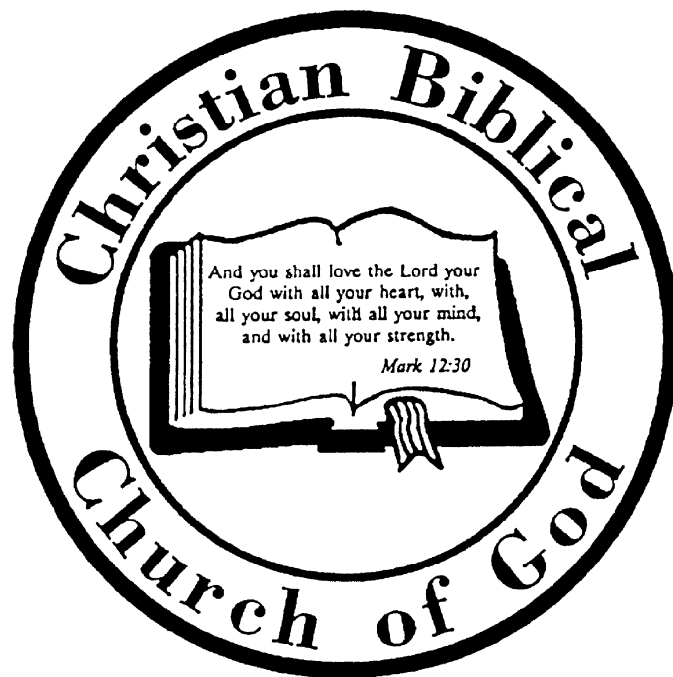


Three Most Important Days



Transcript Book

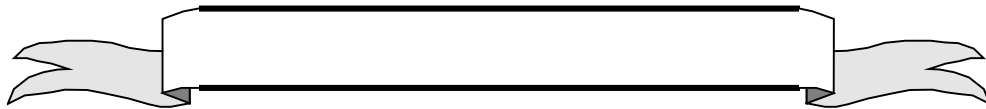
By Fred R. Coulter

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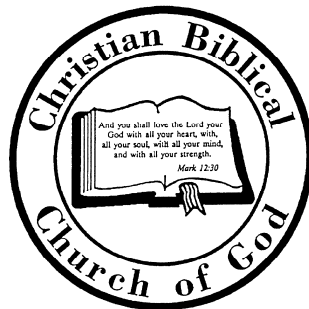
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The Three Most Important Days

Series of 4 sermons by Fred R. Coulter



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The Three Most Important Days I Sabbath, Passover and the Holy Days of God

Fred R. Coulter

What are the three most important things in our relationship with God that keeps us in contact with Him and understanding His plan? Now that is aside from prayer and study.

Let's read Ps. 119 because it is very important. What we're going to do is look at all of these Scriptures and, of course, there isn't going to be a single Scripture that we haven't covered in the past. But we're going to see it with a little different perspective because the truth is the teachings and the Word of God are layered.

That's why Isa. 28 says, 'line upon line, precept upon precept,' because that's the way that God has done it. Many times it's layered in such a way that even some of the most obvious things you don't see right away, which we'll find out that's what has happened to us.

Psalms 119:18: "Open my eyes so that I may behold **wondrous things out of Your Law.**" That's quite a verse.

Let's tie that together with Matt. 13, and let's realize some of the blessings that we have because we have the whole Bible. Remember: all of ancient Israel did not have the Bible like we have it today. The closest thing that came to that was the New Testament Church. But they were writing the New Testament and that was being added and so forth, and it really wasn't solidified until John canonized the New Testament.

Yet, even at that John had to write some things like 'the one who reads let him understand,' because he didn't understand. We are told in Dan. 12 that even the great prophecies that Daniel prophesied of the tremendous historical events to take place on the earth leading up to the return of Christ, *were closed and sealed to the time of the end!*

So, the reason that we have the entire Bible is so that at the time of the end God is going to give a witness to all people regardless of whether they are in the Church of God or not. As we have covered in the sermon: *Who are the Two Witnesses and Elijah?*

Let's see something very important for us to understand, and we've gone over this over and over again. But we're going to see today a little more meaningful perhaps maybe even significantly more meaningful of what Jesus said.

Matthew 13:10: "And His disciples came to Him and asked, 'Why do You speak to them in parables?'"

It's just like with the Old Testament. Why did you write it in such a way that it's hard to understand? That's so we'll search it out, and that's so that those who have God's Spirit will understand and those who don't have God's Spirit will not understand. The very same book.

Verse 11: "And He answered *and* said to them, 'Because it **has been given to you...**'" I want you to really understand that. *You!*

- whoever has the Spirit of God
- whoever has the Bible
- whoever knows the things of God out of the Bible

it has been given! Remember that ***we have nothing we didn't receive*** (1-Cor. 4).

So, we cannot claim any great insight because we're intellectual, because we're smarter than other people. It all comes and it's *given* to us. "...**it has been given you to know...**" That's why you know things. Read Epistle of 1-John, and go over and note all the things that we know, and are to know, that's recorded there. It will be astounding!

note book: *The Seven General Epistles*; we have all that broken down there.

"...given to you to know the mysteries... [secrets; the secret things belong to God and how He reveals them to us] ...of the Kingdom of Heaven but to them it has not been given" (v 11).

Someone sent me a letter where a man had some people that he had known and they came over and spent some time with them, had dinner with them, and after asking the blessing on the meal it got around to them talking about the things pertaining to God. It turned out that these people were active members and in their local Presbyterian Church. *They knew nothing of the Bible and he knew nothing of the return of Jesus Christ!*

Yet, they were active in the church and the wife was even mayor of the city they lived in, and she even wrote 1,000 articles for the local newspaper. So, he wrote that to me as well as many of his other friends. I could tell he made it into a form letter and it said 'Dear,' and then he wrote Fred on it. They don't know anything! Why? *Because "...it hasn't been given to them to know..."*

This is important to understand. But "...to them...it has not been given..." And remember ***you have nothing that you didn't receive, so they never***

received it because it wasn't given to them. Now we've gone over these Scriptures many times before, so I think we're going to find it really very interesting today and also enlightening. As it says:

Psalm 119:18: "Open my eyes so that I may behold **wondrous things out of Your Law.**"

Matthew 13:12: "For whoever has *understanding*, to him more shall be given..." That's why we are to grow in grace and knowledge, and we are to increase in it. Also, there's another Scripture where Jesus said that if we ask the Father, He will give the Spirit to us. Not only just receive it when we're baptized and have hands laid on but we need to also grow in the spirit and use the Spirit of God:

- to change our minds
- to cleanse our hearts
- lead us
- guide us

in what we need to do!

"...and he shall have an abundance, but whoever does not have *understanding*, even what he has shall be taken away from him" (v 12).

Just like this man made the comment to them after they were leaving, 'Well, I'll have to check out on this thing concerning the return of Christ.

- Is he void of knowledge? *Yes!*
- Is he lacking in understanding? *Yes!*
- Does he go to church? *Yes!*
- Do they use the Bible? *Yes, parts of it!*

Remember: the Bible is like a million-piece puzzle and if you take a few parts of it you'll never see the whole picture and there certain key things that help us with God's Spirit to put the million-piece puzzle together. And yet, as we do it there are going to be many pieces that God is going to add to us in the way of understanding as we grow in grace and knowledge.

Sometimes it's going to be like were going to cover today you're looking so closely at the tree that you miss the forest. Or we take a perspective like an ant and if he climbs the tree that's a great journey or if he goes clear across the forest floor that's a tremendous journey. But if you're like an eagle flying and looking down you see the whole picture. So, we're going to see some of that today.

Verse 13: "For this *reason* I speak to them in parables..." That's why even the Word of God is hard to understand, especially for those who do not obey Him. A key to understanding the Bible is *obeying God* and then that obeying God grows into the kind of spiritual obedience that develops into:

- love
- faith
- hope

through His grace!

Seeing they see it, like it says in a prophecy: they handed the book to the wise men he says, 'I don't know anything about that.' They handed it to the ordinary man and he says, 'I can't read'; that's referring to the Bible.

"...because seeing, they see not; and hearing, they hear not; **neither do they understand**" (v 13).

Like one grown son told his father when they were talking about the Sabbath, 'I'll keep the Sabbath if God comes down and tells me to keep the Sabbath.' *Hello!* God already did from the beginning! "...neither do they understand."

Verse 14: "And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah..."—which is talking about the very children of Israel, the house of Israel and the house of Judah, which says:

"...‘In hearing you shall hear...’" (v 14). Didn't that happen in Jesus' ministry? *Yes, indeed!* When, just before the crucifixion He was teaching everyday in the temple and everyone was coming to hear Him. They were spellbound with what they heard, but how many really believed to the point of conversion? How many hated Him because of it, like the religious leaders?

"...and in no way understand; and *in* seeing you shall see, and in no way perceive; for the heart of this people has grown fat, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed... [they don't want to listen] ...lest they should see with their eyes, and should hear with their ears, and should understand with their hearts, and should be converted, and I should heal them" (vs 14-15).

Doesn't Jesus want to save the whole world? *Yes!* But *His* way, on *His* time schedule, and not now.

Verse 16: "But blessed *are* your eyes, because they see; and your ears, because they hear." Just think about all the things we really, really understand. That will take you some time to sit down and think about it.

Verse 17: "For truly I say to you, many prophets and righteous *men*..." I want you to apply this to today, especially when we're looking at such catastrophic events that are just about ready to befall us, which the march in the footsteps of those things are already here.

"...have desired to see what you see, and

have not seen; and to hear what you hear, and **have not heard**" (v 17).

- *if* you're a good full-fledged socialized Church of God going Laodicean
- *if* you're a glad-handler and you go to church for the social
- *if* you're really not taught anything and you've been lackadaisical in your study
- *if* you just sit there and let them feed you little teaspoons of warm milk

You're in trouble! You don't have very long to get right with God. What is Jesus' personal message to you? *Repent and be zealous!* You can read that in Rev. 3. So, God made these things known to His people to whom He wants them known.

I want you to think about how many, many times we have read Lev. 23. Do we not read it over and over again every year? I want to show you something very obvious in the way that it has been divided out by God Himself, and it's one of those things that has been right there in front of our eyes all the time. When I explain it you will say, 'I never knew that.' Personally, as a minister, how many times have I gone over it? During the many, many years that I've been a minister? It's going to be something; it is the way that it is structured and we read it and we understand it, but sometimes we miss the structure.

This is going to answer: **What are the three most important things for us in our relationship with God and our obedience to God?**

Leviticus 23:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, "*Concerning the appointed Feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be Holy convocations, even these are My appointed Feasts*"'" (vs 1-2).

That's why we have the Calculated Hebrew Calendar, because everybody has an idea. Here's the test of your conversion:

- Do you believe the model prayer that Jesus gave?
- How does it start?
- *Our Father in heaven hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven!*

Here's a very simple prayer, and think about all of the deceived professing Christians who recite that every Sunday. They don't believe it but they recited it. Why? *Because they are blinded and they don't hear!*

- What is the first thing that we ask? *Your will be done on earth!*

- What does that mean? *Of course, it's going to be done, but that means in our own personal lives!*

- Are you really seeking the will of God?

or

- Are you seeking to find your own pet little doctrine?
- Your own pet little interpretation—*which is not verified in the Word of God*—and you go to God to try and say this is what God says?

When you do that you end up telling God what to do, now we're going to see the great problems that this causes. Anyone who tells God what to do! You take all Sunday-keepers all holiday-keepers, ***they are telling God what to do!***

Just like the Catholics brag because of Sunday and the pagan holidays that they have, the occult holidays are not just pagan they are satanic. 'Oh, the pope has blessed them so that makes them good. Yes, we took away the pagan name of the day and we put a 'Christian' name on it. Isn't that lovely?'

What does God say? *You shall have no other gods before Me!* How are they going to understand anything else if they have all these false gods that they just rename so it looks Christian? *They aren't!*

That's why the Catholics also brag, 'we could preach the gospel, that is the Catholic gospel, without the Bible, because of their traditions and what they believe. Catholics by the Bible are not Christian. They take some things from the Bible for the *appearance* of being Christian, but their full allegiance is never to God it's to the pope and the virgin Mary who is not in heaven. The Apostle John—who took care of Mary after Jesus died—wrote '***no one has ascended into heaven except the Son of man Who is now in heaven.***' That's well after the time of the death of the virgin Mary.

They don't understand. You cannot go to God and tell Him what you are going to do, which is contrary to the Word of God and ask God to sanctify it, *because He won't!* It is ***His*** will that is to be followed *not ours*.

Verse 3: "Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of rest, a Holy convocation. You shall not do any work. It *is* a Sabbath to the LORD in all your dwellings."

Well now, in order to further deceive the people in Europe what they've done they've rearranged a calendar, which is also the corporate calendar of the world to have Sunday as the seventh day of the week. Isn't that wonderful? So, all the deceived generations now coming up these new

mush heads that come into the world and go to the government schools, the Catholic schools and the Catholic/Protestant schools—because that's all Protestants are just reformed Catholics—they look at the calendar and they say, 'Oh look, Sunday is the seventh day.' Well, that's like buying gold coins only to find out they're lead and have been painted with gold paint! ***Sunday is not the seventh day!***

That's why we have in *The Holy Bible in It's Original Order, A Faithful Version*, Appendix N: Rome's Challenge to the Protestants, because the enemy has even told all the Protestants that 'if you keep Sunday you're not following the Bible you are following the Catholic Church, because *we established Sunday* and there is no place in the Bible would substantiates it.' So, they don't know.

1. The Seventh-Day Sabbath

- What is the first thing spoken of here?
The seventh day!
- What does that go back to? *Seventh day of creation!*

Granted, it's the fourth commandment in the Ten Commandments. But that doesn't mean that it is not essentially *first* in giving us understanding in our relationship with God.

- Do you think it's possible to really have a relationship with God when you refuse to keep His Sabbath Day?

Remember that Jesus said—Who is the Creator of everything—'Heaven and earth shall pass away but My words shall not pass away. Do not think I've come to abolish the Law or the Prophets.'

So this is the #1, key important thing: the Sabbath Day, because when you start keeping the Sabbath Day... I've instructed many, many people to do when they are just coming into the knowledge of the truth wondering about the difference between the Sabbath and Sunday I say this:

You take one month and you keep the Sabbath every day for a month beginning at sunset Friday to sunset Saturday, and you make a special study of the Sabbath Day in the Bible, Old and New Testament. Ask God for understanding and I guarantee you that you will understand why the Sabbath has to be kept: ***because God said so!*** That's why! Is the Sabbath Day the will of God? ***Yes! That's why He created it!***

Mark 2:27_[transcriber's correction]: "... 'The Sabbath was made for man, *and* not man for the Sabbath,'" meaning man has no authority over which day is the Sabbath. So, all the religious leaders and popes in Christendom today are in defiance of God.

Verse 28: "For the **Son of man is Lord even of the Sabbath Day.**"

So, which day is the Lord's day? ***Not Sunday! The Sabbath!*** It's a key important thing that is the first step of faith in obedience to God that someone needs to take in order to begin to understand about God and to begin to develop a relationship with God. It's a continuing, ongoing thing that you do the rest of your life.

Leviticus 23:4: "These *are* the appointed Feasts of the LORD, Holy convocations, which you shall proclaim in their appointed seasons."

If you want a good overview of this you get the book: *Occult Holidays or God's Holy Days—Which?* You carefully read and study that through. That is the most basic, fundamental book for you to read, to learn and to understand. It will probably take two or three readings for you to really glean out of it. another thing I want to tell everyone that they need to learn how to get out of, which is your 12-minute attention span! What do I mean by that?

I mean *the whole generation of this world, because of television*, has been trained for a 12-minute attention span. A 15-minute segment, 2 minutes of commercials to begin with, then 12 minutes, and that brings you to 14 minutes and then 2 or 3 minutes of commercials. Then they take the next 15 minutes and they break it down into another pause at 20 minutes after, between 15 after and 30 minutes after. You watch yourself I've even done this: When it gets close to 12 minutes of watching television you start getting restless. And if you want to get a snack or you want to get something else you start thinking about it and you're so glad when the commercial comes, because you get up and go get your snack or go to the bathroom or something.

In order to understand the Bible you cannot have a 12-minute attention span, because you'll never understand it. And you cannot have: 'Oh, give it to me very simply. Give me a summary and then I will understand. ***You will never understand with a summary!*** You've got to know the deep things of God, and that comes:

- with work
- with study
- with prayer

with repeating these things over and over again on a daily basis

The reason that is so is because God has not called you to improve your physical life—hopefully it will—***He has called you to eternal life*** and that's what the training is all about eternal life. It's not a social club, not a get-together of people that you know and love, that's all well and good. But if you don't rise above that what you're doing is in vain.

2. Passover

Verse 4: “These *are* the appointed Feasts of the LORD, Holy convocations, which you shall proclaim in their appointed seasons. In the fourteenth *day* of the first month, between the two evenings, is the LORD’S Passover” (vs 4-5).

That is fundamental in your covenant with God, because if you do not keep the Passover the way that Jesus taught in the New Testament—at the time and in the manner that He said, including the foot-washing, the bread, the wine^[transcriber’s correction] and in that order—Jesus said, ‘You do not have any part with Me’ (John 13). And we’ll understand why.

3. The Holy Days

Note book: *God’s Plan for Mankind Revealed by the Sabbath and Holy Days* with CDs That’s going to take you in depth all the way through:

- the Sabbath
- the Passover
- the Feast of Unleavened Bread
- Pentecost
- Trumpets
- Atonement
- Tabernacles
- Last Great Day

The meaning and purpose of God’s plan as outlined by that is the structure of it and what these sermons do is bring you the details of the Scripture to fill it out. Just like what we covered here:

- the Sabbath
- the Passover
- the Holy Days

this is an overview and everything else fits under that.

Maybe you’ve never thought of it, but look at the structure of it. Here it is right in front of us, and it reminds me of: I charged a battery and I put it back in the box so I would be sure and have it after it was charged and it got covered up with it some papers having to do with getting the battery charged and so forth. I knew I put it in the box but when I wanted to get it to use it I looked in the box I didn’t see it, so I thought: Where did I put it? I looked here and I looked there and I came back and looked at the box again and I said, ‘What did I do with that?’

So, after looking around I finally quit and I said well it’s bound to show up because it doesn’t have legs and it didn’t crawl away and we don’t have any ants or cockroaches to carry it out. So, the next day I thought I’d throw out the box. I opened it up and I reached in there and I picked up those papers and ‘VOILA’ there was the battery.

So, many times in understanding the Scriptures is just like that. We look and we look and we can find it. We don’t know. How did that happen? Well, here of all the years that we’ve been reading Lev. 23 how did it happen that we didn’t understand:

- the Sabbath
- the Passover
- the Holy Days

and we’ll show why.

The Sabbath, Passover and Holy Days is the signature that sets us apart from the world. That is true and also someone will say, ‘Now you know the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is most important.’ On what day was Jesus crucified? *Passover Day, not on ‘Good Friday’!* If you believe in ‘Good Friday’ and if you believe that he was crucified on a Friday and was resurrected on a Sunday morning you don’t know how to count. You can’t even count to three! Now let’s look at these three things again:

- 1) if you do not keep the Sabbath
and you keep Sunday, you’re a ‘religious’ person
- 2) if you do not keep Passover
- 3) if you do not keep the Feasts of God

What is the counterfeit in place of it? *Sunday, communion, the Eucharist and the occult holidays!* What are those? ***Those are the three most important things in Satan’s counterfeit Christianity!*** Now if that offends you *then be offended*, but that is the truth.

Just like it was during the days of Elijah. ‘Why do you vacillate between two opinions as to who the Lord is? If the Lord be God serve Him if it be Baal serve him,’ and Baal’s day is Sunday, by the way, and the occult holidays are all his days. So, don’t stand up there and think in your mind that those things have all been changed. You’ve got another thought coming! And just to use an expression from mother and father and grandmother and grandfather, if you don’t change your ways you’re going to be in trouble. And that means *repent*. So, there we have it; that’s something!

Let’s begin in Exo. 3, and we’re going to emphasize certain things and a lot of people think that by time you come to Exo. 12 that that is the first Passover. We will start out here and see the basis for why God sent Moses, called him—notice that Moses didn’t appoint himself—to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt. You need to understand the reason for it. When we go through Exo. 12 we will see the link. Just like if you are on the website and you come to a certain point in there is a link that says click here. So you click there and that gives you more understanding? Well, there’s a link in Exo. 12 that confirms what were going to read in Exo. 3.

So, after God told Moses what He was going to do, Exodus 3:11: “And Moses said to God...”—because he’s been out there for 40 years shepherding sheep. Actually that was good training for him. But what did it do? *It kept him isolated from everything of the riches and the wealth of Egypt!* When God began dealing with him, beginning with the burning bush, and then told him what he was going to do... Moses began to comprehend all of it because he had been in Egypt and he was the heir apparent of the Pharaoh.

Verse 11: “And Moses said to God, ‘Who *am* I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?’ And He said, ‘I will be with you. And this *shall be* the sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought forth the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God upon this mountain’” (vs 11-12).

We’ll see that’s very important a little later on. Now what we are going to do, we’re going to take these three things and we’re going to focus in on the Passover mostly. We’re going to begin to build and understand the substructure of what the Passover is all about. It is one thing to say keep the Passover between the two evenings, it’s another thing to know and understand what it’s all about. So, we’ll begin to understand it here.

Verse 13: And Moses said to God, ‘Behold, *when* I come to the children of Israel, and shall say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you”...”

I want you to him understand that “...God of your fathers...” And he tells us exactly who they are.

“...and they shall say to me, “What *is* His name?” What shall I say to them?”” (v 13).

Why? How many gods did they have in Egypt? *and* All the names of all the gods and everything? Who was Pharaoh? *He was ‘god in the flesh’ on the earth!* That will help you understand why all the severe plagues were there. We won’t go into any of those in this sermon.

“And God said to Moses, ‘I AM THAT I AM.’...” (v 14). Another translation is ‘I will be what I will be.’ Because God is a covenant God, and in the different covenants He presents Himself differently, though it’s the same God.

“...And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, “I AM has sent me to you”’” (v 14). You’ll find the emphasis of I AM in the book of John because that follows through.

Verse 15: “And God said to Moses again, ‘You shall say this to the children of Israel, “The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham,

the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This *is* My name forever, and this *is* My title from generation to generation.””

(go to the next track)

Here is why God sent Moses. God prophesied to Abraham that it would happen. That also passed down to Isaac and to Jacob. The reason that he sent Moses was *to fulfill His promises to Abraham Isaac and Jacob!* And let’s understand something here very clear:

- *if anyone tells you Moses was a Jew, he is an ignoramus*
- *if anyone tells you that all the children of Israel were Jews, he’s an ignoramus*
- *if anyone tells you that Adam was a Jew Noah was a Jew, that’s completely incorrect*

That is the propaganda of Judaism!

It gives the appearance that Judaism is a monolithic belief, that all Jews believe the same thing. Not true that is a propaganda statement, which is normally called *lies*. So, if you believe that, that shows you how ignorant you are of the Word of God and the history that you need to read like those genealogies because they tell us about who the children of Israel really were. That’s why they’re there.

Another reason why God selected Moses was because he was from the tribe of Levi. God pre-selected the tribe of Levi and also the house of Aaron to be the priesthood from Levi, and the Levites to assist the priesthood. It’s very interesting that Aaron was the firstborn and Moses was the second born. Moses turns out to be—because of the calling of God and what he was given to do—the greatest man in the history of the Bible up to Jesus Christ. Moses was:

- 1) a priest
- 2) a prophet
- 3) a spokesman for God
- 4) the mediator between God and the children of Israel

Samuel came close to it, because he was a priest, a prophet and a judge, but Moses ranks right up there at the top.

Verse 16: “Go, and gather the elders of Israel and say to them...” That’s how they communicated. The elders would come Moses would speak to them and they would carry the message to the children of Israel. They didn’t have telephones, cell phones Blackberries or iPods. That may come as a surprise to many young people today.

Just like someone asked a girl well where does milk come from? *A carton!* Like Rachelle did

one time when we were in a drought of 1977 and they were doing all the irrigating and sprinkling; she was about two-and-a-half or three-years-old and we were coming home and we were looking at this field where they were and they had all the sprinklers going. They were irrigating and everything she says, 'Look, daddy, rain!' It hadn't rained in about two-and-a-half-years of her life.

"The LORD God of your fathers has appeared to me, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying..." (v 16).

We're going to emphasize that over and over again. Because what happens to Israel is not because of Israel, but because of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and the promises that God gave to Abraham passed on to Isaac, and passed on to Jacob. Not because of any righteousness on the part of their descendents, but because as we will see a covenant with Abraham, and we'll see how that fits in with the Passover. Here's what God said:

"...I have surely visited you and have observed what is done to you in Egypt.' And I have said, 'I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey'" (vs 16-17).

Now we won't go through any of the rest of the things in all the things that took place leading up to them being let go by Pharaoh. Remember that God raised up Pharaoh for the specific purpose, and all of you who believe that the God of the Old Testament was evil and harsh listen up.

Romans 9:14: "What then shall we say? *Is there* unrighteousness with God? MAY IT NEVER BE! For He said to Moses, 'I will show mercy to whomever I show mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I have compassion.' So then, *it is* not of the one who wills, nor of the one who runs..." (vs 14-16).

Not by human will and that's true of Moses right he wasn't sitting out there on the mountain saying, 'O God, I've got a good idea. Why don't you send me down and I'll bring the children of Israel out of Egypt.' *No!* God is one who informed them. *It's the will of God!* Remember where we started? *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven!*

"...rather, *it is* of God, Who shows mercy. For the Scripture said to Pharaoh, 'For this very purpose I raised you up in order that I might show in you My power...' (vs 16-17).

Did He do that? *Yes!* Someone is going to say, 'Why did He harden Pharaoh's heart?' *To demonstrate His power because Pharaoh had*

already hardened his heart! Remember: Pharaoh was the servant and direct worshiper of Satan the devil. That's what this confrontation was all about. If you look at any of the mummies of the pharaohs, what do you see on their crown? *A cobra right up on the front of the crown!* Yes, they worship Satan the devil the old serpent.

"...that I might show in you My power... [For what purpose?] ...so that My name... [and all of His actions] ...may be declared in all the earth" (v 17).

- Is that happening every time we read the Scripture?
- Is that happening every time when someone reads the book of Exodus?
- *Yes it is!*

That's being fulfilled today every time someone reads it or someone preaches it in all the earth down through history.

Verse 18: "So then, He shows mercy to whom He will, and He hardens whom He will. Will you then reply to me, 'Why does He yet find fault? For who has opposed His purpose?'" (vs 18-19).

Because sin is *sin*, and sin is always at fault. *Transgression of the Law is sin!*

Verse 20: "Yes, indeed, O man, who are you to answer against God?..." Now think about this relationship if you really have your mind and your life wrapped around Sunday and the occult holidays of this world.

"...Shall the thing that is formed say to the one who formed *it*, 'Why did you make me this way?' Or doesn't the potter have authority over the clay to make from the same lump of clay one vessel unto honor, and another vessel unto dishonor?" (vs 20-21). Yes were all made of the dust of the earth!

Verse 22: "And *who dares to question His purpose* if God, willing to show *His* wrath and to make known His power, chose in much long-suffering to put up with *the* vessels of wrath, which were created for destruction; in order that He might make known the riches of His glory unto *the* vessels of mercy, which He prepared before for glory" (vs 22-23).

God's purpose is going to be done. Remember where we started: *Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven!* So, you can take what we just read here and you can apply it to the coming *beast*.

After all the plagues and of the course there are even historical documentation that they took place.

Exodus 11:1: "And the LORD had said to Moses, 'I will yet bring one plague on Pharaoh and

on Egypt. Afterward, he will let you go from here. When he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out from here altogether”—because they were afraid they would all die.

Verse 2: “Speak now in the ears of the people, and let every man ask from his neighbor, and every woman from her neighbor, articles of silver and jewels of gold.”

They were going to spoil or plunder, as payment for their years of slavery, from the Egyptians. This started before the Passover, and they had the final thrust of it as we will see later, when they were assembling for the Exodus.

Verse 3: “And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. And the man Moses *was* very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants, and in the sight of the people. And Moses said, ‘Thus says the LORD, “About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt”’ (vs 3-4).

Now isn’t that interesting. He didn’t tell Pharaoh which day—did he? *About midnight!* Which day, Moses? He told the children of Israel, but he didn’t tell Pharaoh.

Verse 5: “And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sits upon his throne, even to the firstborn of the slave-girl that *is* behind the mill; also the firstborn of beasts.”

Now that is roughly 20% of the population, and probably with the animals something like 10 or 12%. Because firstborn are not just males, that’s male and female.

Verse 6: “And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it anymore.”

But here’s the promise. Facing the days we are going to face here’s a promise that you can claim, and that’s why you need to have a right relationship with God.

Verse 7: “But against any of the children of Israel... [today the Church is the Israel of God] ...not even a dog shall move his tongue, against man or beast, so that you may know that the LORD puts a difference *between* the Egyptians and Israel.”

In the same way today with the Church. We live in the world but were not of the world. There’s a difference between those who have the Spirit of God and love God and keep His commandments and those who are in the world.

Verse 8: “And all these, your servants, shall come down to me... [Moses is telling Pharaoh this] ...and bow themselves down to me, saying...”

So, the moral of the story is when we get the latter part of Exo. 12 Moses did not go to Pharaoh when Pharaoh sent the message to leave. A lot of people say that was after midnight. Let me just state here that when you began examining about Passover you are going to find that that is so important. Satan has done everything he can to cause:

- confusion
- wrong timing
- misinterpretation
- hatred toward

Than any other single day of God; even more so than the Sabbath. We’re going to see why that’s so important.

“...“You and all the people that follow you—get out!” And after that I will go out” (v 8).

He didn’t go back to Pharaoh and say, O Pharaoh, it was so nice of you after all this all this and all of these plagues that you finally agreed to let them go.’ Didn’t happen that way.

“...And he went out from Pharaoh in flaming anger” (v 8). I like that! Would you say that’s righteous indignation? *Of course!*

Verse 9: “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Pharaoh shall not hearken to you so that My wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.’ And Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh. And the LORD hardened Pharaoh’s heart so that he would not let the children of Israel go out of his land” (vs 9-10).

So, not only was this a battle between the children of Israel and Pharaoh and the Egyptians, but it was a titanic battle between Satan the devil and the demons and the people of Egypt who followed them, and God, Moses, Aaron and the people who of the children of Israel who would follow God.

I just thought of this the other day. The sermon that I gave on *Who is Elijah and the Two Witnesses?* How we said there are three Elijah’s: Elijah, John the Baptist, and a coming Elijah. Let’s look at three pair of two witnesses:

- 1) Moses and Aaron
- 2) Elijah and Elisha
- 3) the two witnesses of Rev. 11:3

So, the pattern follows the same thing.

Now let’s begin here in Exo. 12 and let’s see the instructions that are given. I want to emphasize this is the first Passover for the children of Israel, but this is not the first Passover of God. We’ll see that. And it will involve the same day, because the 14th day of the 1st month is the Passover day. **No other day!**

If you want to know why the Jews in the Diaspora keep the 15th then you need to get *The Christian Passover* book and read it. I've had people say, 'Oh it's such a thick book.' Well, you don't understand all the problems that Satan has caused concerning the Passover. There is not one wasted page in this book. You need to read it step-by-step so you will understand because people are going to come along and bring in Jewish traditional interpretation and try and hang that on the Passover Day to justify what they are doing. What you need to do is read this book and understand what happened to the Passover, and why the Jews today have the wrong day. It comes down to something very simple.

- they have rejected Christ who is the true Passover
- they are in the Diaspora scattered around the world

Very few will admit like I have a quote here from a rabbi in the 11th century that 'we are scattered across the face of the earth because of the sins of our forefathers and because of our own sins and we walk in their footsteps.' You tell me one Jew today who will say we are scattered abroad because we sinned against God. They cannot—when they are not in the land—keep a 14th Passover. But what they like to try and do is send their agents to come and try and convince Christians who keep it on the 14th that they should keep it on the 15th.

That's what this book is about: the Christian Passover and what does it mean? Should it be observed the 14th or 15th and then all of the details. There is not one question concerning the Passover that has not been raised by many, many different people down through time all gathered together in this one book.

We're going to go through the whole chapter of Exo. 12. Let me just say that the congregation, or the children of Israel, is composed of all 12 tribes, descendants from the 12 sons of Jacob, of whom one—Judah—are the ones from whom the Jews have come from. We're not speaking here when we read the name Israel of the Jews. They were one of 12 tribes.

Exodus 12:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, 'This month *shall be* to you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year to you. Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, "In the tenth day of this month..."'" (vs 1-3).

There are a lot of very significant things that took place in the New Testament concerning Christ on the same day, which you will find in *The Christian Passover* book and also in *A Harmony of*

the Gospels. These two books are very important for you to understand concerning the Passover.

"...In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them each man a lamb for a father's house, a lamb for a house. And if the household is too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take according to the number of the souls, each one, according to the eating of his mouth, you shall count concerning the lamb" (vs 3-4). That generally figures out to be approximately 10 people per lamb.

Verse 5: "Your lamb shall be without blemish..." Here we have a type of Christ but not the sacrifice of Christ; a type of Christ.

As a matter of fact, every offering that was to be given was to be without blemish. Note the book *The Law of Offerings* by Andrew John Jukes {amazon.com}. It breaks it down in great detail about all the law of the sacrifices, and so forth. It's really phenomenal.

We started with these three most important things: the Sabbath, the Passover and the Feasts that is the superstructure upon which all the rest of these things hang and all of the details come below it. So, what were going to do here is read some of the details, and they all are important.

Verse 5: "Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year...." Can't be more than a year. In another place it says you can't bring an offering that is less than eight-days-old. So, it had to be eight-days-old up to a year.

In the spring of the year when this took place guess what happened just before this, the sheep were already through their lambing. So, most of these were very small lambs. Let's compare a small lamb to a large lamb when it's over a year old. If 10 people ate off that large lamb they have a lot of meat. But you get a little small lamb, there's not much there. I'll tell you about this later as we go along, because not only did we search the Scriptures, we also timed the slaughter, the skinning, the roasting and the burning of the bones of a small lamb that was, I think, two-months-old; actually a kid goat.

"...You shall take *it* from the sheep or from the goats. And you shall keep it up until the *beginning* of the fourteenth day of the same month...." (vs 5-6).

For those of you who were following along in the *King James* please understand that you will be a little handicap in understanding the true meaning of the words because they are not properly translated in the *King James* which is also another point of great confusion when people try to understand about

it, because it speaks of two evenings one at the beginning of the day and one at the end of the day and you need to know how to distinguish between them, and the translation of *The Faithful Version* does distinguish those very properly.

Verse 6: “And you shall keep it up until the *beginning* of the fourteenth day of the same month...”

- When does a day began?
- We find in Lev. 23:32 that it's from the 10th day of the month is defined as *from sunset on the 9th day to sunset on the 10th day!*
- When does the 10th begin? *When the 9th day ends at sunset!*
- When does the 14th day begin? *At sunset of the 13th!*

So, we have a Scriptural interpretation of that!

“...And the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel... [that means all at once] shall kill it between the two evenings” (v 6).

Now there's a little star there and we've got a marginal reference the Hebrew 'ben ha arbayim' between sunset and dark the beginning of the 14th day. We have a chapter of that—Chapter 5 *The Christian Passover*. When the sun touches the horizon as defined here in the Passover book this is why you need the Passover book because it covers every argument. The Jews say, 'between the two evenings'; some of them say 'from one evening to the next evening,' a whole day. Are you going to take a whole 24 hour day to do this?

What if you interpreted it between one evening and the next evening and you said, 'I think that since I don't want to stay up at night what I'll do I will do it like about 10 in the morning that will be much more convenient for me to do.' *You're dead man!* When did God pass through Egypt? *At midnight!* Is that before sunrise? *Considerably!* Kill it between the two evenings, which is between sunset and dark.

Here we have the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel that selected the lamb on the 10th day of the 1st month, which by the way when you go through *A Harmony of the Gospels*, you will find that that is the day, John 12, that Jesus was selected by the voice coming from heaven.

Since He was the Lamb of God, God selected Him on that day, the same day that the lamb here was selected. Someone is up on the roof of the house many different places, because all the children of Israel lived in what was called *the land of Goshen*. They didn't live in among the Egyptians, because for the Egyptians Hebrews were unclean

people. They were shepherds of animals while most of the Egyptians were vegetarians. Kind of sounds little like India. What do you think would happen in India if you had a large number of people kill those little lambs all at the same time? *There would be a riot!*

'Ba-erev' is sunset (Hebrew) and it comes just before 'ben ha arbayim.'

So picture this: Egypt has a flat landscape you have to worry about hills or mountains. You can look out West and you can see when the sun touches the horizon that's the beginning of 'ba-erev' and takes about five minutes for the sun to set. That's the end of 'ba-erev' and the beginning of 'ben ha arbayim.'

Here you have your different ones up on top of the houses and they're watching the sunset so they can tell exactly when the sun has set, and between the two evenings begins and they say *now!* Then the head of the house took his trusty little knife slit the throat of the lamb drained the blood and prepared the whole lamb.

Now just to let you know, those two little kids that we did this on to get the timing for the Passover book we wanted to do it authentically. We had a man at that time Gordon Emerson who had sheep and he had goats, and he volunteered to do the slaughtering of the lamb for us. You had to have someone who knew what they were doing. Well, he knew what he was doing, so, we all watched. He took the lamb got it by its hind feet and hung it up cut its throat let the blood drain. Very painless!

God says you're not to eat the blood. So, what you do? *You cut the throat and drain it!* Let it go on the ground! And remember that ***no sacrifice of the Passover and its blood was to be sprinkled upon the altar***, because it was a domestic observance. this happened all at once. And then what did he do? He cut it right down the middle of the belly from the throat all the way back to the genitals and then pulled out the skin to start skinning it.

I wondered how he was going to do that? Well first of all he opened it up and all the innards came out. All the intestines the heart the lungs you know the kidneys were still left up there so that was taking care of a little later, because they're up in the fat of the cowl, so you take that out. It all came out in just a few seconds. No problem with that and were all standing there thinking, 'My, that's fast!'

Now came the time for skinning. He pulled part of the hide on the left side and part of the hide on the right side so he could put the edge of his hand in there. So, you put your hands together with your thumbs touching and then imagine that your little finger and the side of your hand is just under the

skin of the lamb. He just went with both hands from top to bottom, and that skin was loose and ready to come off in less than 10 seconds. Then he cut a place so he could get the legs off front back and back. That was it.

It was killed, blood drained, gutted and skinned in less than 15 minutes; all ready to go. So, the lambs were all ready to go before it got dark, because between the two evenings is between sunset and dark. Now, here's what they were to do.

Verse 7: "And they shall take of the blood and strike *it* on the two side posts and upon the upper doorpost of the **houses** in which they shall eat it."

Domestic observance! Of course, someone will say, 'Why should you emphasize that because there was no temple built.' You've got to read the book but we'll cover it. It was never to be at the temple. What about Deut. 16? Hold on we'll get there.

Verse 8: "And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roasted with fire..." They were to take the whole animal put it on a spigot and turn it.

"...and unleavened bread..." (v 8). Is the Passover Day an unleavened bread day? Of course! That's what it says: *unleavened bread*. Then someone is going to say well that makes eight days of unleavened bread. *No!* You have one day for the Passover and seven days for the Feast. It does make eight, just like the Feast of Tabernacles is eight days long, because there are seven days of the Feast of Tabernacles and one day the Last Great Day.

If you want to really think this through you tell me where they were able to get leavened bread while they were walking to Ramses to assemble for the exodus. Did they run to the Egyptians and say, 'We ate this hardtack last night, this unleavened bread. It was terrible! Give me one of your biscuits would you please. Oh I'm on the way to Ramses to assemble to leave.' Never happened! Like I've said jokingly before there was no McDonald's to stop and buy an Egg McMuffin in the morning.

"...They shall eat it with *bitter* herbs.... [other instructions; all of these are important details] ...Do not eat of it raw... [no rare lamb] ...**nor boiled at all with water...**" (vs 8-9). I want you to make a point of this right here, because this becomes most important for Deut. 16.

"...but roasted with fire, its head with its legs, and with its inward parts" (v 9).

What you mean inward parts? *That is the heart the liver and the kidneys* were to be put in the cavity where the intestines were. Some people have thought they just killed the lamb, let it bleed, put a spigot through it from tail to head, left the fur on it,

left the intestines in it, and started roasting it. Well, if they did that let me tell you what would happen: About 45 minutes into cooking it would explode in your face, because all the intestines would be heated up and the heat would make them explode and wouldn't be able to contain it.

So, there were no intestines in it. They did not roast it with its fur on it. But they kept it because that's part of the remains they were to burn before they left.

Verse 10: "And you shall not let any of it remain until the **morning**...."—'boqer'—that's sunrise. Since they all had wristwatches courtesy of Wal-Mart they all knew the exact time when they would assemble. *No! I'm being very facetious!* God kept it simple. 'ba-erev' is sunset.

- Can even the simplest minded person understand when sunset is? *Yes!*
- Can the simplest minded person understand when sunrise is? *Yes!*

After the sun is set and all night and then—which set in the West—then you look in the East in the morning and you see the sunrise.

Verse 10: "And you shall not let any of it remain until the morning...." What would be remaining after you ate all the flesh? *The skin the guts and the bones!*

Another thing that's important to understand about the bones is that being mostly young lambs their bones are not set hard, and they're mostly cartilage and they can burn very quickly, very easily. But what we did, we got a shank bone. So, I put it in our fireplace in the front room to see how long it would take to burn the shank bone, which would be the biggest thickest part of the lamb. I got it at the local market just for that purpose. It took two hours for that to burn so it could be crumbled into ashes.

- Why would God wanted done that way?
- Everything burned?
- Were they living in Egypt? *Yes!*
- Did they worship other gods? *Yes!*
- Did they have little magic idol things?
- Have you ever read about scarabs these, 'good luck' charms and you keep?

So, God wanted it all burned so no one could say:

- look I've got the ear of the lamb when the Passover took place
- I've got the right hoof here in the front leg, and this is going to protect me, and we'll use this is a 'good luck' charm

That's why! People would do that! Because someone would say:

- God took us out of Egypt look what I have; I've got a hoof the lamb

The Three Most Important Days #1
Sabbath, Passover and the Holy Days of God

“...And that which remains of it until the morning you shall burn with fire. And this is the way you shall eat it: *with* your loins girded...” (vs 10-11). Have everything ready. No time for the last minute ‘I have to pack my suitcase. I’ve got to take my clothes.’

“...your sandals on your feet...” (v 11)—because they stayed up most all that night. I’m sure some of the children slept while some of these things were going on until the slaughter of the firstborn at midnight.

“...and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in **trepidation**...” (v 11)—in ‘haste’ in the *King James* is not correct and a lot of people have misinterpreted you eat it in haste so you can hurry and get out of there right after midnight, and from midnight until in the morning you could go to Ramses. But what did God say? *You shall not go out of the door of your house until sunrise!*

“...It is the LORD’S Passover” (v 11).

- Who owns the Sabbath Day? *God does!*
- Who owns the Passover? *God does!*

That’s *His* Passover, *His* Holy Days. *If you want to be right with God you:*

- *do it His way*
- *on His day*
- *according to His will*

Scriptural References:

- 1) Psalm 119:18
- 2) Matthew 13:10-11
- 3) Psalm 119:18
- 4) Matthew 13:12-17
- 5) Leviticus 23:1-3
- 6) Mark 2:27-28
- 7) Leviticus 23:4-5
- 8) Exodus 3:11-17
- 9) Romans 9:14-23
- 10) Exodus 11:1-10
- 11) Exodus 12:1-11

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Isaiah 28
- Daniel 12
- 1 John
- 1 Corinthians 4
- Revelation 3:11
- Leviticus 23:32
- Deuteronomy 16

Also referenced:

- Sermon: *Who are the Two Witnesses and Elijah?*
- from *The Holy Bible in It’s Original Order, A Faithful Version*, Appendix N: Rome’s Challenge to the Protestants
- Books
 - ✓ *The Seven General Epistles* by Fred R. Coulter
 - ✓ *Occult Holidays or God’s Holy Days—Which?* by Fred R. Coulter
 - ✓ *God’s Plan for Mankind Revealed by the Sabbath and Holy Days* with CDs by Fred R. by
 - ✓ *The Christian Passover* by Fred R. Coulter
 - ✓ *A Harmony of the Gospels* by Fred R. Coulter
 - ✓ *The Law of Offerings* by Andrew John Jukes

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The Three Most Important Days II

The Real First Passover

Fred R. Coulter

What are the three most important things that keep us in contact with God, besides prayer and Bible study, which also helps us to know God and help us to be in right standing with Him?

Lev. 23—How many times have we read this? *We do every Holy Day!* Not the whole thing through but every Holy Day we do. It dawned on me that Lev. 23 is the key. What we're looking at is the overview to tell us what are the three most important things to keep us in contact with God. Let's review quickly.

Leviticus 23:1: "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying." Let's understand one thing Moses did not teach or say one thing concerning the commandments, statutes and judgments of God that God did not tell him. So, when they refer to the Law of Moses it's not that Moses gave the Law. He transmitted it from God, and he wrote it down.

When you say Law of Moses it doesn't mean that Moses created this out of his own mind. I'm sure there are a lot of people who would think that way.

Verse 2: "...Speak to the children of Israel and say to them, 'Concerning the appointed Feasts of the LORD... [I want you to notice the structure of this here] ...which you shall proclaim *to be* Holy convocations, even these are My **appointed** Feasts.'"

God appointed them! And as I mentioned in the part 1, men come along they say, 'Oh we don't need this; we don't need that. God, let's take this wonderful pagan thing over here and we'll have the pope bless it, and we'll have the priests sprinkle it with 'holy water' and it will be a wonderful, wonderful thing. Don't you think that will be nice? God, we love this so much that we know that You'll like it.'

- Is God perfect? *Yes!*
- Is His way perfect? *Yes!*
- Is His Word Truth? *Yes!*
- Are His commandments for us? *Yes!*

That's why we have it this way. These are God's appointed Feasts:

1. the Sabbath

Verse 3: "Six days shall work be done, but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of rest, a Holy convocation. You shall not do any work. It *is* a Sabbath to the LORD in all your dwellings.

If you keep the Sabbath then you will be keeping the Feast that God has set, the weekly one, the seventh day Sabbath where those who keep the Sabbath God puts His spiritual presence in it. Those who do not keep the Sabbath, God's spiritual presence is not with them. What follows next?

Verse 4: "These *are* the appointed Feasts of the LORD, Holy convocations, which **you shall proclaim** in their appointed seasons."

There's no option here. It doesn't say if you think it's good or if you agree with it then you go ahead and proclaim it. He says, "**...you shall proclaim in their appointed seasons.**"

- God is the One Who appointed them
- God is the One Who established them
- God is the One Who gave the Calculated Hebrew Calendar

That's why we use it!

2. Passover

Verse 5: "In the fourteenth *day* of the first month, between the two evenings..."

As I explained in the first message, and you can get out of *The Christian Passover* book, that means between sunset and dark. That's when the lamb was to be killed. On that day, the 14th day:

"...is the LORD'S Passover" (v 5).

It is not the *Jew's* Passover. What the Jews keep today as *their* Passover, is ***not*** the Lord's Passover. They keep it one day late and if you want to know why they keep it one day late then you get the Passover book. This book explains every question concerning the Passover, and what's important concerning this is that ***the Passover is the day that keeps us in contact with God and in covenant with God!***

Satan wants to do all he can to confuse people, to mix them up to get them to—like with the Jews—take a 15th Passover, which the Jews will tell you they have to take a 15th Passover because only a 14th Passover can be observed by them in the land. Since they have rejected the New Testament and Jesus they are quite correct in what they say. But Jesus said to 'go into all the world and teach them everything I have commanded you.' That includes everything concerning the Passover as we find in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The Church being in the world is not restricted to the geographical area of the land that God gave the children of Israel for their original inheritance, because Jesus told us to keep it.

I know a woman who had a Jewish dentist and she said, 'We keep the Passover and Feast of Tabernacles, and he almost pulled out all of her teeth for saying it! So, this is important.

3. **the Holy Days**—all the rest of the Feasts of God

The Sabbath was *created* time by God; the seventh day. Let's see what it says concerning *the Sabbath* and *the Sabbaths*.

Exodus 31:12: "And the LORD spoke to Moses saying, 'Speak also to the children of Israel, saying, "Truly... [in truth] ...you shall keep My Sabbaths..."'" (vs 12-13)—*plural*.

This becomes important. Because you have the Sabbath Day, you have the Passover, but all of the Holy Days are called ***Sabbaths***. When it's plural it's talking about the Sabbath and the seven Holy Days. The Passover is special and comes before the seven Holy Days. Isn't it interesting, that in order to keep the Feasts of God in order, you have to, especially today, be in covenant with God through the Passover before you start Unleavened Bread and Pentecost and Trumpets, Atonement, Tabernacles and Last Great Day?

When you are and when you do and you ask God to help you, inspire you, and you study to teach and bring the things concerning that, that the Bible shows us, you will understand it. It's like anything else. God says that 'God hides a matter, but it's the honor of the king to seek it out.' This is why we study the Bible 'line upon line, line upon line, precept upon precept.' We 'prove all things' and we put it together with the Scriptures by 'rightly dividing the Word.' So, here's part of it.

Here's why the Sabbath and the Holy Days are vitally important. Those who reject the Bible, what do they keep when they call themselves professed Christians? *Sunday, Halloween, Christmas, Easter, New Year's, Groundhog Day, Lent, 'Good' Friday, Easter Sunday!*

Instead of keeping the Passover, what do they keep? They keep the Sacrifice of the Mass for the Catholics and communion for the Protestants, and it has nothing to do with God or Christ. It is a counterfeit that everyone has accepted. Now notice what He says:

"...**for it...**" (v 13). That is the keeping. You can't have a plural followed by 'it' grammatically speaking. This refers to the keeping of 'My Sabbaths.'

"...keep My Sabbaths, **for it** is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations to know that I *am* the LORD Who sanctifies you" (v 13).

- the Protestants don't know that
- the Catholics don't know that
- the Jews don't know that

"...to know that I *am* the LORD Who sanctifies you" (v 13).

So, here is the sum of the matter. If you keep the Sabbaths of God, His Holy Days and the Sabbath, you know God. And if you keep those, what else are you going to do? *You're going to keep the Passover, you're going to keep the rest of the commandments!*

Let's see how this is augmented by 1-John 2:3: "And by this *standard...*" Standard is in italics and that was added, because the Greek there is 'en toutoo'—meaning *in this, by this, here in, in this manner, in the standard*. So, that was added in because that sets the standard.

Verse 3: "And by this *standard* we know that we know Him: if we keep His commandments." Now let's take the opposite of this: ***If you do not keep His commandments you do not know Him!*** Not only that, we're not to just 'know the Lord' like so many Protestants do:

- Do you know the Lord?
- Have you been saved?
- Have you been born again?
- Have you opened your heart to the Lord?

The truth is the more you study the Bible, the more you realize it, and you understand that the Protestants use Scriptures, *but they don't know the Scriptures!* They profess Jesus, ***but they don't know Jesus and they are not keeping the commandments!*** 'We keep nine of them!' Well, ***God said to keep ten!***

Verse 4: "The One Who says, 'I know Him' and does not keep His commandments... [Is well-intentioned, is really nice but slightly mistaken. ***No!***] ...***is a liar...*** [Where does that place all Sunday-keepers and idolaters?] ...and the Truth is not in him."

They may have parts of Truth. Just like human nature is a mixture of good and evil, but human nature is basically sinful. The Bible is actually like having the right combination to open the safe. If you have a safe and you have the combination right *except one number*, will it open? ***No!*** Likewise, if you don't keep all the commandments of God you're not really going to know God.

You will know about Jesus, but you won't know Jesus. You will know about the Father, but you won't know the Father. There's a difference, and the difference is you have the right combination to unlock the safe. So, those are pretty strong words.

Verse 4: "The One Who says, 'I know Him' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the Truth is not in him. On the other hand, *if* anyone is keeping His Word..." (vs 4-5).

Now notice how this expands. It's not just commandment-keeping alone now. It has to do with everything that Jesus taught.

"...truly in this one the love of God is *being* perfected..." (v 5). That's how we were perfected through the Sabbath, the Passover, and the Holy Days. ***Those are the three most important things!*** And once we keep those then all of the rest will follow and be put together. Here's another one: ***"...being perfected..."***

"...By this *means* we know that we are in Him" (v 5). These four simple verses tell us an awful lot.

Verse 6: "Anyone who claims to dwell in Him is obligating himself also to walk even as He Himself... [Jesus] ...walked." How did Jesus walk?

- ***He always kept the Sabbath;*** He never kept Sunday
- ***He always kept the Passover;*** He never kept the Sacrifice of the Mass or communion
- ***He always kept all the Holy Days of God;*** He kept none of the pagan holidays
- Did He walk in love? *Yes!*
- Did He walk in faith? *Yes!*
- Did He represent hope? *Yes!*
- Did He bring grace? *Yes!*
- Did He believe the Father? *Yes!*
- Did He suffer persecution? *Yes!*

As we pointed out in the first message everyone believes that this is the origin of the Passover in Exo. 12. We're going to see that is not correct.

This is not the Passover of the Jews it's the Passover for the children of Israel—all 12 tribes—of which Judah, one tribe, are the ones from whom the Jews come.

Exodus 12:11: "And this is the way you shall eat it: *with* your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in trepidation. It *is* the LORD'S Passover." We need to always understand that *it belongs to God!* Why is it called the Passover?

Verse 12: "For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night..."—the night of the 14th. The 13th ended at sunset, and as soon as the sun went down that began 'ben ha arbayim': between the two evenings.

All the children of Israel were waiting. As I mentioned there were those standing on the top of the roofs of their houses looking for the sun to go down. In Egypt as I mentioned you have a flat horizon so when it touches the horizon that's the beginning of 'ba-erev' or sunset and about five minutes later the sun goes down below the horizon, and as soon as it goes down below the horizon that is the beginning of *between the two evenings* 'ben ha arbayim'. So, that night the night of the 14th.

Now if you want to know why the Jews say that night was the night of the 15th then you've got to get the Passover book and read it. There is no other book like it ever printed that covers every one of these questions. You need to read it.

"...and will smite..." (v 12). It is God doing the smiting. I'm sure He had some angels do the work for Him, but He's the One Who gave the command, and if He gives a command He's the One Who did it.

"...all the firstborn in the land of Egypt..." (v 12). Not all firstborn were boys. There were male and female who were executed.

"...both man and beast. And I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt..." (v 12). Stop and think about this. All of the pagan gods of Egypt came originally out of Babylon and were renamed. Yet, modern Catholicism and Protestantism follow the same days that those pagan religions had. What did God do? *He judged all the gods of Egypt because they are no gods!*

"...I *am* the LORD.... [He is adding emphasis to it] ...And the blood shall be a sign to you upon the houses where you *are*.... [because they were to put it on the side posts and the upper lintel] ...And when I see the blood, I will pass over you. And the plague shall not be upon you to destroy *you* when I smite the land of Egypt. And this day shall be a memorial to you...." (vs 12-14)—a remembrance.

What we are going to see in this, so I'll just telegraph ahead which is this. God always uses the Passover and His Holy Days for important things in carrying out His plan, *always*. God smote the firstborn of Egypt to bring the children of Israel out and that was on the Passover Day.

When was Jesus crucified? *On the Passover Day!* Then you have to take everything that happened on that Passover Day beginning when He

sent His disciples out to prepare for the Passover for Him. Some people say well Jesus kept the 15th Passover with the Jews until this last one and then He changed it. *No! That's not true!* They had the domestic Passover in Jerusalem and they had the temple Passover later in the day for some of the priests and some of the Pharisees. That's why you need to read the book.

During the days of Jesus they had a 14th Passover and a 15th Passover. I'm just kind of telegraphing this ahead of time so we can cover all the bases.

- What did Jesus say on the Passover night when He gave them the bread and wine?
Do this in remembrance of Me!
- What is a remembrance? *A memorial!*
- How often does a memorial take place?
Once a year!
- How often does the Passover come? *Once a year!*

Verse 14: "And this day shall be a memorial to you. And you shall keep it a Feast to the LORD throughout your generations.... [it's a separate Feast from the days of Unleavened Bread] ...You shall keep it a Feast as a law forever."

One woman wrote me and she says I have a very simple way of remembering which day is which. She said, 'Verse 14 talks about the Passover, which is the 14th day of the month. Verse 15 talks about the beginning of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is the 15th day of the first month.' In the Hebrew when you come to the end of v 14, it is a full stop. That means v 15 now is another subject. But on the 14th they were to eat unleavened bread with the Passover.

Now comes seven days of unleavened bread, v 15: "You shall eat unleavened *bread* seven days; even the first day you shall *have* put away leaven out of your houses; for whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be **cut off** from Israel"—because of disobeying God.

Cut off does not mean they're killed or destroyed. It just means that they are cut off from receiving the blessings of God. They may still be living in the land. When the children of Israel sinned when they were in the land, were they still in the land? *Yes!* But they were cut off from God so God had to punish them. After refusing to repent He sent them off into exile.

Verse 16: "And in the first day *there shall be* a Holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be a Holy convocation for you. No manner of work shall be done in them, except that which every

man must eat, that only may be done by you.... [whatever is necessary for preparing food] ...And you shall keep the *Feast of Unleavened Bread*, for in this very same day I have brought your armies out of the land of Egypt...." (vs 16-17).

I want you to notice the difference between the two days. Why did He say to keep the Passover?

Verse 12: "For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast...."

He passed over the children of Israel because they had the blood on the upper doorpost and the two lentils. Here we are talking about the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is the 15th.

Verse 17: "And you shall keep the *Feast of Unleavened Bread*, for in this very same day I have brought your armies out of the land of Egypt. Therefore, you shall keep this day in your generations as a law forever."

What did He say concerning the 14th? Verse 14: "And this day shall be a memorial to you. And you shall keep it a Feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it a Feast as a law forever."

Clearly He's distinguishing the two days. Verse 18 becomes a little tricky especially in the *King James*. That's why in the *Faithful Version* we have all of the critical words translated correctly so there's no misunderstanding.

Can the simplest uneducated person understand when the sun goes down? Sunset? *Yes!* I mean, even little children. 'Look, daddy, the sun's going down. They understand that. That's why God gave sunset and sunrise.

Verse 18: "In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at sunset..."

- What do you mean the 14th day at sunset?
- Isn't that the Passover Day? *The 14th day is the Passover Day!*
- What is it at the 14th day at sunset? *That's the end of the 14th, not the beginning!*

The beginning is *between the two evenings* after sunset on the 13th until dark. Here it is:

Verse 18: In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at sunset, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at sunset."

Leviticus 23:32—the premier verse which defines a day: "It... [Day of Atonement] ...*shall be* to you a Sabbath of rest, and you shall afflict yourselves...."

Verse 27: “Also, on the tenth *day* of this seventh month, is the Day of Atonement...”—10th day, keep that in mind.

Verse 32: “It *shall be* to you a Sabbath of rest, and you shall afflict yourselves. In the ninth *day* of the month at sunset, from sunset to sunset, you shall keep your Sabbath.”

So, the 10th day is defined right here by this verse as beginning at the end of the 9th day at sunset which ends the 9th day. It begins the 10th day, and the 10th day is from sunset on the 9th until sunset on the 10th, that is the whole day.

Exodus 12:18 will make it absolutely crystal clear. “In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at sunset... [end of the 14th, beginning the 15th] ...you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at sunset.”

Now, I want you to count. We’ll use all fingers on one hand and two on the other: 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, seven days. Whenever you count it is always a full count and it is never like adding or subtracting. Because the 15th day to the 21st day is six days by subtraction but seven days by counting.

So, the 21st day of the month at evening is the end of the last day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, which is a Holy Day. That’s when, in this modern world, you can go out and have your big fat juicy hamburger.

I’m going to go through every verse of this so we can cover everything we need to.

Verse 19: “Seven days there shall be no leaven found in your houses, for whoever eats that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land. You shall eat nothing leavened. In all your dwelling places you shall eat unleavened bread” (vs 19-20).

Those were the instructions given to Moses. He picked up a cell phone and he called everyone and he took his Blackberry and his computer and sent e-mail to everyone so they would know it. **No!** How did he communicate this to them? *After he got the instructions from God:*

Verse 21: “Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, ‘Draw out and take a lamb for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover *lamb*.... [When? On the 14th day: ‘ben ha arbayim’] ...And you shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip in the blood *that is* in the bowl... [showing that they should take a bowl and catch the blood] ...and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood in the bowl. And none of

you shall go out of the door of his house until **sunrise**” (vs 21-22).

They could not leave at midnight after the slaying of the firstborn. They were told to stay in the house until sunrise. After all that went on and all the commotion that went on with killing the firstborn, do you think that anyone would dare venture out of the door of the house that night?

Mom and dad would be there, especially mom: ‘Don’t go out the door! Moses told us were not to go out until sunrise. We’ve got to see the sun when is starting to light up the horizon in the East.’

Verse 23: “For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians. And when He sees the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door... [that’s where the name Passover comes from] ...and will not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you. And you shall observe this thing as a law to you and to your children forever. And it shall be when you have come to the land, which the LORD will give you... [which actually occurred 40 years later] ...according as He has promised that you shall keep this service. And it will be, when your children shall say to you, ‘What *does* this service *mean* to you?’” (vs 23-26).

- Why would they ask that? Because the command was to kill the lamb right there at the house.
- Was that not correct?

You have children and they go out and say, ‘Daddy, why are you killing the lamb?’

Verse 27: “‘Then you shall say, ‘It *is* the sacrifice of the LORD’S Passover, Who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when He struck the Egyptians and delivered our houses.’”.... [that’s what happened on the 14th] ...And the people bowed their heads and worshiped. And the children of Israel went away and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron; so they did” (vs 27-28).

I want you to notice the difference between the two days. The Jews today have combined the Passover and the first day of Unleavened Bread, and they say the Passover pictures coming out of Egypt. **Not so**, because if they were not in the house, protected by the blood on the doors, they would have died.

So, the Passover does not picture coming out of Egypt, ***unleavened bread does!*** You’ve got the 14th the Passover, 15th beginning of Unleavened Bread. This is talking about the Feast of Unleavened Bread:

Exodus 13:8: “And you shall tell your son in that day, saying, ‘This is because of what the LORD did for me when I came out from Egypt.’”

Passover they were in their houses ready to go, but they didn’t come out until sunrise. They gathered in Rameses, and they didn’t leave Rameses until the 15th day was starting.

Verse 9: “And it shall be a sign to you upon your hand, and for a memorial between your eyes, that the LORD’S Law may be in your mouth, for with a strong hand the LORD has brought you out of Egypt. You shall, therefore, keep this law in its season from year to year.”

So, at least in the *Faithful Version* these Scriptures are far easier to understand than the *King James*. I know when I kept my first Passover and Unleavened Bread I remember the minister read there in Exo. 12, ‘Well, this is the beginning of the day,’ and the *King James* just said *evening*. Then a little later on talking about the beginning of the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread it said *at even*. They said that this is the next evening.

I remember I said, ‘But how do we know? What was the moral of the story at that time, years and years ago? *Don’t believe me, believe your Bible and prove it!*

I didn’t create any problems with it, but I just filed it in the back of my mind. That’s what we have to do with some questions, file them in the back of our mind and keep them there and sooner or later the answer will come. That’s the difference between the service:

- 1) the Passover and striking the Egyptians and delivering our houses
- 2) the day they came out of Egypt

Exodus 12:30: “And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants, and all the Egyptians. And there was a great cry in Egypt, for *there was* not a house where there was not one dead.”

That was a spectacular night. Now this is approximately 20% of the entire population, because you have husband-and-wife. What if both of them were firstborn? *They would die! And their firstborn child would die, whether male or female!* You take the animals, the firstborn of the animals, probably not quite 20%, probably more like 10 or 15%. And all of these corpses everywhere! Egypt is right on the edge of the desert along the Nile! So, you’re going to have heat.

What happens to bodies lying out everywhere in all the heat? Just think of all the flies, all the ants, all the dogs. I tell you, it must of been awesome and gruesome. No wonder there was a

great cry. No wonder they were up. They just didn’t bury them all at once. We find in Num. 33 that they were still burying the dead Egyptians when the children of Israel were leaving Egypt. So, they were all day from sunrise until sunset trying to get rid of those bodies. Obviously they couldn’t get rid of them all.

Verse 31—this is the correct translation, because some say that Pharaoh called for Moses and Moses went to Pharaoh (*KJV*). *No!* He didn’t go to Pharaoh, because the last time Moses saw Pharaoh he said, ‘Your never going to see my face again.’ Here’s the correct translation:

Verse 31: “And during the night he sent word to Moses and Aaron saying, ‘Rise up! Get away from my people, both you and the children of Israel! And go serve the LORD, as you have said’”—even the most stubborn! Sooner or later after all that took place, they have to give in.

Verse 32: “‘Also take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone. **And bless me also.**’ And the Egyptians were urging the people, that they might send them out of the land quickly, for they said, ‘We *are* all dead men’” (vs 32-33).

Because they didn’t know when the next strike of the population would come—did they? I mean, not knowing what God was doing, and all of this taking place, you can imagine the fear and the terror that was going on.

(go to the next track)

Verse 35: “And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses. And they asked for articles of silver, and articles of gold, and clothing from the Egyptians.”

Obviously, they began this as we found out in Exo. 11 when they started. After the killing of the firstborn the Egyptians were anxious to give them anything they wanted. So, they loaded them down with more.

Verse 36: “And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, and they granted their request, and they stripped the Egyptians. And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth...” (vs 36-37).

Where were the children of Israel before they got to Rameses? *They were in the land of Goshen*, which was north of Rameses. So, after they left their houses in the morning, after the Passover on the 14th, they walked down to Rameses to get all organized for the march. With that many people you’ve got to go someplace and get organized and have the stations ready. Moses probably had it setup so this tribe would be here, and this tribe would be here, and the other tribe would be there, so they

could get all ready to go. Of course, Moses was a former general and a sub-Pharaoh, a Pharaoh-like authority.

Verse 37: “And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, the men being about six hundred thousand on foot, apart from little ones.”

That’s why we say 1.8 million people. And in the Passover book I show that the closest we can come to that is the Pasadena Rose Parade. For the Rose Parade to pass one place, by the time the ones who started the parade got to the end of it, the end of the parade was beginning. It’s the same way with all of these people.

Verse 38: “And also a mixed multitude went up with them, and flocks and herds, very much livestock. And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought out of Egypt, for it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not stay, neither had they prepared any food for themselves for the journey” (vs 38-39).

All they had was water and bread, that was it! With God blessing them and watching over them, I am sure that God energized all of them so the bread and the water was quite sufficient. We’ll explain this in detail in just a little bit, but this is a key, kind of like if you were on a computer and you’re scrolling through and you come to a certain screen, and when you’re done with that screen, it says click here for more information.

So you click there and it takes you to an entirely different program, or you can do this on the website. We advertised on **biblestudy.org** and we have a click through in advertising, and we pay for that advertising. When they click through, they go directly to our homepage. So, we’re going to do a click-through here and see where the real first Passover began, *and it was not in Egypt!*

Verse 41: “And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, it was even on that very same day, all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. It is a night to be much observed to the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt” (vs 41-42).

That is the beginning of the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The day begins at sunset on the 14th. What follows sunset? *Night!* It’s not hard to understand, but when you get people in there to try and force understanding and doctrine into something that doesn’t contain it, you get all confused and befuddled. This is simple.

Verse 42: “It is a night to be much observed to the LORD...” Some people have said that The

Night to be Much Observed was invented by Herbert W Armstrong. That’s not what my Bible says.

Verse 42: “It is a night to be much observed to the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt. This is that night of the LORD to be observed by all the children of Israel in their generations.”

We will come back to this later on when we get to Deut. 16. Full stop! Here’s a summary of the Passover:

Verse 43: “And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, ‘This is the ordinance of the Passover. No stranger shall eat of it.’” This is why we do not have unbaptized people take the Passover, because in order to do so, you have to be baptized and baptism is *the circumcision of the heart*. That’s one aspect of it.

Verse 44: “But every man’s servant that is bought for silver, when you have circumcised him, then he shall eat of it. A foreigner and a hired servant shall not eat of it. It shall be eaten in one house....” (vs 44-46).

I want you to note that there’s not one word about eating it at the tabernacle, which was to be setup later, nor even one hint of killing and eating it at the temple. It is to be eaten in one house. Not from house to house. You don’t start out at this house on the Passover night and say, ‘I’m going to see my neighbor next door, and go over and see him.’

“...You shall not carry any of the flesh out of the house. Neither shall you break a bone of it” (v 46). What were they to do with the flesh and the skin and the guts? *Burn it!*

Verse 47: “All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. And when a stranger shall dwell with you, and desires to keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it. And he shall be as one that is born in the land. And no uncircumcised person shall eat of it. There shall be one law to the one born at home and to the stranger that dwells among you.’ Thus did all the children of Israel. Even as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did” (vs 47-50).

Now let’s come back here to v 40: “Now, the sojourning of the children of Israel in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years.”

- What does 430 years mean?
- Where does that come from?

Verse 41: “And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, it was even on that very same day... [430 years later. Very same day of

what? What does that refer to?] ...all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.”

Gen. 15 is what it’s referring to, and is actually the first Passover. ***This is the origin of the Passover***, not Exo. 12. We will see that.

What was the day, the very same day, 430 years later that they were leaving Egypt? What day was that? *The first day of Unleavened Bread, the 15th day of the 1st month!* We have that well-established; the very same day referring to what?

Here in Gen. 15 we have something that is revealing from that Scripture. The click-through from Exo. 12:40 and 41 over to Gen. 15. Let’s see how that fits in, and answers which day was 430 years before? What happened then?

Genesis 15:1: “After these things the Word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, saying, ‘Fear not, Abram, I *am* your shield and your exceedingly great reward.’ And Abram said, ‘Lord GOD, what will You give me since I go childless, and the heir of my house *is* this Eliezer of Damascus?’” (vs 1-2).

Now it was the Law of God that a servant could receive inheritance if someone was childless. But it would have to be something that the one who was childless would give to the servant. But God had greater plans in mind than what Abraham mentioned there.

Verse 3: “And Abram said, ‘Behold, You have given no seed to me; and lo, one born in my house is my heir.’” That’s the law. But God had something different in mind.

Verse 4: “And behold, the Word of the LORD *came* to him saying, ‘This man shall not be your heir; but he that shall come forth out of your own loins shall be your heir.’”

At this time Abraham was 85-years-old. We’ll get the other figures as we go along so we can come up with the 430.

Verse 5: “And He brought him outside and said, ‘Look now toward the heavens and number the stars—if you are able to count them.’....”

When do you see the stars? You don’t see them at noon! No, you see the sun, which is a star, but you don’t see the stars in the heavens except at night. So, can we all agree and see that it’s talking about a night here. When does the day start? *At sunset!*

I think it’s very interesting, because when you read Luke’s account about Jesus telling Peter that he would deny Him, He said, ‘In this day, this very night, you shall deny me three times.’ We all understand the Bible says day begins at sunset; the

day ends and begins at sunset. So, the sun had already set, and it was already dark.

Verse 5: “And He brought him outside and said...” Apparently, the Word, the Lord God, in a vision was right there talking with Abraham. And we have a summary of it. So then, He said, ‘Come on outside with me Abram I want to show you something.’

“...‘Look now toward the heavens and number the stars—if you are able to count them.’ And He said to him, ‘So shall your seed be’” (v 5).

Now what two things do we have here? We have v 4: “...he that shall come forth out of your own loins shall be your heir.” Physical seed; a literal son, and we know that was Isaac. Then when God got Abraham outside He said:

Verse 5: “...‘Look now toward the heavens and number the stars—if you are able to count them.’ And He said to him, ‘So shall your seed be.’”

So we have two promises: physical seed and seed that will shine like the stars in heaven. Later on we will see it’s also called *the sand of the sea* and *the stars of heaven*. What was given here were two promises:

- physical seed
- spiritual seed

Jesus said, ‘That which is born of the flesh is flesh,’ physical. ‘That which is born of the Spirit is spirit,’ composed of spirit. This is talking about at the resurrection.

Matthew 13:43: “Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father....” If you shine forth as the sun, you are like a star, have glory like a star.

Now let’s read something else concerning Isaac, because the truth is ***you must be a physical human being before you can become a spirit being!*** And the resurrection is when you’re born again.

Galatians 4:26: “But the Jerusalem above is free, which is *the* mother of us all; for it is written, ‘Rejoice, O barren who did not bear!.... [referring to Sarah] ...Break forth and cry, *you* who were not travailing, because many more *are* the children of the desolate... [Sarah] ...than of her who has the husband.’ Now we, brethren, like Isaac, are *the* children of promise” (vs 26-28).

Galatians 3:29: “And if you *are* Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to *the* promise.”

What promise? *The one given in Gen. 15!* So, we have the promise of two seeds: One *physical* through Isaac for the children of Israel; one *spiritual*

through Isaac at the resurrection; ‘to shine as the stars of heaven.’

Genesis 15:5: “...‘So shall your seed be.’” So, there are two seeds: *physical and spiritual*. The Church and the Passover does not go back to Exo. 12, it goes back to Abraham in Gen. 15. As we’re going to see as we continue to examine this chapter, the night that this promise was made was on the Passover night. And we will see that the special sacrifice that was made by Abraham covers the time in which Jesus was crucified and died.

Having nothing to do with the sacrifice at the temple in the afternoon. If you’ve never heard this before then I hope you really understand this because this really is a tremendous and very exciting thing when you realize it.

Verse 6: “And he **believed** in the LORD....” When you talk about the promise, ‘so shall your seed be,’ *what work would Abraham do? None!* There was no work because God told him that’s how your seed is going to be. **He believed God**, even though he was 75 and his wife was 65. Even though they were much younger at those ages than we are, still it is a fact that in many cases when you get that age, the plumbing doesn’t work like it used to. So, this becomes a real promise. And we will see that even extended further.

“...And He accounted it to him for righteousness” (v 6)—because *if* you believe God, *meaning that you’re going to act upon what God says*, believe in His promises even though you do not see how it is going to be done, you believe God, and that’s counted as righteousness. And *that obeying the voice of God becomes the important thing of believing God*.

Verse 7: “And He said to him, ‘I *am* the LORD that brought you out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give you this land to inherit it.’” That was in the land of Canaan in which he was sojourning. And Abraham never inherited the land while he was alive. He lived in it; the same way with Isaac and Jacob. They lived in it, sojourned in it.

Verse 8: “And he said, ‘Lord GOD, by what shall I know that I shall inherit it?’.... [these next verses are very unusual]: ...And He said to him, ‘Take Me a heifer of three years old... [fully grown] ...and a she-goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon’” (vs 8-9). He did not build an altar here, as when he built an altar (Gen. 22).

Verse 10: “And he took all these to himself, and divided them in the middle...” —which means he cut their throat to kill them, laid them down on the ground, and he had probably a meat axe to cut

them right down the middle; the bloodiest kind of sacrifice that you could have. We’ll explain what the sacrifice means, but I’ll tell you the name of it. It is called a maledictory oath.

So, he cut them down the middle and laid each piece opposite the other. So, it was probably the back to back of the two halves, and there was a path that went down between them.

“...and laid each piece opposite the other; but he did not divide the birds” (v 10). He put one bird on one side and one on the other side. Now when you do that, guess what happens?

Verse 11: “And when the birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away.” He did this for something that God was going to do.

Abraham prepared the animals, and the only other thing he did was drive away the birds of prey the come down to get it. You can imagine what they were. Buzzards and if you’ve seen some of these things of the buzzards and vultures and storks and showing what it’s like in Africa when there’s a carcass out there, that’s probably what he was fighting. Let’s follow along very carefully.

Verse 12: “And it came to pass, **as the sun was going down**...” Notice what we have here. The night before God made the two promises to him—physical seed and spiritual seed. It came morning time and Abram asked the Lord, ‘How am I going to know what this is going to be?’ Then the Lord said, ‘Take these animals cut them down the middle.’ Here we have the ending of the day; so, this was an all-day affair.

Verse 12: “And it came to pass, as the sun was going down, that a deep sleep fell upon Abram. And, behold, a horror of great darkness fell upon him!”

This is what you would call a ‘death experience.’ What does the Bible talk about being dead? *It is sleeping!* This is simulated death. For what purpose? *God was showing him what He was going to do!* We’ll come back and look at this in a minute.

Verse 13: “And He said to Abram, ‘You must surely know that your seed shall be sojourners in a land *that is* not theirs (and shall serve them *and they shall afflict them*) four hundred years.’” So, the sentence reads this way because the parentheses is an insert. That’s the sentence! They weren’t afflicted 400 years, they sojourn 400 years.

- How did we get 430?
- Where did the 30 years come from?

Remember 85 (Abraham’s age).

Verse 14: “And also I will judge that nation whom they shall serve.... [which we now know was Egypt] ...And afterward they shall come out with great substance.... [we just read that] ...And you shall go to your fathers in peace. You shall be buried in a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall come here again, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full” (vs 14-16).

God even gives the heathen a long time to get their act together and see if they will repent. Notice the sequence:

Verse 17: “And it came to pass—when the sun went down and it was dark—... [he’s still’s in this death darkness and coma, deep sleep] ...behold, a smoking furnace and a burning lamp passed between those pieces.”

Why was that done? *God was showing Abraham what He was going to do!* A “...smoking furnace and a burning lamp passed between those pieces.” What happen to those pieces with a smoking furnace? The burning lamp was showing that this was God walking through it. But what did the smoking furnace do? *It burned up the animals; made them ashes!* Remember after Solomon got done with this prayer the burnt offering that he had, fire came down from heaven and consumed it all.

Here God is showing Abraham His [Christ’s] future death, which occurred on the Passover Day.

- What day is the Passover Day? *The 14th day of the 1st month!*
- What day did the children of Israel leave Egypt? *The beginning of the 15th!*
- What do we have here?
 - ✓ night
 - ✓ day
 - ✓ sunset ends that day
 - ✓ night
 - ✓ the next day
- What was the promise that was given on that next day? *That the descendents of Abraham would be brought out of their servitude!*

Verse 18: “In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘I have given this land to your seed, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, the *land of the Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, And the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Rephaim, and the Amorites, and the Canaanites, and the Girgashites, and the Jebusites*’” (vs 18-21).

- What was also the promise on that night? *That He would bring them out of their servitude with great substance!*

- What night was that? *It said, ‘On the very same day 430 years to the very same day’!*
- From what? *This promise that was given when He said He would bring them out!*

On the same day that He gave the promise 430 years later it happened. What day was this day that this promise was given? *The 15th day of the 1st month!*

- *if* it’s the very same day
- *if* the 15th day of the 1st month is 430 years later to the very same day going back 430 years earlier that has to be the 15th day of the 1st month.
- *if* that day was the 15th day of the 1st month,
 - What day was the 14th day? *The day before!*
 - What happened on the day before?

God gave the promise and took them out at night and showed him the stars of heaven!

On the day portion of the 14th is when the sacrificial animals were laid out. We’re going to see that those sacrificial animals were a type of the death of Jesus Christ. The reason that it was this kind of sacrifice and the mutilation of the bodies was a covenant oath that God made, and also to portray the absolute brutality of the scourging and crucifixion.

We have the 14th day of the 1st month and the 15th day of the 1st month in Gen. 15; this is the first Passover. Gen. 15 gives us the parallel timing between the sacrifices that Abraham was told to give, and the death of Jesus Christ on the 14th.

We have that in *The Christian Passover* book and we have it in the book *The Day Jesus the Christ Died*. You need the Passover book!

I’ve talked to some people and others have written saying, every year before the Passover we go through the Passover book and we learn more every year. Brethren, this contains so much information you cannot just read it once and understand the whole thing.

This Gen. 15, is the **first** Passover and the **first** day of Unleavened Bread. Exo. 12 follows through on those same two days with the children of Israel in just a little bit different way than it does in Gen. 15. But it follows in parallel with what happened when Jesus was crucified, where as Exo. 12 does not.

That’s why ***You are Christ’s and are Abraham’s seed and heirs according to the promise!***

Scriptural References:

- 1) Leviticus 23:1-5
- 2) Exodus 31:12-13
- 3) 1 John 2:3-6
- 4) Exodus 12:11-17, 12, 17, 14-17, 12, 17,14, 18
- 5) Leviticus 23:32, 27, 32
- 6) Exodus 12:18-28
- 7) Exodus 13:8-9
- 8) Exodus 12:30-33, 35-39, 41-50, 40-41
- 9) Genesis 15:1-5
- 10) Matthew 13:43
- 11) Galatians 4:26-28
- 12) Galatians 3:29
- 13) Genesis 15:5-21

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Numbers 33
- Exodus 11
- Deuteronomy 16
- Genesis 27

Also referenced: Books:

- *The Christian Passover* by Fred R. Coulter
- *The Day Jesus the Christ Died* by Fred R. Coulter

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The Three Most Important Days III

The 400 & 430 Years & Passover Offering vs Passover Sacrifice

Fred R. Coulter

Now let's think about this a little bit more. Let's analyze it as we look at the structure back in Lev. 23. It has the Sabbath, the Passover, and then the Holy Days.

Now let's examine the counterfeit that Satan the devil has. He has three most important things for his version of Christianity, as well. What do you suppose those are?

1. Sunday
2. the Eucharist or communion
3. the occult holidays

The exact same pattern; God's way is:

- Sabbath
- Passover
- Holy Days

Worldly 'Christianity':

1. Sunday
2. Eucharist or communion

which is the counterfeit of the Passover

3. the occult holidays

Isn't that amazing? One thing that is so important as we will see as we go along, but I'll mention it here. One of the reasons why Satan has caused so much confusion concerning the Passover, which has evolved into worldly Christianity as communion or the Eucharist, is because if you keep the Passover properly and if you have the Holy Spirit through baptism, then you are in covenant and have a relationship with God that is not attainable any other way.

Remember the thing that's important that Jesus said, and He said it on the Passover night. *'I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life, and no one comes to the Father except through Me.'* There you have it! That's why these things are important. That's why as we learned when we started this series, the world is blinded, and they're blinded whenever they go against God's way. Or wherever they come along and have part of God's way, and then substitute it with:

- their own thoughts
- their own traditions
- their own things that they have

Every step that is taken away from God's way leads to a further blinding.

John 3:18: "The one who believes in Him is not judged... [that is unto death] ...but the one who does not believe has already been judged because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

Of course, this means you believe in the true Jesus. Not the counterfeit in the world, because some of these counterfeits are quite good, quite clever. Just like if you have counterfeit money. Some of those counterfeit monies are really good.

Let me tell you what the Germans did right toward the end of WWII. They got all of the Jewish engravers who work with jewelry, and they engraved and made plates absolutely identical to the British pound. And they printed up British pound money, so they could use it after the war was lost. And it was so good that it took them a long time to discover the real from the counterfeit. That's an important thing to remember. Satan is a liar. Satan is a counterfeiter. He takes a pattern that God has, and he puts his own on it:

- Sabbath vs Sunday
- Passover vs communion
- Holy Days vs occult holidays

If you don't know, and if you aren't searching the Bible and you don't want to live by the Truth, it will be hard for you to find out.

Verse 19: "And this is the judgment... [the judgment is already here] ...that the Light... [Who is Christ in the Word of God] has come into the world, but men loved darkness rather than the Light because their works were evil."

What do they do? *'Oh well, we don't have to keep the Old Testament! We don't have to ever be bothered with anything there. That's all fulfilled or done away.'* Very convenient excuse! You've already been judged. They don't want to repent of their sins, especially their self-righteous sins. To repent of Sunday, the communion, and the occult holidays is almost an impossibility for people who are wrapped up and steeped into the worldly Christianity that is the counterfeit of Satan the devil.

They would not think those works are evil. No, they think Sunday is good. They think that the communion is good. They think that Halloween, Christmas, Easter, New Year's and all the occult holidays are good. But they are evil!

Verse 20: "For everyone who practices evil hates the Light..."

- they don't like to be reproved
- they don't like to be told that's evil
- they don't like to be told that these things are of pagan origin
- they don't like to be told that if you take

the communion then you're actually taking a communion that originated with Mithras and the original from Babylon

Likewise with all the holidays. They hate the Light.

"....and does not come to the Light... [they don't come to the Word of God, the true Jesus] ...so that his works may not be exposed" (v 20).

They don't want to have those things exposed as wrong or evil, 'because these are so good.' I've mentioned this before but we'll just plug it in here Truth vs lie or error. Everyone who is a parent teaches the children never to lie. Don't lie. But somewhere along the line if you keep all of the holidays of the world they are going to discover that Christmas is a lie, and Santa Claus is a lie.

But no one asked the question, if these things are supposed to be Christian, and if they are supposed to teach us God's way and Jesus said, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.' How can you take something that is a lie and say that it is good? *and* Something that is a lie and say it represents Jesus Christ Who is the Truth?

They never think about it, and they don't want to have it exposed. Look at what they do. When they hear that, they say, 'Oh well...' whatever the excuse may be: Are you a Jew? *No, I'm not a Jew!* Are you Seventh-Day Adventist? *No, I'm not a Seventh-Day Adventist!* What are you then? Sounds like when they questioned John.

The best way to answer them is, we're Scripturalists. We believe the Scriptures, the whole Bible. Not part of it, the whole Bible. Well then, why do you keep these days? *Because God says so!* And the very thing that they're totally mystified about:

- Who is God?
- What is He doing?
- Why do these events happen in the world the way that they happen?

How does God working whatever He's working on the earth? The very things that they've accepted the counterfeit from Satan the devil, ***blinds them*** to understand the truth concerning the Sabbath the Passover and Holy Days, which then shows them God's plan. That's why we have the books that we have we have:

- *The Christian Passover*
- *The Day Jesus the Christ Died*
- *A Harmony of the Gospels*
- *God's Plan for Mankind Revealed by the Sabbath and Holy Days*
- *Occult Holidays or God's Holy Days—Which?*

Those are all designed to bring people out of darkness into the light, to prove and show what is true and right so they can find God and understand the Word of God. They don't like *their works* exposed. This is what we do every Sabbath:

Verse 21: "But the one who **practices the Truth...**" What is the Truth? Jesus said:

- Your Word is the Truth
- Your commandments are Truth
- Your laws are Truth
- Your way is true from the beginning

"...who practices the Truth comes to the Light..." (v 21). If you're

- practicing and keeping the Sabbath
- practicing and keeping the Passover year-by-year
- practicing and keeping the Holy Days of God

you have the Spirit of God and you are converted! Then we have this:

"...so that His works may be manifested, that they have been accomplished by *the power of God*" (v 21).

Not by the self. God is working at work in us. Now there's another thing about the Truth of God. 1-Cor. 2 is one to always remember when we're talking about how to you understand the Bible. It tells us right here. Let's follow all the way through with what Paul is telling us.

1-Corinthians 2:1: "And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with superiority of speech or wisdom, in proclaiming the testimony of God to you. For I decided not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (vs 1-2).

Of course then, all the Word of God is wrapped up in that statement as well. Paul was coming to the Greeks in Corinth, and what did they have? *They had all of their false gods, all the occult holidays that they were observing at that time, and they worshiped the sun, etc.!* So, he was saying that he didn't come with anything other than the Truth of God.

Verse 3: "And I was in weakness and in fear and in much trembling *when* I was with you; and my message and my preaching *was* not in persuasive words of human wisdom; rather, *it was* in demonstration of *the* Spirit and of power; **so that your faith might not be in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God**" (vs 3-5).

Let's understand that statement a little bit more. Faith is ***'the substance of things and the belief of things not seen.'*** So, it has to be the faith of

God. What is the wisdom of men? *Philosophy!* What do we have in philosophy? *Philosophy is the pagan religion!*

Paul is showing here he's not mixing the two, but in the power of God. Remember, they did not have the Bible like we have today. We're really in a very tremendous and blessed situation today having the Word of God, all of it. We can study it, we can know it and we can look into it. We have Bible dictionaries, concordances, accurate copies of the original in Hebrew and in Greek; we can know the Word of God. This has only occurred in about the last 400 years when it began with Tyndale and is multiplied and come down to our time today. So it's quite a really great thing that we have all of this.

Verse 6: "Now we speak wisdom among the *spiritually* mature; however, *it is not the* wisdom of this world... [it's not the wisdom of the world or the wisdom of men] ...nor of the rulers of this world, who are coming to nothing. Rather, **we speak the wisdom of God** in a mystery..." (vs 6-7). As we started out, the Word of God to those who do not know and will not listen and will not obey is a mystery.

"...even the hidden *wisdom* that God foreordained before the ages unto our glory, [which then is in an encapsulation of the whole plan of God] ...which not one of the rulers of this world has known..." (vs 7-8).

'Remember what happened when Paul was talking to Festus? Festus said, 'You almost persuade me to become a Christian.' He was one of the leading rulers, the governor. Paul was under house arrest in Caesarea.

"...(for if they had known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory); but according as it is written, 'The eye has not seen... [go search, look, find whatever you want to] ...nor *the* ear heard... [even if you knew every language in the world] ...neither have entered into *the* heart of man *the* things which God has prepared for those who love Him.' [that's what all of this gets down to: ***loving God***] ...But God has revealed *them* to us by His Spirit..." (vs 8-10). So, these things are *spiritually* understood.

Jesus told the disciples, 'The words that I speak to you they are Spirit and they are Life.' So, when you read the Bible and you understand the Bible and it registers in the in your mind, *that is a spiritual operation that takes place!* When you have God's Spirit with you as you're coming to understand things before you're baptized then God's Spirit is leading you. But after you received the Spirit as a begetting of your mind with your spirit then you understand even more and grow in grace

and knowledge year after year; you can say day after day, week after week, and month and year, and so forth.

...for the Spirit searches all things—even the deep things of God" (v 10). God's Spirit, as we search the Scriptures, will help us to understand things that we have not understood before. We're going to see a couple of those today.

Verse 11: "For who among men understands the things of man except *by* the spirit of man, which *is* in him? In the same way also, the things of God no one understands except *by* the Spirit of God."

I wonder why none of those in the other so-called Christian churches don't understand these things? What is the answer? *They don't have the Spirit of God!* You can count on that for sure. Everyone who keeps Sunday knows which day is a seventh day of the week, because they keep the first day of the week.

Verse 12: "Now, we have not received the spirit of the world..." What is the spirit of the world? *Take all your pagan religions and put them in one category!* Then you take worldly Christianity and you have the spirit of the world: Sunday, communion, Eucharist and the occult holidays. *That is the spirit of the world!* If it's the spirit of the world then it comes from the 'prince of the power of the air' who was Satan the devil; he is the one who inspires and controls those things.

...but the Spirit that *is* of God, so that we might know the things graciously given to us by God" (v 12).

That's something! So, everything that we learn everything that we know of the Word of God everything that we understand out of the Word of God comes right back to the Spirit of God and the Truth of God. Are we willing to live by it? and obey it?

Verse 13: "Which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in *words* taught by *the* Holy Spirit *in order to* communicate spiritual things by spiritual *means*." How is that? *Search the Scriptures daily prove whether these things are so!*

Verse 14: "But *the* natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand *them* because **they are spiritually discerned**."

This is why there is such confusion concerning the Passover. Men want *their own way*. Even the Jews have *their own way*. We will cover some of those in a little bit.

If you haven't read *The Christian Passover*

book in a long time, read it again. That will take you step-by-step all the way through to show you all of the Truth concerning the Passover. Also, it will show you why all the traditions and teachings of men are wrong. Because it systematically takes every one of the allegations that the Jews have that the Christians have that others have to try and debunk keeping the Passover. We'll project forward just little bit here. The night before Jesus was crucified he kept The Passover. He did not keep some extra meal that was in addition to the Passover.

Now let's come back and continue where we left off in part two, and that is concerning Abraham and the promise given to him (Gen. 15). I want to cover something so we can keep this in mind as we move forward and come to Exo. 12 to compare something.

Genesis 15:13: "And He said to Abram, 'You must surely know that your seed shall be sojourners in a land *that is* not theirs (and shall serve them *and they shall* afflict them) four hundred years."

Now notice the parenthetical statement. Let's jump ahead of the parenthetical statement because unfortunately the way it is in the *King James* makes it look like that they would be in the land of Egypt for 400 years and be afflicted. But that's not the sense of it in the Hebrew.

"... and your seed shall be sojourners in a land *that is* not theirs...four hundred years" and they shall serve and afflict them.

"...your seed shall be sojourners in a land *that is* not theirs (and shall serve them *and they shall* afflict them) four hundred years. And also I will judge that nation whom they shall serve. And afterward they shall come out with great substance" (vs 13-14).

Exodus 12:40: "Now, the sojourning of the children of Israel in Egypt *was* four hundred and thirty years."

- How do we get 430 years when God said it would be 400 years?
- What is the difference?
- How do we account for the 30 years?

Today we're going to find out how to account for it. We will see some other things that we have not covered have not understood in the book of Genesis though it has been there all the time. It's kind of like the sermon I gave *It's been Under Our Nose All the Time*. Here's another one of those things. We will see how we understand the difference in the 400 years and 430 years?

Verse 41: "And it came to pass at the end of

the four hundred and thirty years, it was even on that very same day, all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. *It is* a night to be much observed to the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt. This *is* that night of the LORD to be observed by all the children of Israel in their generations" (vs 41-42).

Are we to keep the night much to be observed? *Yes!* That's what it says. We will see how we are to keep it.

Now let's look at a couple of things that will help us to understand the difference between the 400 years and the 430 years. Because when you read this back here in Gen. 15 you assume that the 400 years begins right that night. But that's not true.

Genesis 15:13: And He said to Abram, 'You must surely know that your seed shall be sojourners in a land *that is* not theirs...**four hundred years**.'

It couldn't start right then. Why? Why could it not start that night? This is the very night that was the beginning of the 15th that they came out of the land of Egypt. Why couldn't it not start that very night? *Isaac was not born, yet!*

So obvious you miss it! Have you ever seen these pictures that they give you, two or three pictures, and ask how are these pictures different? You look at them and the first two or three times and you see that they're the same. What's different? Then you begin looking and examining.

I remember I saw one where some people coming off an airplane and they had a crowd there. What happened was they change the clothes of different people, they took the ring the paint off the front of the jet engine, they had someone who was standing in one place and was moved over to another place. There were about seven or eight things that were different, and when you first look at it you say how can that be different? After you know what the difference is you say, 'How did I miss it?'

This is what were going to find here; we will understand the 30 years.

Genesis 16:3—the parenthetical statement: "... (after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan)." Abram left when God told them to leave, when he was 75-years-old. Gen. 15 took place when he was 85-years-old. {note 85}

Gen. 17:1 was when God appeared to Abram, when he was 99-years old. So, that's 14 years. When Isaac was born, that was another year, so that's **15 years** until Isaac was born. That's **15 of the 30 years**. Gen. 17 is part of the covenant.

Genesis 17:1: "And when Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram

and said to him, 'I *am* the Almighty God! Walk before Me and be perfect. And I will make My covenant between Me and you, and will multiply you exceedingly'" (vs 1-2).

So, the promises were given *first*. The covenant sacrifice of those animals that were devoured by the smoking furnace and the lamp passing through them showed that God walk through the between the parts of those animals was God's commitment to the covenant. Here we come along 14 years later and he is adding more to the promises. Remember what was the original promise. That he would have a seed from his own loins it was going to be:

1. Isaac—physical seed
2. they would be as the stars of heaven—spiritual seed

There are two promises contained.

Isaac: physical promise of physical seed

Verse 3: "And Abram fell on his face. And God talked with him, saying, 'As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations. Neither shall your name any more be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you a father of many nations'" (vs 3-5).

Yet, Isaac was not even conceived, so it's important to realize that many times ***God talks of things that are not as though they already are! If God says He's going to do it, it is as good as done!***

Verse 6: "And I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you."

This shows clearly that of the twelve sons of Jacob—whose name was changed to Israel—the Jews were only one tribe. Are they many nations today? *No!* There's one little, tiny nation in Palestine and all the rest are scattered and they don't have nations. So, this refers to the twelve tribes of which we know about Ephraim and Manasseh and the end-time ten tribes of Israel.

Verse 7: "And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you and you seed..."

Now that's important to remember. Because the covenant is not established until "...between Me and you and your seed..." It cannot be fully established until Isaac has been born and some years after that.

"...after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your seed after you. And I will give the land to you in

which you are a sojourner, and to your seed after you, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession. And I will be their God.' And God said to Abraham, 'And you shall keep My covenant, you and your seed after you in their generations'" (vs 7-9).

So, here's the sign of the covenant. Remember, there always has to be a covenantal sacrifice. That's important to understand. So, here is the covenantal sacrifice: *circumcision*. God gave the covenantal sacrifice by walking between those animal parts and they were consumed. Now here comes the part of the *physical circumcision*, which is the *human token* of agreeing with the covenant, where there's circumcision blood is shed.

Verse 10: "This is My covenant, which you shall keep, between Me and you and your seed after you. Every male child among you shall be circumcised. And you shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin.... [at 99-years-old that was a difficult thing I'm sure] ...And it shall be a sign of the covenant between Me and you. And a son of eight days shall be circumcised among you, every male child in your generations; he that is born in the house, or bought with silver of any foreigner who is not of your seed. He that is born in your house, and he that is bought with your silver, must be circumcised. And My covenant shall be in your flesh for an everlasting covenant.... [for the physical seed] ...And the uncircumcised male child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people—for he has broken My covenant.' And God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but her name *shall be* Sarah. And I will bless her, and give you a son also of her. Yes, I will bless her, and she shall be *a mother* of nations—kings of people shall be from her'" (vs 10-16).

This obviously is talking about going down in time with the multitude of people. Just think of it. All the population of the world today that we see wherever they are came from *Shem, Ham and Japheth, the three sons of Noah!* From six people came all the people of the world. Likewise here with the people that God was going to deal with this goes down in time generation after generation after generation. This is quite a promise. He hasn't even had Isaac born yet, and God has promised all these things to him.

You've got to have faith to believe it. That's why you have to believe what God says though you may never see the actual substance of it. But if you believe God, *know* that it will happen. And I've often thought I wonder what Abraham is going to think when he's resurrected? He's standing there on the Sea of Glass with all the spiritual seed. There's

Isaac and there's Jacob and you know all of those will be there.

And God says to Abraham, 'These are your spiritual children. Come on over here to the Sea of Glass I want you to look down on the earth. You see all these Arab nations over here. Currently they're fighting against us but they will have salvation most of them in what is going to be the second resurrection. But these are also your children. I want you to look over here geographically little way away and you have all the descendents of those who came from your second wife Keturah. All of these are your children. Abraham I fulfilled my promise to you. And it's going to continue all during the Millennium.'

And just like he fell on his face here and worship God he's not going to laugh this time.

Verse 17: "And Abraham fell upon his face and laughed, and said in his heart, 'Shall *a child* be born to him that is a hundred years old? And shall Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear?' And Abraham said to God, 'Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!' And God said, 'Sarah your wife shall bear you a son indeed. And you shall call his name Isaac. And I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him'" (vs 17-19).

Verse 7: "And I will establish My covenant between Me and you and your seed after you in their generations for an everlasting covenant..."—he repeated over here.

Verse 19: "And God said, 'Sarah your wife shall bear you a son indeed. And you shall call his name Isaac. And I will establish My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.'"

Well here's a little bit hard-headedness on Abraham's part, but God said, 'Okay.'

Verse 20: "And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget twelve princes, and I will make him a great nation." They have most of the oil in the world though they live in the desert place.

Verse 21: "But I will establish My covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time in the next year."

Then the circumcision party took place and all of that was taken care of. Now one year passes and Isaac is born.

Genesis 21:1: "And the LORD visited Sarah as He had said. And the LORD did to Sarah as He had spoken, for Sarah conceived and bore Abraham

a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had spoken to him. And Abraham called the name of his son that was born to him (whom Sarah bore to him) Isaac. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac, when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. And Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him" (vs 1-5).

So, we have age 75, then 10 years before Gen. 15—85-years-old. Then we have from 85 to 100 is 15 years. Though we do not have the other 15 years specifically spelled out, we can figure them from what takes place in Gen. 22. We can also give an accurate assessment of Isaac's age when this took place. Gen. 22 becomes a very important chapter.

(go to the next track)

Genesis 22:1: "And it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, 'Abraham!' And he said, 'Here I am.' And He said, 'Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love..." (vs 1-2).

Now we're going to see parallels concerning the Passover here. Even though we have the days that are listed here we can come up with four days and maybe that's sufficient, but I've gone back and forth on this several times. Just as I have on how old was Isaac at this point. We're going to see it doesn't tell us anything about his age here, but from the event we will be able to deduce what his actual age was. Then we will close the gap on the difference between the 400 and the 430 years.

Verse 2: "And He said, 'Take now your son, your only *son* Isaac, whom you love, and go into the land of Moriah, and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains, which I will tell you.' And Abraham rose up early in the morning..." (vs 2-3).

This is one day he told him to do it. The next day then begins another three-day count, which gives us a total of four days.

Verse 3: "And Abraham rose up early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two *of* his young men with him..."

Isn't that interesting? When Jesus was crucified there were two also with Him. One on one side, one on the other. But this is not exactly similar, but the numbers are interesting [speculation].

"...and Isaac his son. And he split the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up and went to the place of which God had told him. Then on the third day..." (vs 3-4).

So, we're dealing with four days here, however it falls. Nevertheless, we still have a type of the Passover in this situation. It would be more than likely that it did occur on what was the Passover

Day as we see the events that took place.

Verse 5: “And Abraham said to his young men, ‘You stay here with the donkey, and I and the boy will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.’” As a boy, this means that he was less than 20-years-old.

Verse 6: “And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it upon Isaac his son....” Which is a type of Jesus carrying His own cross. And remember, Jesus was also the Firstborn. And Jesus was the Son of promise as Isaac was the son of promise (Gal. 4) in part two.

“...And he took the fire *pot* in his hand, and a knife. And they both went together. And Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, ‘My father.’ And he said, ‘Here I *am*, my son.’ And he said, ‘Behold the fire and the wood.... [I can see that] ...But where is the lamb for a burnt offering?’” (vs 6-7).

This shows the faith that Abraham developed and grew into from the time that God first called him out of Haran to come into the land of Canaan.

Verse 8: “And Abraham said, ‘My son, God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering.’ So, they both went on together. And they came to the place of which God had told him. And Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. And he bound his son Isaac and laid him on the wood, upon the altar” (vs 8-9).

How ever long this took place, we don’t know the time of the day that all of these things took place. We would have to assume that on the third day when he saw the place it was quite a ways off, but it had to be sometime in the morning. They were able to get there sometime that day. We know when Jesus died: at the 9th hour, which is about three o’clock. We can’t read that directly into this part here but it would follow along that it was very close to that time when you consider all the factors involved.

After Abraham laid Isaac on the altar... I imagine Isaac had to have faith, too, to let Abraham bind him. I don’t know how much he bound him. I don’t know if he just bound his hands and feet. Or if he wrapped rope around his whole body and laid him up there, we don’t know that. But he had to have faith to let his father do that and then place him on the altar with the wood, and to know, momentarily, something’s going to happen.

Verse 10: “And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.” So, right to the last minute.

Why did Abraham do this? Because we find that it is said that Abraham was willing to do this because in a figure he received him from the dead (Heb. 11). That is from his dead body and the deadness of Sarah’s womb. So, if God could perform that miracle, if he did happen to offer him and cut his throat—and he would bleed to death—God would bring Isaac back to life, because He’s able to raise him from the dead.

That shows that Abraham—from Heb. 11—had a pretty good understanding of God’s plan and what He would do, and there would be a resurrection. Abraham also understood, because of Heb. 11, about the city that was going to come from God. So, God taught Abraham about New Jerusalem, which was coming. Many of the things that we read here—we do not have all the information—that God told Abraham is condensed down in a summary fashion. Only the things that are necessary for us God has given. So we can pick these up from the New Testament and understand these things.

Now think about the poor Jews today who reject the New Testament and when they read this without the knowledge of the New Testament they are wondering: Why on earth would God do this? Now notice what happened. Sometimes God takes us right up to the point to see do we really believe God obey God and are willing to do so under all circumstances regardless of how dire they may look to us at any given time. This look pretty dire both to Abraham and to Isaac.

Stop and think for a minute! I wonder how many times that Abraham and Sarah told Isaac how he was born? And what God had promised them? When Isaac got to a certain age he could look around and see other children there that were being born in the Abraham’s entourage, because he had servants and they were born in his household and so forth. Isaac could see that all the mothers were young.

But Sarah was old! And Abraham was old! So, I imagine he rehearsed this to Isaac many times. ‘Your mom was 90 when you were born; that’s a miracle! And I was 100.’ So all of this in the backdrop. Now we also have the type of Christ as the firstborn: Isaac was the firstborn. Abraham is a type of God the Father being very old. At this point we will see we will get the exact age here in just a minute. But we know Abraham was over 100 plus the age of Isaac.

Verse 11: “And the angel of the LORD called to him from the heavens and said, ‘Abraham! Abraham!’ And he said, ‘Here I *am*.’.... [I can imagine it was just like that, too] ...And He said, ‘Do not lay your hand upon the lad...’” (vs 11-12).

So up he's called *the boy* in v 5, and he's called *the lad* in v 12.

"...nor do anything to him, **for now I know that you fear God...**" (v 12). I want you to keep that statement in mind, and we will calculate in just a little bit the complete number of years that it was in until God said

"...for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me" (v 12).

John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish, but may have everlasting life."

So these are all the elements that we have in Gen 22, and these are important because it then establishes the covenant that God gave to Abraham that he could pass on to Isaac at this point. So this is very important and since one was a *covenantal sacrifice* on the Passover Day. This is a covenantal sacrifice even though we may not be able to calculate or figure the exact day it is undoubtedly at the Passover Day that this occurred. Because this is a covenantal sacrifice as we will see here in this little bit.

Genesis 22:13: "And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind *him* a ram was entangled in a thicket by its horns...."

- How did it get there?
- Did it just walk up there

or

- Did God create it?

I'm sure as they were walking up to go to the place for the sacrifice that they were looking around. I'm sure Isaac was looking around. Where's the Lamb? I'm sure he had his eyeballs peeled everywhere looking for a Lamb. So could it be that God just instantly created a ram a special sacrifice for this special covenant sacrifice that we are seeing here.

"...And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. And Abraham called the name of that place The LORD Will Provide; so that it is said *until* this day, 'In the mount of the LORD it will be provided'" (vs 13-14).

- Did Isaac remember where this place was all during his life? *Yes!*

This shows us that "...until this day..."

- Which day?
- Who wrote this?
- Is this Moses that wrote "...until this day..."? *Yes!*

- Did they know where the place was? *Yes!*

Otherwise they wouldn't say "...until this day, 'In the mount of the LORD it will be provided'" (v 14). So, when we read through here we miss a lot of things, because we don't stop and think about it. And sometimes we read through and we wonder:

- What does this mean?
- Why is this here?
- Is this the same place where Jesus was crucified?
- Is this one of the mountains of Moriah that later became known as the Mount of Olives?

That's where Jesus was crucified! It could very well be.

- Was Christ the sacrifice provided for the sin of the whole world?
- Did not John the Baptist say, 'Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world'?
- *Yes!*

So look at the type that we have here.

When the promises were given that was a *covenantal sacrifice* on God's part, which happened on the 14th day of the 1st month. In this case we have Abraham who was a type of God the Father. Isaac who was a type of Christ and was the firstborn of Sarah. Then we have all of a sudden God intervening to provide a substitute sacrifice in place of Isaac. This is New Testament doctrine from this way: the death of Christ Who is the Lamb of God is the *substitute sacrifice* for our sins. The wages of our sins is death.

Let's understand that this is a *covenant sacrifice* and let's see where it is. And this is a confirmation and a final establishment of the covenant that God promised Abraham and now it comes to a point of being irrevocable and irreversible because He said, "**Now I know that you fear God.**"

Verse 15: "And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham out of heaven the second time, and said, 'By Myself have I sworn,' says the LORD..." Let's stop and think about this for minute:

- Is God true? *Yes!*
- Is every word that He says always true? *Yes!*
- Does God need to swear? *No!*

But when he swears by Himself, He is basing this covenant and these promises on His existence. Meaning that they are going to be fulfilled because

God exists. He has said He will do it. This is very powerful when we go through it.

“...‘By Myself have I sworn,’ says the LORD, ‘because you have done this thing...’” (v 16).

- Do our works and faith count? *Yes!*
- What does it say? *We’re going to be rewarded according to our works!*
- Isn’t that true? *Yes!*

See how much we have wrapped up here in this chapter.

“...‘because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son; that in blessing I will bless you... [it’s irrevocable, irreversible] ...and in multiplying I will multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens...’” (vs 16-17).

The *spiritual promise* of *spiritual seed*. But what must you have first before you have a spiritual seed? *You must first have physical seed!* That ties in with what Paul wrote. The spiritual was not first, but the physical. The first man Adam was of the earth, earthy. The second Adam was the Lord from heaven. Your seed, like the stars of heaven, though at times it is applied to the children of Israel. But there’s also the *spiritual* Israel of God that you have to remember which is the Church and those who will be in the first resurrection.

“...and as the sand, which is upon the seashore. And your seed shall possess the gate of his enemies. And in your seed... [Isaac and Christ] ...shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, **because you have obeyed My voice**” (vs 17-18).

Now then, let’s answer the question how old was Isaac when this took place? Well, if we have Abraham at 85 plus 15, we have 15 years added to the 400. We know that it was exactly 430 years to the very same day. Then Isaac had to be 15-years-old when this took place. That is how we count the 430 years.

Before we go back to Gen. 15, let’s add up some other numbers that are very interesting concerning all of these events that we have basically covered. We know that Abram was:

- 75-years-old when God called him
- 85-years-old when the covenant was made (Gen. 15)
- 100-years-old when Isaac was born
- 115-years-old when God asked him to offer Isaac as a burnt offering

If we take all the years and add them together:

- 10 years

- 15 years
- 15 years

we come up with a total of—40 years—the number of *trial and testing* that we find in the Bible

- Moses was 40 years tending sheep before God called him to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt.
- Jesus was tested 40 days and 40 nights by Satan the devil

There are other examples of 40 years in different and varying ways. But 40 is significant because from the time that God called Abraham in Gen. 12 until the final confirmation of the covenant in Gen. 22 was 40 years.

This covenant sacrifice becomes the important thing. From this time forward there are 400 years left to ‘the very same day.’ So, we’ve got to have the Passover and Unleavened Bread involved in all three of these operations.

Genesis 15:13: “And He said to Abram, ‘You must surely know that your seed shall be sojourners in a land *that is* not theirs...four hundred years.’”

That 400 years begins to be calculated 30 years after he made this statement; 15 years until the birth of Isaac and 15 years until Isaac was offered as the sacrifice.

- Was Isaac sojourning in the land as a stranger? *Yes!*
- What happened to his son Jacob? *Jacob went off over to Syria!*
- Is that a land that was not his?

He stayed there with Laban and ended up with two wives. One he bargained for the other one he didn’t.

- How long did it take him to come back to the land of Canaan?
- When he came back to the land of Canaan did he have possession of the land? *No!*
- How long did they wander there in the ‘promise land’?

Then you have the incident which then happened where then the brothers hated Joseph because of his dream and because of the of the tunic. Not a coat of many colors, a tunic. And a tunic is a sign given by the father of the one who’s going to be the leader and the inheritor. Remember that Joseph was when that started only seventeen. And you know the ‘great love’ that the brothers had for him! Of course, they hated him, and they feigned his death. And poor old Jacob he was all those years suffering because of the shenanigans and the carnality of the brothers.

But it was all in God’s plan. What happened

then? When the famine hit, you know the rest of the story there, they eventually came down into Egypt and they eventually found out that the one who was second in charge of Egypt was none other than their younger brother Joseph. What happened according to the dreams that Joseph told his brothers? He said, 'I was out there and there was the sun and the moon and I was there and all of these sheaves of grain bowed down to worship me.'

- What happened?
- What did they go to Egypt to receive? *Grain!*
- Where does that come from? *Sheaves!*
- What was the whole episode over? *Bags of grain!*

When they came back the second time to get more grain and after they had gone through all the shenanigans they bowed down to worship him as lord. So, God makes everything happen and come out according to his time and his purpose.

Exodus 12-13 & Deuteronomy 16—Passover Offering vs Passover Sacrifice:

We will spend the rest of the time answering some questions concerning Exo. 12-13 and Deut. 16. It will be a little different than what I have written in *The Christian Passover* book, which has been broken down in great detail. Let's come back to the chapter of the Passover in Exo. 12 so we can look at some of the instructions and that will help prepare us for looking at the things in Deut. 16. Because I want to read something that I will refer to when we get to Deut. 16.

Exodus 12:8: "And they shall eat the flesh in that night, **roasted with fire**, and **unleavened bread**. They shall eat it with *bitter* herbs. **Do not eat of it raw...** [this is the Passover lamb that they sacrificed] **...nor boiled at all with water...**" (vs 8-9).

I want to emphasize that very clearly and importantly. Because this helps us understand the mistranslation that is in the *King James Version* of the Bible which has led so many people astray.

"...nor boiled at all with water, but roasted *with* fire, its head with its legs, and with its inward parts" (v 9)—which has to do with the heart and liver and the kidneys.

We already covered vs 41-42, the end of 430 years it is a night. So, they left when the sun was going down and going into the 15th day, just like we find the parallel in Gen. 15.

Now let's come to Exo. 13 and let's see something concerning the first day of the Feast of

Unleavened Bread, because the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread begins with The Night Much to be Observed. Now the chapter break in the *King James* should actually be broken right here, Exo. 13, So, I start out with:

Exodus 12:51: "And it came to pass the very same day, *when* the LORD brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies..."

Exodus 13:1: "...then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 'Sanctify all the firstborn to Me, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, of man and of beast. It *is* Mine.'.... [now concerning the sacrifice for the firstborn]: ...And Moses said to the people, 'Remember this day *in* which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for the LORD brought you out from this place by the strength of His hand. There shall be no leavened bread eaten. On this day... [15th day] ...you are going out, in the month Abib'" (vs 1-4).

When we talk about a day it does not necessarily mean the day portion of the day. Mark 14:30 is where Jesus told Peter—so we see how Jesus spoke of the day and the night—that he would betray Him three times.

Mark 14:30: "And Jesus said to him, 'Truly I say to you, today, in this *very* night... [when he uses the term today it applies to that night] ...before *the* cock crows twice, you shall deny Me three times.'"

We have to understand that sometimes when God says *today* it can also mean beginning with that very night. That's what we're talking about here

Exodus 13:4: "On this day..."—which is The Night to be Much Observed, because it says:

Exodus 12:41: "And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, it was even on that very same day... [the same time of the day as Gen. 15] ...all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. It *is* **a night to be much observed** to the LORD..." (vs 41-42). So, we have day/night referring to the day beginning at night. When it says over here:

Exodus 13:3: "...Remember this day..." That does not mean it's in the day portion of the day, but right at the beginning of the night.

Verse 10: "You shall, therefore, keep this law in its season from year to year. And it shall be, when the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as He swore to you and to your fathers, and shall give it to you, you shall set apart to the LORD all that opens the womb, and every firstborn that comes of any animal which you have; the males *shall be* the LORD'S" (vs 10-12).

Someone's going to ask 'What if it's a female? *The female's still firstborn!* Then that was to be used for the offerings for the Feasts. This becomes important when we come to Deut. 16. As well as the substitutionary sacrifice for the male children and the male animals that they would bring. So, you have a combination of both male and female.

Males belong to the Lord so it was given wholly to the priest. And the priest would have it, they would own it they and their families with eat it and they would not eat of that sacrificed because that went to the Lord. The females they would take to the feast and they would offer and they would eat it.

"...the males *shall be* the LORD'S. And every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb.... [you had that sacrifice, too] ...And if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck.... [Do you want the donkey or not? Yes!] ...And all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. And it shall be when your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What does this *mean?*' you shall say to him, 'The LORD brought us out of Egypt by the strength of *His* hand, from the house of bondage. And it came to pass when Pharaoh would hardly let us go, the LORD killed all the firstborn of the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man, and the firstborn of animals. Therefore, I sacrifice to the LORD all that opens the womb, that are males. But all the firstborn of my sons I redeem'" (vs 12-15).

This was to be specially commemorated on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And what begins the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread? *The Night to be Much Observed!* Now let's come to Deut. 16. It's important that you read it in the Passover book because we have all the parallel chapters put there that you can read together so you can understand it.

Deuteronomy 16:1: "Keep the month of Abib, and observe the Passover to the LORD your God.... [Passover is one thing, we'll clarify something else here as we go along] ...For in the month of Abib, the LORD your God brought you forth out of Egypt by night."

What night was that? *The night after the Passover!* The Passover pictured what the passing over. The Night to be Much Observed, beginning the Feast of Unleavened Bread, is the night that they left Egypt. Two different events. One on one night, one on the other night.

Verse 2: "And you shall, therefore, sacrifice the **Passover Offering**..."

Now this is where the confusion comes. And there is a difference in the Hebrew. The **Passover**

Sacrifice was the Lamb or the kid goat. In the Hebrew the **Passover Sacrifice** was the Lamb to be eaten with the Passover meal. The **Passover Offering** that we are going to come to here are those offerings that were prepared and offered late on the Passover Day to begin observing The Night to be Much Observed. And you need to read in the Passover book where it was later that the whole Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread was called Passover. But let's read it carefully here now.

Verse 2: "And you shall, therefore, sacrifice the **Passover Offering** to the LORD your God, of the **flock** and the **herd**..."

Now the **Passover Sacrifice** was only to be taken from the flock not from the herd. Jesus was not called by John the Baptist, 'Behold the Passover Lamb of God'—not calf!

When I was really studying this through and coming to understand this the first time I was reading late at night in bed. I read that and because I was going over and over this because the Church was beginning to accept the Jewish tradition that the Passover and first day of Unleavened Bread were the same. And I said, 'Here it is!' Here's the temple sacrifice. They offer at the temple. Now no longer at home. I thought how can that be? And when I read this of **the flock and of the herd** I jumped out of bed and I said that's it. Because it specifically says in Exodus 12 you to take it from **the flock**. What you mean the herd?

So, this is not the **Passover Sacrifice**; this is the **Passover Offering** that was offered late on the Passover Day at the temple in preparation for The Night to be Much Observed. Now let's see how that fits. And let's also see something else that distinguishes this.

"...of the flock and the herd, in the place, which the LORD shall choose to place His name there" (v 2). That's at the tabernacle or the temple. The Passover Sacrifice was a domestic home sacrifice. Now we'll get into that next time about the Passover in the New Testament.

Verse 3: "You shall eat no leavened bread with it. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread with it..."

Unleavened bread was to be only eaten one day on the Passover Day. That's an unleavened bread day. Now here are seven days you're to eat it. That is the sacrifices, which began on the day portion of the Passover, but what were these sacrifices for? *The firstborn male female redemption of unclean animals!* Redemption of your own male sons. So, they had many sacrifices. This was a tremendous thing that they were doing.

“...Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread with it, the bread of affliction, for you came forth out of the land of Egypt in haste, so that you may remember the day that you came forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of your life” (v 3).

That tells us this is the Feast of Unleavened Bread The Night to be Much Observed begins it, and it is not the Passover night because the Passover night the ceremony was that this is done because of the Lord passing over our houses.

Verse 4: “And there shall be no leaven seen with you in all your borders for seven days. Nor shall *any* of the flesh, which you sacrificed in the first day at sunset...”

Those special sacrifices for The Night to be Much Observed remain all night until morning. Because all of those sacrifices were peace offerings. All peace offerings you were not leave anything left over until morning. That’s the same thing that applies to the *Passover Sacrifice*. So, this looks very similar then. But that’s the difference and the distinction between it.

Verse 5: “You may not sacrifice the Passover Offering... [for the redemption of the firstborn] ... within any of your gates, which the LORD your God gives you.”

Whereas the 14th Passover was to be kept in your home. Now, we’ll see something else a little later concerning that.

Verse 6: “But at the place which the LORD your God shall choose to place His name in, there you shall sacrifice the Passover Offering at sunset, at the going *down* of the sun, at the time that you came out of Egypt.”

Verse 7 is another key verse that shows this could not be the Passover Sacrifice as instructed in Exo. 12.

Verse 7: “And you shall boil and eat *it* in the place which the LORD your God shall choose....” What was said of the *Passover Sacrifice*?

- you are not to boil it all with water
- it’s to be of the flock a kid of the goats or the lambs

and we have here *the herd and boiling*. These are the redemption sacrifices for the firstborn to begin The Night to be Much Observed.

Verse 7: “And you shall boil and eat *it* in the place which the LORD your God shall choose. And in the morning you shall turn and go to your tents. Six days you shall eat unleavened bread....” (vs 7-8).

Right there that defines that in the morning. They stayed up all night. Can you imagine what kind of feast they had all night.

- all that flesh
- all that bread
- everybody there
- all the wine
- they were eating
- they were drinking
- they were rejoicing

Because they had been brought out of the land of Egypt, and when morning came they were to go to their tents and sleep for a good portion of the day. I don’t know how many had hangovers depending on how much they drank.

But you see that it says suddenly six days. It’s the only place in the whole Bible where it says six days. When you have one day of seven days of Unleavened Bread already used up how many do you have left? *Six!*

“...And on the seventh day *shall be* a solemn assembly to the LORD your God. You shall do no work” (v 8).

When you understand this properly this solves the problem of the difficulties between the 14th and 15th Passover.

We have solved the problem where the 30 years came from: 15 years between the promises given and the birth of Isaac, and 15 years in the birth of Isaac to the sacrifice of Isaac—that’s the 30 years.

Then we have here Deut. 16: the *Passover Offerings* of the flock and herd have to do with the redemption of the firstborn. And the *Passover Sacrifice* of the Lamb has to do with the 14th Passover.

All of the years of confusion back and forth and arguing because of poor translation and wrong understanding.

Scriptural References:

- 1) John 3:18-21
- 2) 1 Corinthians 2:1-14
- 3) Genesis 15:13-14
- 4) Exodus 12:40-42
- 5) Genesis 15:13
- 6) Genesis 16:3
- 7) Genesis 17:1-19, 7, 19-21
- 8) Genesis 21:1-5
- 9) Genesis 22:1-12
- 10) John 3:16
- 11) Genesis 22:13-18

- 12) Genesis 15:13
- 13) Exodus 12:8--4
- 14) Mark 14:30
- 15) Exodus 13:4
- 16) Exodus 12:41-42
- 17) Exodus 13:3, 10-15
- 18) Deuteronomy 16:1-8

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Leviticus 23
- Galatians 4
- Hebrews 11

Also referenced: Books by Fred R. Coulter
(**truthofgod.org**):

- *The Christian Passover*
- *The Day Jesus the Christ Died*
- *A Harmony of the Gospels*
- *God's Plan for Mankind Revealed by the Sabbath and Holy Days*
- *Occult Holidays or God's Holy Days—Which?*

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The Three Most Important Days IV Covenant of Eternal Life

Fred R. Coulter

The first important day is the Sabbath, which in our discussion this afternoon I was reminded it is called a *Feast day* by God (Lev. 23:1). You have the:

- Sabbath
- Passover
- Holy Days

in the world you have the big three:

- Sunday
- Lord's Supper, Communion/Eucharist
- the holidays of this world

So, you have the three most important of the *truths*, and you have the three most important of the *counterfeits*. When you have the counterfeits, you cannot understand the Truth. That's why they use portions of the Bible, but they don't understand the Bible. How can you when the first thing they tell us is that the Law has been done away?

This afternoon I want to talk about the *Passover Covenant for Eternal Life*. First of all, let's understand what a covenant is. I will expand upon this a little later as we are going along.

Let's begin by discussing the difference between a will/testament and a covenant. How many here have wills? *Better have one before the day sneaks up on you!* If you have any assets at all, it would be wise to have a family trust so it doesn't have to go through probate and you can have a successor automatically take over. A *will* is something you sit down and you write out. It comes into effect when you die. A *will* you can change at any time you desire. Just sit down and you can change the whole thing. You can change the benefits and the beneficiaries and all of that.

I am going to teach you one Greek word 'diatheke'—it means *covenant*. The *King James* translates that word *testament* and, especially incorrectly, translated in Heb. 9 they confuse a *covenant* with a *testament*. God deals in covenants and once a covenant has been made it is binding; also, covenants require sacrifice. The way God starts out covenants is He gives you a general view. {note sermon series: *The Covenants in the Bible*}

Let's see how God deals with Abraham. The first thing God does is give an overview of what He is going to do. In giving an overview He wants to see what are you going to do before He commits to the covenant directly.

Genesis 12:1: "And the LORD said to Abram, 'Get out of your country, and from your kindred, and from your father's house into a land that I will show you.'"

We are going to see one of the most essential things in a covenant, and any relationship with God is to ***obey His voice***. Today we are not like Abram where God was talking directly with him, but we have the voice of God recorded for us here in the Bible and you can look at the Bible this way: if God would come down and talk to you today this is what He would say. That's why Christ came in the flesh. So, this is very general, but also we are going to see this is New Testamental or New Covenantal, as well.

What are we to do when we come to Christ? *We are to love God more than father, mother, brother, sister, children, lands or your own life* and that's important. That's the first thing you need to start obeying. So this is what Abraham had to do. Now notice the next verse, which again is very general.

Verse 2: "And I will make of you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great and you shall be a blessing."

When you understand the Bible, this verse is continually being fulfilled. There is a physical fulfillment and there is a *spiritual* fulfillment and will be fulfilled at the resurrection, plus all during the Millennium and the second resurrection, as well. This one verse tells us an overview, but all the details of it are carried out in the rest of the Bible. Like they say of a contract, 'the devils are in the details.' In a covenant the blessings are in the details.' So, God gives the overview of the structure of it first.

Notice what He says in v 3: "And I will bless those that bless you and I curse the one who curses you. And in you shall ***all*** the families of the earth be blessed." That means every single one. That is ***all human beings on earth***. Remember, as we are going through this, that there is the physical and there is the spiritual.

Verse 4: "Then Abram departed, even as the LORD had spoken to him..."

Gen. 15 is ten years later, and we find where God then expands the knowledge and understanding of the covenant; gives a greater overview than what He gave in Gen. 12. This becomes the key in understanding *the covenant for eternal life*, as well

understanding all covenants. All covenants must be ratified by a sacrifice before it is binding; otherwise it is tentative. It is completely the opposite of a will. When a covenant is made *it must be ratified by sacrifice*. We will see how that applies in the New Testament as well and to us personally.

So here in Gen. 15 is the proto-Passover because this had to be on the 14th day of the 1st month and the 15th day of the first month that this two-day period took place.

The Passover in Exodus is *not* the first Passover in the Bible. That is the first Passover for the children of Israel. This proto-Passover with Abraham was a covenant with a sacrifice. It was unilateral inasmuch as that all the requirements to fulfill this rested upon the Word of God alone so in order to make that covenant He had to give a signification of His death by the sacrifice of the animals. We will see later on when we come to the death of Christ, which also occurred on the Passover, it applied to Him literally as God in the flesh.

We'll just review it here. After God told Abraham that Eliezer, his servant, would not be the heir:

Genesis 15:4: "And behold, the Word of the LORD *came* to him saying, 'This man shall not be your heir; but he that shall come forth out of your own loins shall be your heir.'"

All of you who are close to the 80s think about the impossibility of this. When God does something it is going to be permanent. God does it in such a way that He uses the impossible to accomplish it. That's why Isaac was not born until Abraham was 100-years-old and Sarah was 90. Likewise with John the Baptist's father; Zacharias and his wife who were well into their 70s. Then you have the virgin Mary, she was probably just right at 20. In each case, in these covenants God does the impossible and ratifies it; that He will do it.

We find it all right here in Genesis 15:5: "And He brought him outside and said, 'Look now toward the heavens and number the stars—if you are able to count them.' And He said to him, 'So shall your seed be.'" So we have two promises given here:

1. promise of physical seed, Isaac
 2. promise as the stars of heaven, but they're still his seed
- What did Jesus say of the righteous at the resurrection? *They 'shall shine as the sun in the kingdom of My Father.'*
 - What was Daniel told by Michael the angel? *That those who turn many to righteousness 'shall shine as the stars of heaven.'*

All of those reflect back here to v 5. The stars of heaven are the spiritual seed, which includes all those who receive the Spirit of God and are called to the first resurrection to eternal life. But you have to have the physical seed first, because God uses human beings; He doesn't use anything else. We are made in His image for the very purpose that we can enter into His Family as spirit beings and live forever. All this is wrapped up here in these two verses and we will see all the other details from the Bible spring from this.

Therefore, with this beginning of the unilateral covenant with God there must be a sacrifice, and the sacrifice is such that Abraham did not participate in this covenantal walk that was accomplished after he sacrificed the animals.

Verse 6: "And he believed in the LORD..." Here there is no work for him to do like it was when he had to take Isaac and offer him.

So, it was accounted to him for righteousness because he believed God. If God said it, it will happen. If God is Truth, His Word cannot change, and *when God speaks something it is as good as done even though it has not yet transpired*. Never forget that. That is a very important thing to understand when you are relying on the promises of God. His promises are given in the way that He intends them to come, not in the way that we think they should come.

Verse 7: "And He said to him, 'I *am* the LORD that brought you out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give you this land to inherit it.' And he said, 'Lord GOD, by what shall I know that I shall inherit it?'" (vs 7-8). *Because he knew this was a covenant.*

Now then we have a very unusual covenant. We do not have another sacrifice exactly like this in the entirety of the Bible.

Verse 9: "And He said to him, 'Take Me a heifer of three years old, and a she-goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon.' And he took all these to himself, and divided them in the middle..." (vs 9-10). Cut right in two, right down the spine.

He probably slit the throat, laid them on the ground, grabbed one of the back haunches to hold it up, began chopping right down through the neck, all the way down through the middle of that animal, all the blood, all the guts, and everything. Then he put on one side one half of the animal and on the other side the other half of the animal and the Lord walked between them. Now he didn't do this with the turtledove and with the pigeon.

"...and laid each piece opposite the other;

but he did not divide the birds. And when the birds of prey came down upon the carcasses, Abram drove them away. And it came to pass, as the sun was going down, that a deep sleep fell upon Abram. And, behold, a horror of great darkness fell upon him!” (vs 10-12).

This was symbolic of death and this was actually, when you know the full story, the exact same time on the 14th day of the first month, April 5, 30^{A.D.} when Jesus died. So, Abram experienced a simulated death with this great darkness.

After that God promised that He would give them the land, He would bring his descendants out of Egypt (and I explained that in the previous sermon).

If the first day is the 14th night and day, v 17 begins the 15th. What day did the children of Israel come out of Egypt? *The 15th!*

Verse 17: “And it came to pass—when the sun went down and it was dark—behold, a smoking furnace...”—that would consume everything.

“...and a burning lamp passed between those pieces” (v 17). Abraham did not walk through it—*God did*. God was signifying that this covenant is now ratified. There has been the shedding of the blood of these animals, symbolically showing His future death, and to show how absolutely complete and thorough that this was when the burning lamp went through there, the smoking furnace disintegrated all of those carcasses and there was probably nothing left but ashes—meaning this is complete. Now everything else God did with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob comes from this.

When God confirmed the covenant to Isaac, and of course, Isaac was a type of Christ; and Isaac was a child of promise as Paul wrote (Gal. 4). Now let’s see what God told Isaac and this is after Abraham had died.

Genesis 26:1: “And there was a famine in the land (besides the *former* famine that had been in the days of Abraham). And Isaac went to Abimelech, king of the Philistines, to Gerar. And the LORD appeared to him and said, ‘Do not go down into Egypt. Live in the land, which I shall tell you of. Stay in this land, and I will be with you and bless you, for to you and to your seed, I will give all these lands; and I will establish the oath, which I swore to Abraham your father’” (vs 1-3). Unilateral covenant by God.

Verse 4: ““And I will multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens... [that’s spiritual, sometimes it refers to physical] ...and will give to your seed all these lands. And in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.” Confirming

what He told Abraham and made the covenant with him. Here is the reason—I want you to really think about v 5 because this becomes absolutely important—there are many people who believe that there was no law until God called Moses and gave it to the children of Israel, but that is not so. ***Law was from the beginning because where there is no law there is no sin and if there is no sin then there is no judgment!*** Therefore, the Flood of Noah didn’t happen because there was no sin. When you take that reasoning and carry it out to the ultimate end, it cannot be so.

All right now, here’s the reason—not because of Isaac, though Isaac would be blessed, just like we are here, but because of v 5 and the fulfillment of God’s promise in sending Jesus Christ. That’s why we’re here. ***We are here because of these promises; because of the covenant!*** It’s not like a will that can be changed willy-nilly.

Verse 5: “**Because Abraham obeyed My voice...** [most important thing; we are going to see this again and again] ...and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.”

These had to be the same ones He gave to Israel. Why? *Because God is ‘the same yesterday, today and forever’!* ***He doesn’t change!*** Though this is a summary, is this not all inclusive of everything? *Yes, it is!* Very important!

Now let’s come down to the time of the children of Israel—Exo. 19. I’ve already covered the Passover. We have to understand concerning the Passover in Exo. 12. That was on the 14th day of the 1st month; however, that Passover to spare the firstborn was ***not the covenant with Israel***. The covenant of Israel took place when they got to Mt. Sinai. We have the covenant with Abraham on the 14th; we have the covenant to Jesus Christ unto eternal life on the 14th—so it’s not the same. The timing of the death of Jesus conforms to Gen. 15 not Exo. 12.

In *The Christian Passover* book there are a lot of details in there, and it answers every argument that comes along concerning the Passover. What we need to understand is that the Passover is so important because ***it is the covenant day for eternal life*** that Satan the devil

- through the Jews and their traditions
- through Protestants and Catholics
- through his own confusion among even some of the people of God

he wants to make it so confusing because he knows that if you don’t keep the covenant Passover correctly *maybe* you are going to miss out on eternal life.

The further you deviate from it, you can be guaranteed you won't have eternal life. Jesus told the Pharisees, 'You trust in Moses, in whom you think you have eternal life; but these are the Scriptures that talk of Me and you won't believe Me.'

All the children of Israel got to Mt. Sinai. God did not want to start the covenant with the children of Israel until He had spoken to them personally. so here is what He did.

Exodus 19:2: "For they had journeyed from Rephidim, and came to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness. And Israel camped there in front of the mount. And Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, 'Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the children of Israel'" (vs 2-3). Here is the beginning of the covenant with the children of Israel. Again we will see this is an overview.

Verse 4: "You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, *how* I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you unto Myself."

Verse 5 is the beginning of the general instruction for the beginning of the covenant, which is similar to a marriage covenant. Of course, the Old Covenant with Israel was a marriage covenant, just like we covered this morning. When you say *I do*, that includes a lot of things that are coming up that you don't know anything about, yet. But you did say *I do*.

Verse 5: 'Now, therefore, **if you will obey My voice** indeed, and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a Holy nation...." (vs 5-6).

Now, you think about that! Why is the world in the condition today that it is in? *Because Israel did not function as a nation of priests to bring the Word of God to the world*; because God promised Abraham that He would work through his seed and his seed alone. Since God works through human beings, He said, 'I'm going to work through the children of Israel and they are to take My way and My laws and My commandments and statutes and judgments to the world.' What happened? *They failed because they wanted to be like the nations and in the end time you see the results today—right? Yes, indeed!*

So He said, "“...if you will obey My voice indeed, and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth *is* Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a Holy nation.” These *are* the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel.' And

Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words, which the LORD commanded him. And all the people answered together and said, 'All that the LORD has spoken we will do.' And Moses returned the words of the people to the LORD" (vs 5-8).

God said, 'Okay, in three days I am going to come down and speak to them. Be all ready, all cleaned up, ready to go. You come to the base of the mountain.' That was a spectacular day when He gave the Ten Commandments. And the people said, 'Ohhhh, this is too much. Moses, you speak to us.' I guess so, if you saw all the thunder and lightning, the earthquake going on, the whirlwind that was taking place and everything.

Now, the Ten Commandments gave the beginning of the detailed structure of the covenant; and remember this, in every covenant there are always the laws of God. You can't get away from it. So, He gave the Ten Commandments. Then we have Exo. 21-23. These are the ordinances or judgments.

Now you have the details of the covenantal relationship between Israel and God. And God promised, 'I will work through no other nation but you.' What we have here in Exo. 24 is a marriage covenant.

Exodus 24:3: "And Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD, and all the judgments. And all the people answered with one voice and said, '**All the words which the LORD has said, we will do.**'"

When God makes a promise to you and you make a promise back to God you better make sure that your *yes* is *yes* and your *no* is *no*.

Verse 4: "And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and built an altar at the base of the mountain and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel. And he sent young men of the children of Israel who offered burnt offerings, and sacrificed peace offerings of bullocks to the LORD. And Moses took half of the blood, and put *it* in basins, and half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. And he took the Book of the Covenant, and read in the ears of the people. And they said, '**All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient**'" (vs 4-7).

Now we have the sacrifice; we have the shed blood. This is when the covenant with Israel was ratified. It is undoubtedly true the Ten Commandments were given on Pentecost, this is several days after Pentecost. That ties in with another parallel. Between God and spiritual Israel, resurrection on Pentecost, we are upon the Sea of Glass, Guess what takes place on the Sea of Glass?

The new marriage covenant between the Church and Christ, already ratified by the blood of Jesus Christ. So there are a lot of tremendous things all intertwined in these books of the Bible that the Protestants say have been done away. That's like saying God has disappeared. You may not find Him, but that doesn't mean He doesn't exist. Stick around a little while.

Verse 8: "And Moses took the blood and sprinkled *it* on the people... [because there has to be the sprinkling of blood] ...and said, 'Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you concerning all these words.'" ***Binding and final and in full effect from that moment forward.*** This is why when the children of Israel sinned, He corrected them. He didn't cast them off and run and find some other nation to start all over again. And when He finally had to put Israel away because of infidelity, as we find in the book of Jeremiah and Ezekiel, He did not remarry. So here is the marriage ceremony, Exodus 24, between Israel and God.

Now let's look at one more sub-covenant that is instructive. After all the warnings that Jeremiah had given the people, the kings of Judah, and so forth he kept telling them, 'Turn from your sins. Quit desecrating the Sabbath and I will send Nebuchadnezzar away.' So here they were desperate because the armies of Nebuchadnezzar were coming closer and closer, so they said, 'Oh, what are we going to do?!' So they made a covenant with God concerning one of the statutes that He had given in the law that we summarized back there in Exo. 21-23.

Jeremiah 34:8: "The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD, after King Zedekiah had made a covenant with all the people at Jerusalem, to proclaim liberty to them... [that is liberty to the Hebrew slaves] ...that each man should let his male slave, and each man his female slave—if a Hebrew man or a Hebrew woman—go free, that none should enslave a Jew, his brother among them" (vs 8-9).

We'll find out what kind of covenant this was and what they did and we will see a similarity between this and Gen. 15.

Verse 10: "And all the rulers obeyed, and all the people who had entered into the covenant allowed them to go free, each man his male slave, and each man his female slave, so that not any should be enslaved among them any more; and they obeyed and let *them* go."

This is instructive when you go counter to the covenant of God. Remember, this was just concerning slaves. We'll talk about it a little later when it's concerning eternal life.

Verse 11: "But afterward they turned and took back the male slaves and the female slaves whom they had set free and enslaved them *again* as male slaves and female slaves." When you make a covenant with God, you cannot go back on your word.

Verse 12: "So, the Word of the LORD came to Jeremiah from the LORD, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, "I made a covenant with your fathers in the day that I brought them out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, saying, 'At the end of seven years each man should let go *free* his brother, a Hebrew, who has been sold to him. And when he has served you six years, you shall let him go free from you.' But your fathers did not hearken to Me, nor incline their ears. And you had turned today, and had done right in My sight to call for liberty, each man to his neighbor. And you had made a covenant before Me in the house which is called by My name"'" (vs 12-15). So, they went right up to the temple to make this covenant.

Verse 16: "'But you turned *back* and defiled My name, and each of you has taken back his male slave and his female slave whom you had set free to do as they pleased. But you forced them *again* to become your male and your female slaves.' Thus says the LORD, 'You have not hearkened to Me to proclaim liberty each man to his brother, and each man to his neighbor! Behold, I proclaim freedom for you,' says the LORD, 'to the sword, to the plague, and to the famine. And I will cause you to be a horror to all the kingdoms of the earth. And I will give the men who have sinned against My covenant, who have not done the words of the covenant which they made before Me *when they* divided the calf in two and passed between its parts'" (vs 16-18).

Now when that happened, when anyone does this, you cut the animal in two and place the parts side-by-side with a path to walk through. This is a maledictory oath or a covenant oath, which you are declaring to God that, 'If I do not fulfill this covenant, make me as these slaughtered animals that I am passing between.' That's why the words become very important. That's why Jesus said, 'Let your 'yes' be *yes* and your 'no' be *no*.'

Verse 19: "'The rulers of Judah, and the rulers of Jerusalem, the officials, and the priests, and all the people of the land who passed between the parts of the calf; I will even give them into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their life. And their dead bodies shall be for food to the birds of heaven and to the beasts of the earth. And I will give Zedekiah king of Judah, and his rulers, into the hand of their enemies, and into the hand of those who seek their lives, and into the hand of the king of Babylon's army, who has

withdrawn from you” (vs 19-21).

He is saying, ‘I am going to bring them back. I sent them away because you did right. Now you broke that and went against your word. They are coming back and they are going to execute My judgment in vengeance and fury.’ If you want to know how badly that really was, get the book of *Josephus*. There are several chapters in there about the fall of Jerusalem in 586_{B.C.} as well as later in 70_{A.D.} Read those; very instructive.

So, God held them to their word. So whenever you made a covenant sacrifice to God and you do it by walking between the paths of the sacrificial animals you are signifying to God, ‘If I do not fulfill my part of the words of this covenant with You, I shall become like those animals.’ Now we need to think about that in relationship to the New Covenant.

Now let’s look at some things here concerning the New Covenant. In Psa, 50 we are going to see a blending of the covenants with Abraham and coming to the covenant that Jesus Christ made with the Church.

Psalm 50:1: “The mighty God, God, the LORD, has spoken and called the earth from the rising of the sun to its going down. Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God has shined forth. Our God shall come, and He shall not keep silent; a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous all around Him. He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, so that He may judge His people... [this is at the end-time] ...‘Gather My saints unto Me... [this has to be the resurrection] ...and those who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice’” (vs 1-5).

What is your sacrifice? *Because you have to show your symbolic death as you enter into covenant with Jesus Christ!*

(go to the next track)

We are involved in a sacrifice that symbolizes death. We don’t pass through the parts of the animals. Let’s see what that is. We know that Christ died for our sins. We know that He was raised for our justification, but let’s look at the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and let’s look at what we are required to do. Then we will look at the meaning of the covenant day, which is the Passover Day. Now just like God started out with an overview of the covenant, so our understanding of the covenant starts out with an overview, which is: ***repent and be baptized for the remission of your sins***. And everyone says, ‘Oh, yeah, that’s great and wonderful. I don’t want my sins over my head.’ Peter also said, ‘Repent and be converted,’ which shows that there are ongoing things we need to do.

Now here we have in what the Apostle Paul wrote are the details of baptism, and the significant meaning of it which ties right in with the covenant where Christ died and He was the Creator of all mankind so His death covers all the sins of all mankind; but, it is not given willy-nilly to anyone just because they say, ‘Oh, I don’t want my sins anymore!’ Because you do not enter into a covenant, unless you show your symbolic death. Christ showed His literal death and because He was perfect rose from the dead.

Romans 6:1: “What then shall we say? Shall we continue in sin, so that grace may abound? **MAY IT NEVER BE!** We who died to sin...” (vs 1-2). You died to sin. How did you die? Paul said, *I died!* Let’s see it.

“...how shall we live any longer therein? Or are you ignorant that we **as many as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death**” (vs 2-3). This is exactly and precisely why baptism has to be for adults because infants cannot enter into a covenant. It has to be with immersion in water. It cannot be with sprinkling or pouring.

Now let’s look at this closer and see how profound this covenant is and how much God has done for us and how much then we need to reciprocate back to God. Baptism is not just an initiation, a church, or an organization. Baptism is a covenant death sacrifice that you personally enter into.

Verse 4: “Therefore **we were buried** with Him through the baptism into **the death**...” Very important! That’s what it is in the Greek, and that death is ***the death of Christ!*** Notice, ***buried***. You have to go under the water. And baptism is your symbolic death.

“...so that just as Christ was raised from *the* dead by the glory of the Father, in the same way, we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been conjoined...” (vs 4-5). That means brought together, joined together for the sacrifice of Christ.

The Indians used to have a blood covenant. They would each take a knife, cut the palm of their hand, and then clasp their hands together and let the blood mingle—and you better keep your word or that knife is going through your fifth rib’ likewise with baptism.

“...conjoined together in the likeness of His death...” (v 5). That’s why Jesus said you have to take up your cross and follow Him. and He also guaranteed this: He said, ‘In the world you’ll have tribulation, but be of good courage, I have overcome the world.’

“...conjoined together in the likeness of His death, so also shall we be *in the likeness* of His resurrection. Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him* in order that the body of sin might be destroyed....” (vs 5-6).

This is showing that it takes a period of time to destroy the body of sin. *You have to overcome it!*

“...so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin; because the one who has died *to sin* has been justified from sin. Now, if we died together with Christ...” (vs 6-8)—joined together, conjoined in that death.

- He took the beating
- He took the scourging
- He took the sword into His side
- subjected to the crucifixion and He died

This is how you are to view your past life in your spiritual perception of what you need to be before God.

But here’s a promise **if “...we believe that we shall also live with Him”** (v 8).

In Gal. 2 is a very important verse, which has been read I’m sure over and over again, but now if we read it with more understanding than we have I think that you will appreciate it even more.

Galatians 2:17: “Now then, if we are seeking to be justified in Christ, *and* we ourselves are found to be sinners... [because we haven’t yet overcome ‘the law of sin and death,’ but are working on it] ...*is* Christ then *the* minister of sin?... [**No!** It’s because of the sin within] ...MAY IT NEVER BE! For if I build again those things that I destroyed, I am making myself a transgressor. For I, through law... [the wages of sin is death] ...died to *works of law*...” (vs 17-19).

That is no longer counting on any rituals to make me righteous, but on the sacrifice of Christ to make me righteous.

“...in order that I may live to God. I have been crucified with Christ... [symbolically through baptism] ...yet, I live. *Indeed*, it is no longer I; but **Christ lives in me**....” (vs 17-20).

That’s the covenant that He gave. He will give you of His Spirit, He will give you of His mind, as long as you are faithful and seek God and are faithful in the covenant.

“...For *the life* that I am now living in *the* flesh, I live by faith—that *very faith* of the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me” (v 20).

We will go back to Rom. 6 in just a little bit, but let’s, first of all, come to Hebrews 8. {note sermon series: *Epistle of Paul to the Hebrews*}

Hebrews 8:1: “Now *here is* the summary of things being discussed...” What we need to understand is this: ***God has called us to be in a personal relationship with God the Father and Jesus Christ for eternal life.*** It is not a religion like in the world where you become good people and you attend on the days that they say. This is where you love God and serve God and He is giving you great and precious promises for eternal life that men who play religion cannot even comprehend. And He has called us into a personal relationship with Him so that we have direct access to God the Father and Jesus Christ through prayer with Their Spirit in us in a way that other people cannot have and we do not have that unless we are in the covenant relationship with the covenant death of baptism.

So let’s read it here Hebrews 8:1: “...We have such a High Priest Who sat down at *the* right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens; a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord set up, and not man” (vs 1-2). Then he talks about all of the things that they did in making the physical tabernacle.

Verse 6: “But on the other hand, He has obtained a *supremely* more excellent ministry...” This is what we need to understand: eternal life—though we have the covenant of death in order to receive it—we have exceedingly great and precious promises. Christ has an exceedingly more superior ministry.

“...as much greater as the superior covenant of which He is also Mediator, which was established upon superior promises” (v 6). Look at the promises under the Old Covenant, what were they?

- blessings to live in the land
- blessings of physical things
- blessings of health and wealth if they obeyed
- curses if they did not obey

because a covenant is irrevocable and does not change.

Right now, for the descendants of Israel—the Anglo Saxons in the world—we are beginning to suffer from the curses that God said would come upon us in the last days. We are seeing it more and more. But as we see that, you compare that with eternal life:

- to live forever
- to have glory
- to have authority

- to have direct personal access to see God the Father face-to-face
- be with Jesus Christ
- and be with all the saints of God

Compare that to any physical thing you would like, and that is vastly superior. I just imagine if you could run a Bernie Madoff scheme and say, 'If you give us so much money, you will have eternal life, you would get all kinds of money pouring into you. But that's not the way it is.

Let's see some things that are important; still again comparing the difference of the physical tabernacle and the heavenly tabernacle.

Hebrews 9:11: "But Christ Himself has become High Priest of the coming good things... [not yet here] ...through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made by *human* hands (that is, not of this *present physical* creation). Not by *the* blood of goats and calves, but by the means of His own blood..." (vs 11-12).

Remember a covenant must be ratified with a sacrifice and the shedding of blood. That's why when we are baptized we are conjoined into the likeness of His death.

"...He entered once for all into the Holiest, having *by* Himself secured everlasting redemption *for us*" (v 12).

That's something to really understand the grace of God forever and all through our physical lives we can claim the grace of God. That's why Paul said, 'What? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? MAY IT NEVER BE!' Because we have everlasting redemption.

Verse 13: "For if the blood of goats and bulls, and *the* ashes of a heifer sprinkled *on* those who are defiled, sanctifies to the purifying of the flesh."

That's all the further forgiveness went under the covenant with Israel—to the temple; that was it. Those were not wiped out until the death of Christ.

Verse 14: "To a far greater degree, the blood of Christ, Who through *the* eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, shall purify your conscience from dead works to serve *the* living God."

God now, instead of just giving you physical promises of physical things, with His Spirit He is molding and developing His character in you. That's what it talks about that 'we are His workmanship.'

- He is working with our minds

- He is working with our hearts and with His Spirit
- with His laws
- with His commandments
- with the spiritual qualities of:
 - ✓ love
 - ✓ faith
 - ✓ hope
 - ✓ longsuffering
 - ✓ gentleness
 - ✓ kindness
 - ✓ goodness

and all of those things. That's what God is building in us. This is far greater than anything that could have been done with the covenant with Israel. So we can serve the living God.

Now vs 15-17 become the key linchpin in understanding about covenants and our relationship with God.

Verse 15: "And for this reason He is *the* Mediator of *the* New Covenant: in order that through *His* death, *which* took place for the release of the transgressions *that were committed* under the first covenant..."—and also His death (Rom. 7) ended the marriage relationship covenant with Israel and remember, ***marriage is binding until death.***

Now God had a choice; to release that covenant would require the death of every Israelite down through history for His death. ***It was His death that ended that marriage covenant.***

"...those who have been called might receive the promise of the eternal inheritance" (v 15). Not just the land, but eternal inheritance which then is all things shared with Christ; as the stars of heaven. So God is going to share the universe with us. Some people say, 'Well, I wonder why God made the universe so big and have so many stars and galaxies in there?' It's because His plan is bigger and greater than we have ever thought of and ***He is going to share it with us!*** Think of that! So when you are down in the pit of a trial:

- lift up your eyes
- lift of your mind
- lift up your heart

and think on those things, and you will see that the trial—God will work it out. When you have passed through to the other side of it, you will understand that compared to eternal life it is really trivial indeed. Yes, we have to be 'wise as serpents and harmless as doves.' Yes, we have to take care of the things we need to take care of, and so forth. But the most important thing to focus in on is ***keeping that covenant relationship with God for eternal life, eternal inheritance.***

Verse 16: “Now where *there is* a covenant, *it is* obligatory to bring forth a symbolic sacrifice to represent the death of the one who personally ratifies the covenant.” I don’t have my *King James* handy, but they have it as *testament* and *testator* and that is completely wrong.

Verse 17: “Because a covenant *is* ratified only over... [the Greek is *the dead ones*, meaning the animals] ...*the* dead *sacrificial* animals, since there is no way that it is legally in force until the living ratifier *has symbolically represented his death.*”

Now that’s what ties in with Rom. 6. That’s why when you are baptized you are put under the water, and we will always lift you out of it because *you are to walk in newness of life*. That’s the closest thing you can come to in symbolizing death. It also solves the problem of purifying your sins, washing them away, cleansing you, and all of those things are all involved with the operation of baptism. And you enter into this covenant with God—*this covenant for eternal life*.

Verse 18: “For this very reason, neither was the first *covenant* inaugurated without blood.” We have already covered that.

Note sermon: *The Covenant Between God the Father and Jesus Christ* (Hebrews series #27). They had a covenant before Jesus came, and we pick it out of various places in the Bible and show that there had to be a covenant because God is a *covenant God*. Here we have part of it:

Hebrews 10:4: “Because *it is* impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins.... [no, it just justified them to the temple] ...For this reason, when He comes into the world, He says... [that is Christ, when He came into the world] ...‘Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but You have prepared a body for Me. You did not delight in burnt offerings and *sacrifices* for sin. Then said I, ‘Lo, I come (*as it is written of Me in the Scroll of the Book*) to do Your will, O God’” (vs 4-7).

That’s what we are to do. Remember what was said about Abraham? ***Because he obeyed My voice, kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws!*** What was it that God proposed to Israel? ***If you obey My voice indeed, you shall be a kingdom of priests for Me!*** Here we have the same thing: ‘I delight to do Your will.’

Verse 9: “Then He said, ‘Lo, I come to do Your will, O God.’ He takes away the first *covenant* in order that He may establish the second *covenant*.” He ended the first covenant with His death and established the second beginning with His death.

Verse 10: “By Whose will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all**” (vs 9-10).

Then Paul makes a comparison, v 11: “Now, every high priest stands ministering day by day, offering the same sacrifices repeatedly, which are never able to remove sins; but He, after offering one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at *the* right hand of God.

13: Since that time, He is waiting until His enemies are placed *as* a footstool for His feet. For by one offering He has obtained eternal perfection *for* those who are sanctified” (vs 11-14).

That also means that perfection comes through the process of conversion and growing and overcoming and developing the mind of Christ.

Verse 15: “And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after He had previously said, “*This is the covenant that I will establish with them after those days,*” says *the* Lord, “I will give My Laws into their hearts, and I will inscribe them in their minds”” (vs 15-16).

And when you have that done through the study of the Word of God, through the power of the Holy Spirit of God, guess what? *You use the Word of God to think*. And when you think with the Word of God, you are bound to make better decisions. And also the Holy Spirit of God then pricks your conscience when you sin, because

- He is cleansing
- He is washing
- He is molding
- He is shaping our minds and hearts

in preparation for eternal life.

Verse 17: “And their sins and lawlessness I will not remember ever again.” So remember this, when you repent and your repentance is sincere, ask God also to help remove the guilt of that because that guilt also needs to be removed. Just like the sin. Too many people sin, and repent really from the heart, and then they wonder, ‘Well, I wonder if God forgave me?’ What did Jesus say? ***‘Every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven*** the children of men except the blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.’ ***Every sin and blasphemy!*** So if your heart pricks you because of the Holy Spirit either leading you or in you, and you repent and you repent with all your heart, *that is forgiven and removed*. Then the washing and cleansing takes place after that to heal, to give you forgetfulness, to remove it from you. Don’t go around and remember all the sins from the past, except to learn the lesson that you learn because you sin.

Verse 18: “Now, where remission of these *is*, it is no longer *necessary to offer* sacrifices... [that is animal sacrifices] ...for sin.” What blessing does this give us? This is fantastic, brethren. We need to grasp this and we need to keep focused on this and we need to remember this when we are, especially, coming up to the Passover time to renew the covenant.

Verse 19: “Therefore, brethren, having confidence to enter into the *true* Holiest by the blood of Jesus”—direct access that your prayers go to God. He hears them. He answers them. We may have to be persistent in the prayers, as Jesus showed, but He hears and answers.

“By a new and living way... [a new and spiritual powerful way] ... which He consecrated for us through the veil (that is, His flesh), and *having* a great High Priest over the house of God” (vs 20-21).

Here’s how we need to approach God, v 22: “Let us approach *God* with a true heart, with full conviction of faith, our hearts having been purified from a wicked conscience, and our bodies having been washed with pure water... [through baptism] ...Let us hold fast without wavering *to* the hope *that* we profess, for He Who promised *is* faithful” (vs 22-23).

Whatever promises you read in the Bible, and of course, the Bible is full of promises; and remember, half of those promises are penalties for sin, half of those promises are blessings for eternal life.

Now let’s see how we are to lead our lives. So we have our part and our sacrifice in making the covenant with God, which He has established with us.

Romans 6:5: “For if we have been conjoined together in the likeness of His death...” When we read these sections during the Passover concerning:

- what Jesus went through
- what He took upon Himself
- how He was scourged
- how He was beaten
- how the sword was thrust into His side

—through baptism we participate in that with Him.

“...so also shall we be *in the likeness* of His resurrection” (v 5). That’s when we will be born again, as spirit beings. That’s why it says of Jesus: ‘He is the firstborn from the dead.’

Verse 6: “Knowing this, that our old man was co-crucified with *Him* in order that the body of sin might be destroyed...”

And that’s what the Feast of Unleavened Bread is all about. How we overcome sin; how we let the Spirit of God lead us and guide us, mold us and change us.

“...so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin” (v 6). It’s interesting we are going to see it doesn’t say you don’t sin, but that you are not enslaved to it.

Verse 7: “Because the one who has died *to sin* has been justified from sin. Now, if we died together with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from *the* dead, dies no more; death no longer has any dominion over Him. For when He died, He died unto sin once for all...” (vs 7-10)—because He is Creator of all human beings.

His one death is sufficient for *all* human beings in the world, but we have our part of repentance and baptism.

“...but in that He lives, He lives unto God” (v 10)—just like we were conjoined to His death, co-crucified with Him.

Verse 11: “In the same way also, you should indeed reckon yourselves to be dead to sin, but alive to God through Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore, do not let sin rule in your mortal body by obeying it in the lusts thereof” (vs 11-12).

Don’t let sin rule. Yes, we have to put evil thoughts out. Yes, we have to overcome the law of sin and death, this is all part of it here.

Verse 13: “Likewise, do not yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin; rather, yield yourselves to God as those who are alive from *the* dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God.”

Notice the whole different thrust here. See, because every day when we come before God, what are we to pray for? *We hallow God’s name*—correct? Then what is the next thing we ask for? *Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven*. What is God’s will for you? Then He says, ‘Give us our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.’

So, this shows that every day we need to be in an attitude of repentance and an attitude of confessing our sins. Most of these sins will be in the mind, being revealed to us by the Spirit of God so that we recognize sin in the mind *as sin* and repent of it. This is going to then be so that you will not be sinning in your actions. As it says there in 2-Cor. 10, ‘That we are to bring every thought into captivity to Christ. We are to bring down every vain imagination that exalts itself against the knowledge of God and

bring it into the obedience of Christ.’ That’s our part; with the help of God’s Spirit, that’s what we are to do. Christ has done His part:

- by living a perfect life
- being God in the flesh
- being crucified
- being the perfect sacrifice

and His shed blood applies to all of us.

Verse 14—because of what I just described, this gives us access to God by grace. “For sin shall not rule over you because you are not under law, but under grace.” What he is talking about; the whole thing here is this: not avoiding law, but being under law for justification for sin, rather ***we are under grace for justification of sin.*** That’s what it means when you go back and tie in Rom. 3-5 leading up to this.

Protestants read it, ‘You are not under law, you don’t have to keep any law, don’t have to keep the Sabbath. We can make Sunday holy, we can make the communion holy, we can make the occult holidays holy.’ *No, you can’t. Never happen!:*

1. ***IF*** you are keeping the Sabbath
2. ***IF*** you keep the Passover and the importance of it and the meaning of it
3. ***IF*** you keep the Holy Days
4. ***IF*** you have the Spirit of God

you are in covenant with God and sin shall not rule over you, because you are not under law, but under grace.

Then he gives a warning, lest someone thinks we can take advantage of it. Verse 15 sounds almost like v 2.

Verse 15: “What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under grace? MAY IT NEVER BE!.... [so then he gives the example of what we are to do] ... Don’t you realize that to whom you yield yourselves *as* servants to obey, you are servants of the one you obey, whether *it is* of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But thanks *be* to God, that you were *the* servants of sin, but you have obeyed from *the* heart that form of doctrine which was delivered to you; and having been delivered from sin... [not sinless, but delivered from it] ...you became *the* servants of righteousness” (vs 15-18).

Now notice the comparison he gives to show how our actions within this covenant relationship become very important and help us and lead us day-by-day.

Verse 19: “I speak from a human point of view because of the weakness of your flesh; for just as you *once* yielded your members in bondage to

uncleanness, and to lawlessness unto lawlessness, so now yield your members in bondage to righteousness unto sanctification. For when you were *the* servants of sin, you were free from righteousness. Therefore, what fruit did you have then in the *things* of which you are now ashamed? For the end result of those things *is* death. But now *that* you have been delivered from sin and have become servants of God, you have your fruit unto sanctification, and the end result *is* eternal life” (vs 19-22). That’s the covenant that we are in.

Now, let’s come back here and read some Scriptures concerning the things that we read when we partake of the Passover. This will help us have a much greater understanding of the Passover and what it means and our covenant of eternal life. Remember, before we take the bread and the wine, we have the foot-washing. The foot-washing becomes very important because the foot-washing, if you will read in the Passover book and *The Day Jesus the Christ Died*, is the renewal of our baptism.

Human beings, because of our nature (and we are still fighting ‘the law of sin and death’ though we have the Spirit of eternal life in us) we need a new beginning every year and God gives that to us. So, we have the foot-washing and the foot-washing renews the baptism and also gives us part with Christ. Then we take the bread and the wine and we are ready to receive the renewal of the New Covenant. That’s why it is only done once a year on the Passover night because that’s the night that Jesus said we should do it.

I wonder what the disciples thought when He did this; and remember this is kind of the overview they were given.

Matthew 26:26: “And as they were eating, Jesus took the bread and blessed *it*; *then He* broke *it* and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is My body.’ And He took the cup; and after giving thanks, He gave *it* to them, saying, ‘All of you drink of it; for this is My blood, the *blood* of the New Covenant, which is poured out for many for *the* remission of sins’” (vs 26-28).

Mark 14:22: “And as they were eating, Jesus took bread; *and* after blessing *it*, He broke *it* and gave *it* to them, and said, ‘Take, eat; this is My body.’ And He took the cup; *and* after giving thanks, He gave *it* to them; and they all drank of it. And He said to them, ‘This is My blood, the blood of the New Covenant, which is poured out for many’” (vs 22-24).

Luke 22:19: “And He took bread; *and* after giving thanks, He broke *it* and gave *it* to them, saying, ‘This is My body, which is given for you. This do in the remembrance of Me.’ In like manner

also, *He took* the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup *is* the New Covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you’” (vs 19-20).

So, when we put it all together, ***God has brought us into a tremendous everlasting covenant for eternal life through the Passover*** and that’s why the Passover becomes the key.

Scriptural References:

- 1) Genesis 12:1-4
- 2) Genesis 15:2-12, 17
- 3) Genesis 26:1-5
- 4) Exodus 19:2-8
- 5) Exodus 24:3-8
- 6) Jeremiah 34:8-21
- 7) Psalm 50:1-5
- 8) Romans 6:1-8
- 9) Galatians 2:17-20
- 10) Hebrews 8:1-2, 6
- 11) Hebrews 9:11-18
- 12) Hebrews 10:4-7, 9-23
- 13) Romans 6:5-22
- 14) Matthew 26:26-28
- 15) Mark 14:22-24
- 16) Luke 22:19-20

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Leviticus 23
- Galatians 4
- Exodus 12, 21-23
- Romans 7
- 2-Corinthians 10

Also referenced:

Books:

- *The Christian Passover* by Fred R. Coulter
- *The Day Jesus the Christ Died* by Fred R. Coulter

Sermon Series:

- *The Covenants of the Bible*
- *Epistle of Paul to the Hebrews*

Sermon: *The Covenant Between God the Father and Jesus Christ* (Hebrews series #27)

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