

Series: Jesus Shaped Testament
Passage: Exodus 12:1-13 and 1 Corinthians 5:6-8
Sunday: July 23, 2023

Exodus 12:1-13 (ESV)

The Passover

12 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers’ houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. ⁵Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, ⁶and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

⁷“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ⁹Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. ¹⁰And you shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD’s Passover. ¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

1 Corinthians 5:6-8 (ESV)

⁶Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? ⁷Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. ⁸Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

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1. What is the context surrounding the first Passover? What was the purpose of the Passover?

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2. Why did the bread at the first Passover need to be unleavened (without yeast)? In what sense is 1 Corinthians 5 talking about being unleavened?

3. In what ways did the lambs on the first Passover protect the families of God's people?

4. What are the main points of comparison between the first Passover lambs and what Christ did for us as our Passover lamb?

5. At the first Passover and today, in what ways does God show that he is both just and merciful at the same time?

6. What is the connection between the Jewish Passover meal and communion (Lord's Supper)?

7. How does looking at the Passover as a shadow or pattern for Jesus change your understanding of Jesus?