in as sinners and exit as saints.
Falling is temporary unless we choose to rebel.

Satan was deceived. That's why he tried to ascend – to become God.
The blood is the only door to His throne. We are seated with Him, not instead of Him.

Love opens that door. Love doesn't envy or want its own way or to replace God.
Love wants to be one with Him. Father Son Holy Spirit.

Blood On Every Door

Imagine coming home to find blood smeared all over and around your front door.
We get used to the story and miss the picture that the shadow is casting.

The house is a grave.

When the occupants come out in the morning they are not dead but alive. (Lazarus / Jesus)

They must eat all of the lamb, not because they are still hungry.

You can't pick and choose the parts of Jesus you like and neglect the others.

You can't come and go.

It's not just their presence inside the house, but the presence of the lamb inside of them.

Death visits every house in Egypt. He takes every first son of Egypt.
But The Lamb stands guard at the Israelite Houses.

Death doesn't examine their righteousness, obedience, or passion for God.
The blood and the blood alone prevents the destroyer from entering.

When we sin, it's like leaving the house.

God isn't searching for us to punish us – the destroyer is lurking –

God is inviting us back in to safety.

He doesn't want us to beat ourselves up to be more worthy to return –

He wants us to immediately return.

There is sufficient meat/sacrifice to heal us and protect us.

You don't have to punish yourself – Jesus bore that

You don't have to get re-saved because you are a son –

as a disobedient son you must repent or **return to the house as the prodigal son did -**

He thought he had lost his sonship – but he didn't.

The blood - the door - the lamb

It's about His love for you not your love for Him

It's about His sacrifice for you not your sacrifice for Him

Focusing on His love for you keeps you stable. It's hard to betray love.

1,500 years later Jesus gives His life on the Cross.

Where is he going? He's going to Death's House.

When Jesus walks out of the tomb, He takes all of the faithful of Hades with Him.

11) Testimony

Revelation 20:12-13 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. **And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.** The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works.

**We will rise or fall based on the testimony that comes forth.
We need to understand that testimony**

Exodus 25:21-22 You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, **and in the ark you shall put the Testimony that I will give you.** And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel.

Follow the trail of the testimony. What is the testimony?

It's not the law or the commandments. They both have their own Hebrew word.

But the law and the commandments are both part of the testimony.

Psalm 78:5-8 For He established a testimony in Jacob, **[this is several hundred years before Moses and the Law was given at Sinai]** and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; that the generation to come might know them, the children who would be born, that they may arise and declare them to their children, that they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments; and may not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation that did not set its heart aright, and whose spirit was not faithful to God.

Psalm 81:3-5 Blow the trumpet at the time of the New Moon, at the full moon, on our solemn feast day. For this is a statute for Israel, a law of the God of Jacob. **This He established in Joseph as a testimony, when He went throughout the land of Egypt [again this is several hundred years before Moses and the Law was given at Sinai],** where I heard a language I did not understand.

What's the difference between the Israelites houses with doors covered in blood, and a lamb inside - Compared to the Egyptians houses with no blood and no lamb inside?

What determined that one was safe and another in danger?

They didn't have the testimony.

Matthew 10:18 You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, **as a testimony** to them and to the Gentiles. **[we are now the testimony]**

Mark 6:11 And whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet **as a testimony against them.** Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!"

1 John 5:10-12 He who believes in the Son of God **has the witness in himself;** he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the **testimony** that God has given of His Son. And **this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.** He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

The words witness and testimony is the same in this verse:

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him by **the blood of the Lamb** and by **the word of their testimony**, and they **did not love their lives to the death**.

Revelation 12:17 And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and **have the testimony of Jesus Christ**.

Revelation 15:5-6 After these things I looked, and behold, **the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened**. And out of the temple came **the seven angels having the seven plagues**, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands.

Revelation 19:10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and **of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus**. Worship God!

12) The Tenth of Nisan / Palm Sunday

“On the tenth of this month [Nisan] every man shall take for himself a lamb...Your lamb shall be without blemish...Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight.” Exodus 12

The tenth of Nisan was obviously important to God. Not only did He foreshadow the date in Egypt, and used prophets and psalmists to describe events that would be accomplished by the Messiah at His coming, but forty years after Moses led them across the Red Sea, the Israelites came out of the wilderness, and crossed into the Promised Land on the very day, and celebrated Passover four days later. *“Now the people came up from the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they camped in Gilgal on the east border of Jericho.” Joshua 4:19*

For Jesus, 2,000 Years Ago, It Really Was Palm Sunday

Since the time of Moses, each spring the Passover Lamb was chosen and set apart on the tenth of Nisan as preparations began for its slaughter on Passover, the fourteenth of Nisan. It was for this very reason, Jesus, as the Messiah and Passover Lamb, had to enter Jerusalem on that very day, when the perfect lamb was to be selected and set apart. And in 30 A.D., it was indeed on a Sunday when Jesus the Messiah rode into town, and four days later on Thursday when Jesus the Passover Lamb was slaughtered on the cross for our sins.

So, were the throngs of shouting people on the streets of Jerusalem really aware of who Jesus was? When He entered Jerusalem through the Eastern Gate, *“the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’ Hosanna in the highest!’”* Why did they choose these words? The word “Hosanna” in Hebrew is “*Hoshia Na*” or literally “save, please” and is part of Psalm 118, one of six psalms of the *Hallel (Psalms 113-118)*. These were the songs of praise and thanksgiving always used during this Feast. Psalm 118 was recited on the way to the Temple, and also in the Temple at the time of the slaughtering of the Passover sacrifice.

The Gate Called Beautiful

The Jews in the First Century were waiting for the Messiah, and they expected Him to pass through the Eastern Gate when He came to rule. So, shouting “Hoshia Na” to Jesus as He entered the Eastern Gate was a clear declaration of who they thought He was. In Ezekiel, the prophet watched as the glory of the Lord left the Temple through *“the entrance of the east gate of the Lord’s house”* and over to the Mount of Olives. Later, Ezekiel saw the glory of the Lord return to the Temple through *“the gate facing east”*. Still later Ezekiel described a time when that Eastern gate would be shut up, *“The Lord said to me, ‘This gate is to remain shut. It must not be opened; no one may enter through it. It is to remain shut because the Lord, the God of Israel, has entered through it...When the Prince provides a freewill offering to the LORD ...the gate facing east is to be opened for Him.*

The words of Psalm 118 not only greeted Him at His arrival into Jerusalem, Jesus Himself would recite those very prophetic words during the Last Supper the night of His betrayal and arrest, and He would no doubt hear those same words echoing over and over while He hung upon the cross, chanted by the priests as they slaughtered hundreds of thousands of lambs. Consider the last nine verses of Psalm 118: *“This is the gate of the Lord through which the righteous shall enter. I will praise You, for You have answered me, and have become my Salvation. The stone which the builders rejected has become the Chief Cornerstone. This was the Lord’s doing; It is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day the Lord has made; we will rejoice*

and be glad in it. Save now, I pray, O Lord; O Lord, I pray, send now prosperity. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! We have blessed You from the house of the Lord. God is the Lord, and He has given us light; bind the sacrifice with cords to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will praise You; You are my God, I will exalt You. Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.”

And Jesus wept...

*In Luke 19 Jesus prayed over Jerusalem, “He saw the city and **wept** over it, saying, “If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”*

In the New Testament, Jesus weeps only twice – once over Jerusalem, and once over Lazarus. Both occasions are on the Mount of Olives, occurred relatively close time wise and location wise, but these two tearful scenes only make sense when you look at them together. Why did Jesus intentionally allow Lazarus to go through the suffering and torment of death, and then weep over him, if He was just going to raise him back to life. Perhaps the suffering of Lazarus was a perfect shadow of the suffering coming upon Israel, and perhaps the tears of Jesus were more significant than tears for the death of a friend. He was weeping for us all...dead in sin...with only one remedy.