



INFORMED AND FAITHFUL

Lesson 14: The SPRING FESTIVALS

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ORIGIN OF PASSOVER

- ❖ **Exodus 12:21, 23** Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Go and take for yourselves lambs according to your families, and slay the Passover lamb.... For the Lord will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite you."
- ❖ **Exodus 12:29** Now it came about at midnight that the Lord struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of cattle.
- ❖ **PASSOVER: *PESACH*: TO LEAP OVER, EXEMPTION, TO SPARE**

THE OBSERVANCE

- ❖ **Leviticus 23:5-6** In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight is the Lord's Passover. Then on the fifteenth day of the same month there is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the Lord; for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread.
- ❖ **Passover and Unleavened Bread are used almost interchangeably in scripture**
- ❖ **The Passover and the 1st day of Unleavened Bread were both sabbaths, whether or not they were on Saturday.**
- ❖ **The day before the passover was called the "preparation" day**

PROCEDURE

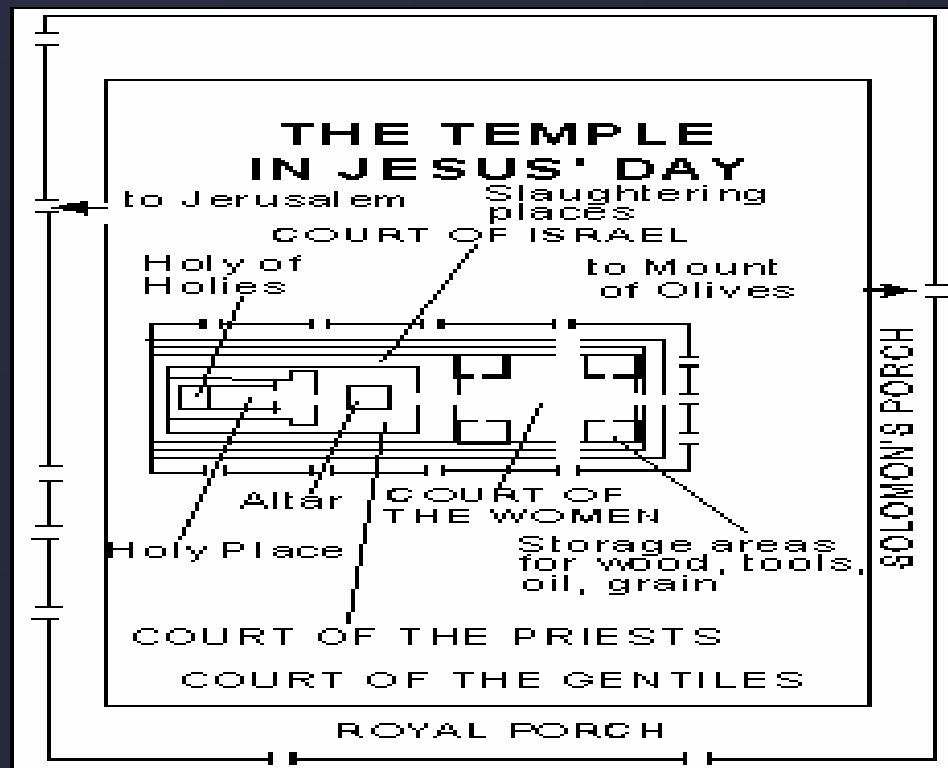
- ❖ **Exodus 12:3** Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'On the tenth of this month they are each one to take a lamb for themselves, according to their fathers' households, a lamb for each household.
- ❖ **Nisan 10: lamb to be sacrificed identified**
- ❖ **Jesus' Fulfillment: Palm Sunday**
- ❖ **Mark 11:9,11** Those who went in front and those who followed were shouting: "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord" ... Jesus entered Jerusalem and came into the temple; (Zechariah 9:9 – riding on a donkey)
- ❖ **John 1:29** The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

NISAN 11



- ❖ **Mark 11:12-13** On the next day, when they had left Bethany, He became hungry. Seeing at a distance a fig tree in leaf, He went to see if perhaps He would find anything on it; and when He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.
- ❖ **Mark 11:15-17** Then they came to Jerusalem. And He entered the temple and began to drive out those who were buying and selling in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who were selling doves; and He would not permit anyone to carry merchandise through the temple. And He began to teach and say to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a robbers' den."

THE TEMPLE IN TIME OF CHRIST



NISAN 12

- ❖ **Mark 11:20-23** As they were passing by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots up. Being reminded, Peter said to Him, "Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has withered." And Jesus answered saying to them, "Have faith in God. Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be granted him."
- ❖ **Mark 11:27-30** They came again to Jerusalem. And as He was walking in the temple, the chief priests and the scribes and the elders came to Him, and began saying to Him, "By what authority are You doing these things, or who gave You this authority to do these things?" And Jesus said to them, "I will ask you one question, and you answer Me, and then I will tell you by what authority I do these things. Was the baptism of John from heaven, or from men? Answer Me."

NISAN 13?

- ❖ The day of preparation was sometimes called the “first day” and would have started at evening
- ❖ Jesus may have eaten the Passover with His disciples on that evening that started the day of preparation
- ❖ Jesus may have been crucified the next day, (Thursday) still the day of preparation until sundown
- ❖ The Spring Festivals have back-to-back sabbaths
- ❖ The day of Passover was a Sabbath; the following day, the first day of Unleavened bread was also a Sabbath

OUT OF THE SEDER

- ❖ Matthew 26:26 While they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."
- ❖ At the beginning of the meal, three pieces of unleavened bread were on a plate; the center piece was broken in half and half was wrapped and hidden
- ❖ The afikomen – last thing eaten in the meal
- ❖ **Luke 22:20** And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood."

NISAN 14

- ❖ The Passover began at sundown; the lambs began being sacrificed as soon as the sun started downward (3:00 PM)
- ❖ **Mark 15:33-37** When the sixth hour came, darkness fell over the whole land until the ninth hour. At the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" When some of the bystanders heard it, they began saying, "Behold, He is calling for Elijah." Someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink, saying, "Let us see whether Elijah will come to take Him down." And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last.
- ❖ Jesus died at the time the lambs were being sacrificed

NISAN 15, 16

- ❖ Nisan 15, first day of unleavened bread was also a Sabbath; cutting of the first sheaf at sundown
- ❖ Nisan 16 was the second day of Unleavened Bread, celebrated at the day of First Fruits
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 15:20, 23** But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep....But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming
- ❖ **Matthew 12:40** ...for just as Jonah was THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

PENTECOST

- ❖ **Exodus 19:1** In the third month after the sons of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day they came into the wilderness of Sinai (approx 45 days)
- ❖ Moses went up and met with God; came down and gave instructions; 3 additional days of preparation
- ❖ On the 50th day ?? the Law was given
- ❖ **Exodus 19:12** "You shall set bounds for the people all around, saying, 'Beware that you do not go up on the mountain or touch the border of it; whoever touches the mountain shall surely be put to death.'"

SINAI

❖ **Exodus 19:16-20** So it came about on the third day, when it was morning, that there were thunder and lightning flashes and a thick cloud upon the mountain and a very loud trumpet sound, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was all in smoke because the Lord descended upon it in fire; and its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked violently. When the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and God answered him with thunder. The Lord came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and the Lord called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

THE OTHER MOUNTAIN

- ❖ Hebrews 12:18 For you have not come to a mountain that can be touched and to a blazing fire, and to darkness and gloom and whirlwind...
 - ❖ *At the giving of the Law, there was fire and wind*
 - ❖ On Pentecost, there was fire that didn't burn anyone and the sound of wind
 - ❖ *Sinai gave the Law, the first covenant*
 - ❖ Pentecost provided the power to carry out the new covenant
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