

JESUS - THE PASSOVER LAMB

Christ Prefigured in the OT

What can wash away my sin?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
What can make me whole again?
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my pardon, this I see,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
For my cleansing this my plea,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

This is all my hope and peace,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus;
This is all my righteousness,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Now by this I'll overcome—
Nothing but the blood of Jesus,
Now by this I'll reach my home—
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

Oh! precious is the flow
That makes me white as snow;
No other fount I know,
Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

First Corinthians 5:6-8

□ ***Context (5:1-5)***

- Paul is addressing a case of gross immorality within the church of Corinth. A man was living in an immoral relationship with his step-mother.
- Instead of dealing with such overt sin, the Corinthians had turned a blind eye. Instead of feeling shame and sorrow, they were proud and boastful.
- Paul gives them clear instructions. They are to excommunicate this man from the church assembly delivering him over to Satan in the hope that he will repent.

First Corinthians 5:6-8

□ *Typology Applied*

- It is in this context that Paul reminds his readers of the most important Jewish festivals, Passover and the Feast of unleavened bread, and applies them typologically to their lives.
- Questions we want to answer tonight:
 - What can we learn from the correspondence that Paul draws between the Passover lamb that was sacrificed and Christ?
 - What is the relationship between Passover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread and sin in the church?

Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

□ ***Choosing the lamb (Ex. 12:3-5)***

- God begins by giving instructions regarding the selection of a lamb. There are three requirements:
 - First, it must be a lamb or kid goat.
 - Secondly, it must be without blemish.
 - And third, it must be a male one year old.



Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

□ ***Killing the Lamb (Ex. 12:6)***

- The word “kill” is not the usual word (*harag*) but a rarer word (*shahat*) meaning to slaughter usually in a sacrificial way.
- **Genesis 22:** “Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay (*shahat*) his son.”
- **Genesis 37:** Joseph’s brothers take his tunic, slaughter (*shahat*) a male goat and dip the tunic in the blood. They send it to their father saying, “Is this Joseph’s tunic?” Jacob sees the blood drenched clothing and believes that it is the blood of his beloved son.

Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

□ *Killing the Lamb (Ex. 12:6)*

- **Conclusion:** Note the similarities between these two texts in Genesis and our passage in Exodus.
 - All speak of a son. Abraham's "only loved" son, Jacob's favorite & loved son, and Israel's firstborn sons are in danger of death.
 - All are provided with a male sheep/goat as a substitute.
 - The Israelites were to understand that just as God received the blood of a male sheep in the place of Isaac's blood, and Jacob unknowingly received the sacrificial blood of a goat as being the blood of his beloved son, so God looks upon the sacrificial blood of this lamb/goat as a substitute, representing the blood of the firstborn.

Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

- ***Applying the lamb***
(Ex. 12:7-11)
 - ▣ **Outwardly:** The blood on the doorframe is evidence that a sacrifice has taken place, blood has been shed at that home, and thus it provides protection for those within.



Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

- ***Applying the lamb (Ex. 12:7-11)***
 - ▣ **Inwardly:** Eating the flesh provides nourishment (Note the repetition of the verb “eat” five times).
 - ▣ **Summary:** The same lamb that protects their life from death also gives them strength to begin their new journey with God. The lamb not only guards life, it sustains life.

Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

- ***Need for a lamb (Ex. 12:12-13)***
 - God is coming to execute judgments. Literally this reads that God is going to “do justice” (Hamilton 184). To do justice is to do what is right, it is to act fairly.
 - Verse 12 and 13 are carefully structured. What separates the “I will” of judgment in verse 12 from the “I will” of mercy in verse 13? It is nothing other than the blood of the lamb.

Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

- Exodus 12:12 -13
 - '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.
 - **'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.

Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

- ***Christological implications***
 - ▣ **Selecting the Lamb:** Jesus, God's lamb, was without blemish. He had no faults (1 Pet. 2:22; Heb. 9:14).
 - ▣ **Killing the Lamb:** Jesus came to die a sacrificial death. He came to die a substitutionary death. In other words he died in our place and on our behalf.

Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

□ ***Christological implications***

- **Applying the Lamb:** Jesus' death both protects us from God's wrath and it transforms our lives. The death of Christ on the cross not only delivers us from the penalty of sin but it also delivers us from the power of sin. It enables us to walk away from our slavery to sin.
- **Need for the Lamb:** There is a day coming, when God will go, not just through the land of Egypt, but through the whole world. The Bible speaks of it as a day of judgment. It is a day when God will do justice.
- The promise of the Gospel message echoes in Exodus 12:13. When God sees the blood of his Son applied to a person's life, he promises to pass over that person in judgment assuring them that no plague will befall them to destroy them.

Passover and Leaven

- ***Feast of Unleavened Bread (Ex. 12:14-20)***
 - **Dominant Characteristic:** The absence of leaven. Once a year, the Israelites were commanded to get rid of all their sourdough starters, eat unleavened bread for a week, and then begin the fermentation process again for the following year.



Passover and Leaven

- ***Feast of Unleavened Bread (Ex. 12:14-20)***
 - ▣ **Relationship to Passover:** The people are taught that the proper response to Passover is a seven day festival in which no leaven is consumed.
 - ▣ **Consequence of disobedience:** To eat leaven during this time period incurs a severe penalty. That person is to be excommunicated or banished from the people of God. This is repeated twice for emphasis.

Passover and Leaven

□ *Typological Meaning in 1 Cor. 5*

- **Dominant Characteristic:** Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread were just a small picture of a much greater reality. Now that the ultimate Passover Lamb has been sacrificed, we are living in the days of unleavened bread. That is, the week of unleavened bread points to the age of unleavened bread.
 - The church = the house purified of leaven (5:7)
 - The church = the new lump of dough free of old leaven (5:7)
 - The church = the people who celebrate the feast by avoiding leaven (5:8)
 - Leaven = The man who is living in immorality (5:7)
 - Leaven = Every form of iniquity (malice and wickedness) (5:8)

Passover and Leaven

- ***Typological Meaning in 1 Cor. 5***
 - **Relationship to Christ's Sacrifice:** Jesus, our Passover lamb, has delivered us from both the penalty of sin (death) and the power of sin (slavery). Through his sacrifice, we have become a new people, a new batch of bread free from sin's contamination. Therefore, let us make sure we reflect that reality. Let us become what we are!
 - **Consequence of disobedience:** Because this age constitutes the Feast of Unleavened Bread, failure to remove leaven is a serious offense, one which results in excommunication.

Significance and Application

- ***Jesus is our substitute lamb who has died in our place and whose blood shields us from the just wrath of God.***
 - “What alone determines whether a person experiences God’s mercy or God’s judgment?”
The determining factor is blood, sacrificial blood, substitutionary blood applied to us personally.
 - Ex. 12:13 “The blood shall be a sign for **you**...”

Significance and Application

- ***Because of Jesus' sacrifice, life for God's people is a celebration of an ongoing feast characterized by sincerity and truth.***