

9. Passover: A Nation Set Free

30 Things
You Need to Know
About Your
BIBLE

Session 9 | Dr. Randy White | Exodus 12

The Passover Instructions | Exodus 12:1-11

- The Passover was so fundamental that the month of Nissan became “the beginning of months” for the nation of Israel. Exodus 12:2
- The selection of the sacrifice Exodus 12:3-
 - A lamb or goat was selected on the Tenth day of the month – v. 3
 - The amount of Lamb that could be eaten by every member of the house – vv. 3-4
 - Was sufficient for the family, but not too much – v. 4
 - A male, in its first year, without blemish – v. 5
 - The animal was to be kept with the family from the 10th through the 14th – v. 6, literally, “it is a charge unto you until the 14th.”
- The sacrifice of the Lamb
 - Every family in Israel would sacrifice its animal late in the day of the 14th – v. 6
 - The blood would be drained, and that blood would be placed on the side and upper door posts – v. 7
- The eating of the Lamb
 - The animal was to be roasted, blood-drained but whole, and eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. If there were leftovers, they were to be burned the next morning – v. 8-10
 - The meal was to be eaten in haste, with everything made ready for a quick departure – v. 11

The Purpose of the Passover | Exodus 12:12-14

- The blood would provide a **token upon the houses** of the Israelites as the Lord would **execute judgment** on Egypt – vv. 12-13
- The judgment would be executed by the Lord Himself, not “the angel of death,” as is often taught – v. 12, 23, 29, Num. 8:17. & 33:4. Ps. 78:51. & 105:36. & 135:8. & 136:10

The Perpetuity of the Passover | Exodus 12:14-20

- Beyond the first Passover, future observances would be solely for the purpose of a **memorial** – v. 14
- The Passover was for the **generations** of Israelites. Those who adopt the memorial as a Christian observance often mean well but the practice was never meant for those beyond the nation of Israel – v. 14
- The Passover is something that can be observed by Jewish believers as well as Jewish unbelievers. It is not an ordinance of the Law but an instruction for the Jewish people.
- The future Passover observances were to be seven days long, with a **holy convocation** on the first and seventh days. In the New Testament, when such a convocation occurred on a Sabbath, it was called a “High Sabbath,” as in John 19:31 – v. 15-16
- The collective days were called the **Feast of Unleavened Bread**. The bread was unleavened to remind the nation of her need to depart from Egypt quickly – v. 17
- In latter passages, the Hebrew nation is taught that on the Sunday during the seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread, they were to celebrate the Feast of First Fruits. This was the only feast that was always on a Sunday. It was a joyful presentation of the first-fruits of spring (and a new life for the Jewish nation). Jesus was raised from the dead on the Feast of First Fruits. In 1 Corinthians 15:23, Christ is called the “first fruits of the resurrection.”