

Tragedy to Triumph – Christ in Passover

Palm Sunday - 2023

Introduction:

Today marks a very special day and week for Christianity and Judaism alike. Today is Palm Sunday beginning the week of passion that crescendos on Resurrection Sunday. There is so much preaching / teaching material that could be shared, in fact this week could be and has been in the past a one-year series; especially if you really expositionally dug into the Hebraic roots of this holy season.

Though I don't have time to unravel the entire ball of revelational yarn, I feel impressed of the Lord to focus our attention uniquely and specifically upon Christ in a few passages concerning Passover.

Notice with me...

- 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 - ⁶Your glorying *is* not good. Do you not know that a **little leaven leavens the whole lump**? ⁷Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, **our Passover**, was sacrificed for us. ⁸Therefore **let us keep the feast**, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.
 - Right now, in Israel, many have spent an entire month getting leaven out of their houses and business.
 - They take this command very seriously – so seriously that even dishes that have been used all year are removed from the house for fear that a little leaven might accidentally mingle with the unleavened bread of Passover season.
 - They will not allow any leavened bread to enter their homes 2 weeks before Passover.

Many of us have never celebrated the Passover Feast from a Jewish perspective so we don't have a good understanding of what this really means symbolically speaking. Conversely, the orthodox Jewish community celebrates this day religiously with an elaborate meal; yet, they don't have a true understanding of the real meaning of their symbolic meal.

For Christians, what is the most important thing about Passover?

Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb

Today I want to pull the Jewish and Christian celebrations together and give you a full revelation about the subject. Notice with me...

Hebrews 11:24-29 - ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. ²⁷ By faith **he forsook Egypt**, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. ²⁸ **By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.** ²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry *land*, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

Why teach on this? Because...

Life is short, death is sure, sin is the cause, Christ is the cure!

We need to understand that the malady of this world is indeed sin. And by nature, by birth, by practice, we're all sinners.

What America needs more than anything; more than a war on poverty, a war on drugs, a better border policy, judicial reform, or political reformation, she needs a war on sin. The costliest thing in the world is sin.

Now, I don't expect anybody to stand up in one of the great laboratories or one of our universities and say that it is the sin factor that has caused so much pain, devastation, and heartache in the world today. But ladies and gentlemen, we never, ever deal with a problem because we never ever make the right diagnosis. I'm talking about mankind in general. **They spend all their time sweeping down cobwebs rather than killing spiders.** We need to understand that the cobweb is the result of the sin. The heartache and the poverty, the sin itself is that spider that causes it.

Now, where's the answer going to come?

- From Washington D.C. and the White House
- From two opposing political parties
- From our prestigious education systems
- From the hallowed halls of religion and churchianity

The only answer from the sin problem is the plan of redemption fulfilled in a man named Jesus Christ.

Now, I want you to notice something in the scripture that we just read Hebrews 11:24-29 - ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. ²⁷ By faith **he forsook Egypt**, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. ²⁸ **By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.** ²⁹ By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry *land*, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

- Vs. 27 speaks of [Decision](#)
- Vs. 28 speaks of [Deliverance](#)
- Vs. 29 speaks of [Demonstration](#)

Now, Egypt in the Bible is symbolic of sin. And the king of Egypt who was Pharaoh is symbolic of Satan. And when Moses forsook Egypt, it symbolizes Moses forsaking sin. Egypt is a picture of the bondage of sin and Pharaoh illustrates Satan.

How did Moses get out of Egypt?

1. Moses made a decision...

²⁴ By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, ²⁶ esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. ²⁷ By faith **he forsook Egypt...**

Now, of course, Pharaoh did not want them to go. I've told you before and I want to tell you again that **Satan never gives up anybody without a fight!**

Go to Exodus chapter 8 look at the drama...

Exodus 8:20-30 – ²⁰ And the Lord said to Moses, "Rise early in the morning and stand before Pharaoh as he comes out to the water. Then say to him, 'Thus says the Lord: "Let My people go, that they may serve Me. ²¹ Or else, if you will not let My people go, behold, I will send swarms of *flies* on you and your servants, on your people and into your houses. The houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of *flies*, and also the ground on which they *stand*. ²² And in that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, in which My people dwell, that no swarms of *flies* shall be there, in order that you may know that I *am* the Lord in the midst of the land. ²³ I will make a difference between My people and your people. Tomorrow this sign shall be." ' " ²⁴ And the Lord did so. Thick swarms of *flies* came into the house of Pharaoh, *into* his servants' houses, and into all the land of Egypt. The land was corrupted because of the swarms of *flies*.

²⁵ Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and said, **“Go, sacrifice to your God in the land.”**
²⁶ 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? ²⁷ We will go three days’ journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the Lord our God as He will command us.” ²⁸ So Pharaoh said, **“I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to the Lord your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away.** Intercede for me.”²⁹ Then Moses said, “Indeed I am going out from you, and I will entreat the Lord, that the swarms *of flies* may depart tomorrow from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people. But let Pharaoh not deal deceitfully anymore in not letting the people go to sacrifice to the Lord.”³⁰ So Moses went out from Pharaoh and entreated the Lord. ³¹ And the Lord did according to the word of Moses; He removed the swarms *of flies* from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people. Not one remained. ³² But Pharaoh hardened his heart at this time also; neither would he let the people go.

Notice the tactics of Pharaoh / Satan:

- **I will not let you go...**
- **Worship in the land...**
 - **Pharaoh was not against their worship. And the devil is not against yours**
 - **The devil is ok with you being religious, if you are lost.**
 - **The devil had just as soon send you to hell from this pew as he had the gutter.**
- **Don’t go too far...**
 - He'll try to make you a wilderness Christian. He'll try to make you a carnal Christian, he'll try to get you to be saved and then settled down in the suburbs of sin and that's what some of you have done and you still doing it by the compromise of the devil.
 - **Exodus 11:7 - God doth make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.**
- **Don’t take anyone with you...**
 - **Exodus 10:8-9 - ⁸So Moses and Aaron were brought again to Pharaoh, and he said to them, “Go, serve the Lord your God. Who *are* the ones that are going?”⁹ And Moses said, “We will go with our young and our old; with our sons and our daughters, with our flocks and our herds we will go, for we must hold a feast to the Lord.”**
 - I can’t imagine how anybody in this world could be content now to go to heaven and leave their loved ones behind and Moses said mister Pharaoh, we're going and we're all going. We're not going to leave our children behind. The Bible teaches family religion. I’m not going to heaven by myself and I’m definitely not leaving my family behind.
 - **The devil hates family religion, but the Bible teaches family religion.**

- **Don't take anything with you...**

- Exodus 10:24 - ²⁴Then Pharaoh called to Moses and said, "Go, serve the Lord; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back. Let your little ones also go with you."
- Alright, if you're going to take the children, go ahead and take them, but now, you just leave your flocks, leave your cows and your sheep and so forth behind and Moses said, thou must give us also sacrifices and burnt offerings that we may sacrifice unto the Lord our God.
- Exodus 10:26 - ²⁶Our livestock also shall go with us; **not a hoof shall be left behind.** For we must take some of them to serve the Lord our God, and even we do not know with what we must serve the Lord until we arrive there."

Four of the greatest temptations you will ever face:

Salvation Compromise
Separation Compromise
Soul-Winning Compromise
Stewardship Compromise

I don't know about you today, but... I'm going, I'm going too far, I'm taking as many people as possible with me, and I'm not going empty handed!

That's the way we ought to be living. That's the way you ought to be living. And so, for Passover you need to understand:

1. **A decision** needs to be made – He forsook Egypt
2. But there also **must be a deliverance** – the Passover Lamb

Hebrews 11:28 - ²⁸By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

- It wasn't enough for him to **decide** to leave Egypt. He had to have a redemptive plan. **We cannot save ourselves no matter how much we try and no matter how hard we push to get out. Moses and the children of Israel had to be delivered!**
- The blood of that Passover Lamb was pointing to something greater and permanent - This is Jesus Christ and the plan of redemption

3. Now that the decision has been made, and the deliverance has been provided, finally we see the **demonstration** of a Holy God.

Hebrews 11:29 - ²⁹By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry *land*, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

Conclusion:

- **Have you made a decision today?**
- **Have you experience deliverance?**
- **Do you need God to demonstrate himself in your life today?**