
The Passover

Introduction

This presentation is made available as a public service due to its Biblical and historic value.

The presenter should become thoroughly

familiar with material before presentation. If time permits, schedule a follow-up period for questions and discussions.

Courtesy of Doug Gamble Silverdale, Washington.



April 15

Taxes and The Passover

April 15 is tax time for the 138 million who pay taxes.

The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is:

that the taxidermist leaves the skin.

-- Mark Twain

Who Pays What in Taxes



- Top 1% of income earners pay 40% of all personal income taxes.
- Upper 50% - 99% pay 60% of total taxes
- Those with incomes in the Lower 50% pay no income tax.
- In other words, half the population is paying taxes for the other half to benefit from without them paying anything. The lower half is expanding and the upper half decreasing.

April 9-15 2009

- In 2009, the Jewish Passover will begin on April 9 and go for 7 days ending on April 15.
 - Of the 6.4 million Jews in America, an estimated 2.7 million Jews will celebrate Passover. (Harris Poll 2003, 48% believe)
 - In 2009, Easter will fall on Sunday, April 12th, in the middle of the Jewish Passover
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How The Jews Celebrate Passover

- After over 3,000 years, 2.7 million Jews still celebrate the Passover with :
- Prayers
- *Hallel* – Songs of Praise
- Haggadah – Reading of the story of the exodus from Egypt.
- Read the prophecy of the coming Mosiach or Messiah.
- Eat the Seder Dinner, with symbolisms.

Seder Meal



Seder Symbolism

- Dip the onion in salt water (the tears of those in bondage in Egypt)
- Eat Matzah bread – simple, for the poor, broken people.
- Drink four glasses of wine.
- Set aside an extra glass of wine for Elijah the Prophet who prepares the way for the Messiah.

Why Four Glasses of Wine

1. Freedom
2. Deliverance
3. Redemption
4. Release



Some use alcoholic wine, some use grape juice.

Exodus Chapter 12



Exodus Chapter 12

- Ex. 12:1-2 A new beginning
The Jewish first month (Nisan), is our fourth month (April)
- Exodus 12:3
- Take a lamb on the 10th day of the month; keep it to the 14th.

Exodus 12: 5-7

- Vs 5 - A male lamb without blemish
- Kept from 10th to 14th day.
- Vs 6 - Kill the lamb on the 14th day of month Nisan (our April 14th).
- Kill the Lamb in the evening
- Vs 7 - Apply the blood on the door side posts and top of the door.

Exodus 12:12, 23

- 12 - Judgment is coming
 - 23 - When the death angel comes to your house, if it sees the blood, it will pass over you.
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Exodus 12:12, 23

- Applying shed blood of innocent lamb, without spot or blemish, provided salvation to all who followed God's plan.

Exodus 12: 29-30

- 29 - It came to pass (the death angel did come, and those who had not applied the blood died in their sins.)
- 30 - There was a great cry. When so many people die without eternal salvation, it is an unbelievably sad time.

Salvation God's Plan

- God told Moses and Aaron, death is coming, all must be judged, I have a plan of salvation, only the *applied blood* of the lamb can save.
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Go Back 3,500 Years

- Go tell every creature about God's plan of salvation. Hurry, the death angel is coming. There is not much time to get the truth of salvation to everyone. Once death angel comes, it is too late. No one else can be saved after that.
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Our Works Do Not Save

- They tell the first person the story. The first person says: “I have lived a pretty good life. I will take my chances.”
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Our Works Do Not Save

- They tell the next person. The second person says: “I have my PHD. The university didn’t teach that. I don’t think that what your saying is scientific.”
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God's Work vs. Our Works

- The third person they tell, says: “I have gone to the synagogue all of my life. A loving God would not kill me.”
 - At the fourth house by faith the blood is applied.
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God's Work vs. Our Works

- How many were saved?
 - Only the ones that followed God's plan of salvation.
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A Feast To Ever Observe

- "And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD through out your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever."

Exodus 12:14

Observe Feast Forever

- Exodus 12:24-27,42

"And ye shall observe this thing for an ordnance to thee and to thy sons for ever."

Observe Feast Forever

- “And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service.”

Feast Is A Reminder of Deliverance

- "It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations."
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Passover Supper

- Setting for institution of the Lord's Supper was the Passover meal that Jesus celebrated with his disciples in remembrance of the passing of the death angel, and deliverance of Israel from Egypt. (*Matthew 26:17; Exodus 12:12-17; Exodus 13:1- 10*)

Passover Supper

- Calling bread and wine his body and blood; saying, "Do this in remembrance of me," Jesus was naming himself the true lamb of the Passover whose death would protect and deliver God's people from the bondage of sin.

Christ Is Our Passover

- Thus Paul writes,
"For even Christ our passover is
sacrificed for us:"

John 1:29

I Corinthians 5:7-8

3 Elements of Passover Supper

- "And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it."
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Passover Supper

- The lamb, according the verse 27, was to remind Israel of the passing of the death angel over the houses of the Israelites in the land of Egypt, whereby their lives were spared.

Exodus 12:5

- The Passover lamb had to be "a male of the first year:" (v. 5).
- There are two important requirements found in this verse:
 1. lamb had to be a male
 2. had to be of the first year

A Male of the First Year

- Whenever a lamb is one year old it is fully mature and capable of going its own way.
 - In the ministry the first year of maturity was at age 30.
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Ministry Begins at 30

- Christ meets this qualification. According to Luke, "Jesus began to be about thirty years of age," (Luke 3:23).
- Ministry-wise, this was his first year of eligibility according to Jewish law.

Gen 41:46

II Sam. 5:4

Ezek 1:1

Ministry Begins at 30

- The requirements of the priest in Numbers 4:3: "From thirty years old and upward even until fifty years old, all that enter into the host, to do the work in the tabernacle of the congregation."

Lamb's Inspection Time

- The lamb selected for sacrifice had to be put up for four days. This was from the 10th to the 14th of the month.
- "In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb," (v. 3).

Lamb's Inspection Time

- "And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month:"
(v. 6).



Lamb's Inspection Time

- Reasons for this provision:
- to determine if there were any blemishes



Lamb's Inspection Time

- For four days the lamb was to be inspected. If there were any spots or blemishes, during this time, then lamb was unfit as a sacrifice.
 - From the time Christ was arrested until the time of crucifixion was four days. “no fault found in him”
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Redeem The Donkey

- When Jesus sent two disciples to obtain the donkey (Matt. 21:1,2), which He would ride into Jerusalem, this was a fulfillment of two prophecies. Firstly, God had told the Hebrews as they were leaving Egypt, “Redeem with a lamb every firstborn donkey...” Exodus 13:13
- Jesus, as the Lamb of God, “redeemed” or “liberated” the donkey, as well as its first-born colt.

King on a Donkey

- Secondly, the prophet Zechariah's statement came to pass: "Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zech. 9:9).

Without Blemish

- From time that Christ began his ministry until his death,
- His enemies attempted to discover any blemish in the life and character of Christ - without success.
- When you become a Christian you the world will be watching for your blemishes.

Without Blemish

- Christ was tempted by Satan, but he remained clean and pure. When Christ died upon the cross, he did so without spot or blemish.
 - He was the perfect lamb Lamb of God, our Passover, sacrificed for us.
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Time of the Sacrifice

- The Passover lamb was to be killed in the evening.
 - vs 6: "and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening."
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Behold The Lamb of God

- Following the Passover lamb being killed, it was prepared to be cooked. The tractate *Pesahim* in the *Mishnah* details how the lamb is traditionally prepared for cooking.
 - In preparing the lamb, parts are wrapped around the lamb's head. The lamb is called “the crowned sacrifice”.
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Behold The Lamb of God

- In cooking the lamb, a stick is thrust through the lamb from bottom to top in a vertical position. The lamb is held by placing a cross stick in a horizontal position and tying a leg on each end. The wooden sticks form the sign of the cross.
 - This ceremony pictures the crucifixion of Jesus.
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Time of the Sacrifice

- The historian Josephus wrote that the Jews slaughtered the sacrificial Passover lamb at 3 in the afternoon.
 - Christ died at the ninth hour, or 3 p.m. (cf. Mark 15:34-38).
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Time of the Sacrifice

- History records that, as the priest were slaying the first Passover lamb, Christ our Passover was dying upon the cross.
 - Christ Our Passover Lamb from Bethlehem was being slain at the very time that the Jewish people were killing the Passover Lambs born and shipped from Bethlehem.
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14th of The Fourth Month

- The Passover Lamb was killed on the 14th of Nisan (Our April 14th)
- History records that Christ was killed on April 14th, 29 A.D.

Source: Will Durant, History of Civilization

When Was The Passover?

- Originally, Passover was celebrated on the first full moon after the vernal equinox.
- Christians celebrated Pascha according to the same calculation - that is, on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox.

When Is Passover Now ?

- **Today Passover** *(or the Easter celebration to some)* **can fall on any date from March 22nd to April 30th.**
(Depending on if you go by the Gregorian Calendar or the Julian Calendar).
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Unleavened Bread

- The second element of the passover supper was "unleavened bread." This was to remind Israel of their affliction and trouble in Egypt:
- Egypt pictures the world. Leaven is a picture of sin.



Unleavened Bread

- Deut. 16:3 "... even the bread of affliction; for thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt in haste:"
- The bread was unleavened because God commanded it, and because it also illustrated that they left the land of Egypt.

Ex. 12:33-34

Purge The Leaven

- I Cor. 5: 7, 8 "Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump... For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us: therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth."
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Religion is Full of Leaven Today

- Matthew 16:6
- Matthew 16:11-12



Bitter Herbs

- The third element was "bitter herbs." This was to remind the Israelites of their bitter bondage in Egypt.
- Num. 9:11 "... and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs."

Christ Is Our Passover

- He became our Passover.

1 Corinthians 5:7

- He is the Lamb slain for the sins of the whole world.

John 1:29, 36

Christ Is Our Passover

- Christ was the sacrificial Lamb without blemish. *1 Peter 1:19*
 - *Pilate said: I find no fault in him.*
 - The same Lamb slain that stands now in the midst of the throne of God.
Revelation 5:6
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Passover Lamb

- The Passover Lamb killed in the evening
- The Bible and the historian Tertullian, both say that at the time of Christ's death there was a darkness over the land from the 6th to the 9th hour.



No Bone To Be Broken

- Exodus 12: 46 "neither shall ye break a bone thereof."
 - This pictured the sacrificed body of our Lord. Because He was our Passover sacrificed for us, His body could not have a broken bone.
 - Historians tell us that it was the common practice to break the leg bones to hasten death. John 19:31-33
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The Death Angel

- The last stage of the Passover was the passover of the death angel.
 - This also is a type of Christ.
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The Death Angel

- Part of the preparation of the Passover lamb was to take its blood and place it on their houses as God commanded. "And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side post and on the upper door post of the houses" (Ex 12:7).
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The Death Angel

- This blood would be their salvation. For at midnight, when the angel of the Lord came into the land, if it did not see that blood, they would die in their sins. None would be exempt, unless the blood was applied
- As the Hebrews placed the blood on the doorposts and above the door, the motions made the sign of the cross.

The Lamb's Blood

- This so beautifully pictures for us our salvation through the blood of Christ.
 - He is not a door, Christ is The Door through which we must enter for our salvation. We are saved by the blood, if we apply it to our hearts door.
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Have You Applied The Blood ?

- One day the death angel will come to our physical house.
 - Will he find the blood of Christ?
 - Will your soul be cleansed by our savior's blood?
 - If no blood applied, you will die in your sins.
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The Death Angel Comes

- The death angel is coming
 - Now is the time to consider your soul's condition.
 - The death angel looks for only one thing- have you applied Christ's blood to your hearts door.
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Have You Applied the Blood ?

- Now is the time to prepare to meet the Lord's death angel.
 - God's plan is for us to trust in the shed blood of Christ for our salvation.
 - He is our Passover sacrificed for us.
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The Jewish Passover Feast Today Celebrates

1. Freedom
 2. Deliverance
 3. Redemption
 4. Release
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For The Christian

1. Freedom – Christ is The Truth, Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.
 2. Deliverance
 3. Redemption
 4. Release
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Deliverance

- Who gave himself for our sins
 - That he might deliver us
 - From this present evil world...
- Galatians 1:4
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Redemption

- “In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins...”
Ephesians 1:7
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“Satan, Let My People Go”

- The Jews were captive in Egypt
 - Moses told Pharaoh to “let my people go” (release them)
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“Satan, Let My People Go”

- Egypt is a picture of the world; Pharaoh a picture of Satan.
 - Today most people are hooked on the things of the world: alcohol, drugs, immorality, etc. The wages of sin is death.
 - Christ brings freedom, deliverance, redemption and release from sin and death.
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A New Beginning

- The Passover marked the new beginning for the people.
 - When you become a Christian, the Bible tells you that you are a “new creature”. You are born again, with a clean slate, a clean record. Old things are passed away, behold all things are become new.
 - You have a new beginning for your life.
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