



Gospel Community Notes & Questions

Title: Saved by the Blood

Text: Exodus 12:1-13:16

Theme: Salvation means getting you out of bondage and getting bondage out of you.

Teaching Notes: On the night of the first Passover, the Israelites killed a spotless lamb and applied its blood to the doorpost of their homes. That blood stood between them and the Destroyer, having purchased their redemption. Many years later, the ultimate and final Passover Lamb gave his life and poured out his blood for our redemption from sin and death.

Outline:

1. The Institution of Passover. (12:1-14, 43-49)
 - a. Each household selected a blameless lamb. (12:3-5)
 - 1) The lamb was roasted to nourish God's people. (12:8-11)
 - 2) The lamb's blood was applied to the doorpost and lintel of each house. (12:7, 13)
 - b. The LORD would pass through the land to strike down every firstborn and execute judgment on Egypt's gods. (12:12)
 - c. The LORD would pass over any household marked by blood. (12:13)
 - d. The Passover was to be an annual commemoration and celebration. (12:14)
 - e. This feast was only for those who identified with the covenant people of God. (12:43-49)
2. The Sequel to Passover. (12:15-20; 13:3-10)
 - a. Day One: Remove all leaven from every household. (12:15)
 - b. Days 1-7: Eat only unleavened bread. (12:15, 18-20; 13:6-7)
 - c. Consecrate every firstborn male to the LORD. (13:1-2, 11-16)
3. The Meaning of Passover. (12:26-27; 13:1-2, 11-16)
 - In a word, redemption. You've been liberated with a price, and the cost was the substitutionary death of an innocent lamb.
4. The Fulfillment of Passover.
 - Jesus is the spotless Lamb of God, killed at Passover, his blood shed to purchase our redemption, and applied to our lives by grace through faith.
5. The Application of Passover.
 - a. Receive and cherish the Lord's Supper.
 - b. Remove the corrupting influence of the world and consecrate your life wholly to God.



Questions to explore individually and with your group:

1. What's one thing you learned or observed from Exodus 12:1-13:16?
2. The Passover story does not present the Israelites as having some kind of automatic ethnic or ethical superiority to the Egyptians. Instead, the only differentiation between them is . . . what? How is that reality relevant to the Christian Church today?
3. What one word summarizes the essence of Passover? What two core theological truths are bound up in that one word?
4. What are some ways the Passover points to Jesus Christ?
5. With Passover as your historic frame of reference, why did Jesus have to shed his blood?
6. Why don't Christians continue to celebrate the Passover? What are some practical, everyday ways to honor the spirit and purpose of Passover today?
7. What is the theological point of the Feast of Unleavened Bread? What are some practical, everyday ways to honor the spirit and purpose of that feast today?
8. Functionally, what do you look to or depend on for assurance that you have a right relationship with God? How does this story speak to that?
9. The sermon referred to "Spiritual Stockholm Syndrome." What is that? What are some ways believers unconsciously practice that? What's the cure?
10. What one actionable thing will you do this week in response to this message?

Prayer Prompts:

1. Take some time to meditate on the wonder that God shed his blood to cleanse you from sin and to protect you from the destroyer. Praise the Lord for his rescue and his redemption.
2. Acknowledge the ways you continue to allow the world and the flesh to live in you, even though you've been set free in Christ. Confess where the corrupting power of sin still has influence over your thoughts and affections.
3. Ask God to give you the grace and the strength to walk in newness of life, wholly consecrated to him.