

# Exodus 11-12:31

## The Passover

**Scripture:** Exodus 11-12:31

**Memory Verse:** Romans 6:23 *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

**Lesson Focus:** As we learn about the Passover feast, we will do a bit of a deep dive into the idea of substitution and point how this feast unmistakably points forward to God's plan to send the Lamb of God who would later come to take away the sins of the world!

**Activities and Crafts:** Memory verse coloring picture, Word Search of different terms from lesson, Bring it Home Discussion for 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup>.  
Activity for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders: Doorframe Craft

**Starter Activity:** The Passover Video Clip

We will keep all of the kids in the Summit Room for another short video clip from the "Prince of Egypt" animated movie. This is the "Passover" scene and it captures much of what we will be learning in our text today. You can preview it [here](#). We will lead some discussion before and after the video.

We have seen some amazing stuff in the book of Exodus, haven't we? First, we saw how God not only protected the baby Moses from certain death but also prepared him to become the instrument by which God would confront Pharaoh to rescue the children of Israel just as He had promised.

Last week we saw nine of the ten rounds of this epic battle \* between God and Pharaoh, the most powerful man in the ancient world. But after each round Pharaoh was not only more defeated, but more hard-hearted and unwilling to obey and listen to God! Each "round" was a different plague where God demonstrated that He alone is the supreme ruler and only all-powerful God over all the universe!

Q: What were some of those plagues that God brought upon Egypt? \*

Yet, after all this Pharaoh still refused to give in! So sad and foolish! Today, we are going to learn about the tragic final round. Let's first watch a short video clip of it!

WHOA! While Pharaoh will finally set the children of Israel free, his sin and pride cost him tremendously. You may have noticed that the children of Israel did something that protected them. \* As we read more about that today in our text, we're also going to see how this clearly points forward to Jesus and our own rescue from sin and death!

### Bible Study:

**Exodus 11:1-3:** God announces to Moses that this 10<sup>th</sup> plague will be the final one, the last round of this epic battle. Not only will it cause Pharaoh to release the children of Israel, but they will depart with much of the treasure of the Egyptians!

**Exodus 11:4-6:** As we saw in the video, this final plague is a plague of death to all the firstborn males across every family of Egypt, even their livestock. Raise your hand if you are the firstborn son in your family! \* Some of you may think this seems harsh.  
Q: But how many chances has Pharaoh had to turn from his sin and pride? A: NINE! God has been gracious. His sinful hard-heartedness has brought this on. Sin is destructive! \*

**Exodus 11:7:** As we have seen before, God will spare the children of Israel from this plague so that He may be shown to be the promise-keeping God that He is!  
Q: Did any of the previous nine plagues affect the children of Israel? A: NO! \*

**Exodus 11:8-10:** The stage has been set. Pharaoh still refuses to listen after being warned for the tenth time, Moses is frustrated, and we await this final plague to bring about the promised release of the children of Israel from Egypt!

**Exodus 12:1-2:** But first God gives Moses some instructions for the children of Israel in preparation for this last plague. What God is about to do will sort of become their "Independence Day". It is so big that it will mark a new age in their history, becoming the cornerstone of their calendar.  
Q: When is our Independence Day? A: July 4<sup>th</sup>! Well, it would be kind of like us making July 4<sup>th</sup> the first day of the year on our calendar instead of January 1<sup>st</sup>! \*

**Exodus 12:3-5:** Next, God gives some very specific instructions for every family.  
Q: What is each family to find? A: A perfect and spotless one-year old lamb! Even if a family doesn't have one, they are to join in with another family that does. \*

**Exodus 12:6-11:** This lamb was then to be killed and eaten by all of the families of Israel at the same time. God was establishing a special feast called Passover that they were to commemorate every year. Think about Thanksgiving dinner that is coming up next month. We celebrate this in America every year, most of us eating a turkey and mashed potatoes instead of a lamb and bitter herbs. \* But the Passover feast is established by God and has tremendous meaning as we will see.

Q: What is the one strange thing that God commanded them to do with the blood of the lamb? A: They were to smear some of it on the top and sides of their doorframe.

**Teachers:** Consider having some kids help you recreate this in class. Either use one of the doorframes or draw one on the whiteboard. If you use one of the doorframes, take some red felt from the resource room and have some kids help you tack it to the wall. If you use the whiteboard have them color around it with some red markers. \*

Why would they do something so odd at this feast? Let's keep reading to find out! \*

**Exodus 12:12-13:** This blood of the lamb put around the doorframe is what causes this final plague of death to "pass over" them. With the previous nine plagues, God has deliberately spared the children of Israel to show Pharaoh and Egypt his power. But this time, the children of Israel have a part to play. In fact, they need to do exactly what Pharaoh has NOT been doing all along to be saved: trust and obey God! \*

You see, the children of Israel were sinners just like the Egyptians. They deserved the same penalty for their sin that the Egyptians (and you and I!) deserved: death (**Romans 6:23**). But during this Passover feast, God is not only going to rescue the children of Israel but reveal His rescue plan that we will see throughout the rest of the Bible: that of a **substitutionary sacrifice**.

Q: What does it mean to be a substitute? A: It means to take the place of another. You might have a substitute teacher when your regular teacher is sick at school. That teacher is "taking the place" of your regular teacher. \* In the same way, the Passover lamb "takes the place" of the sinner who would otherwise die because of their sin. By putting the blood of the lamb around their door (obeying) they believed God would spare them (trusting) just as He had said He would. \*

**Exodus 12:14:** Passover was a feast they were to celebrate every year so they would remember God's goodness in rescuing them. Jewish people today still celebrate this!

**Teachers:** Consider skipping down to v. 26. We will cover the feast of Unleavened Bread in our next lesson.

**Exodus 12:26-27a:** And as they celebrate notice that their kids ask "why"! Kids back then were just as good as kids today are at asking their parents the "why" question! But the answer is so that no one would forget how God kept His promise to rescue them!

**Exodus 12:27b-28:** Unlike Pharaoh, they bow before God in worship, obey Him, and trust in Him to do as He said. God will deliver them!

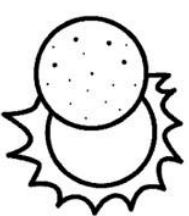
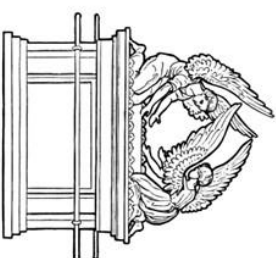
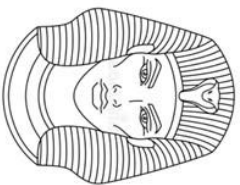
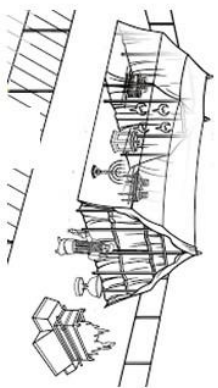
**Exodus 12:29-31:** This tragic last round is over, and it happened just as God had said. Pharaoh admits defeat and agrees to release the children of Israel! They are set free!

**Key Point:** The children of Israel are free to go, but only by the mercy of God through the blood of the Passover lamb! But there is much more to the story than this! This points forward to God's bigger plan to set all sinners free from their slavery to sin and death through the blood of Jesus, the ultimate Passover lamb. \*

For just as they took a spotless lamb, Jesus would come as the spotless One, with no sin in Him. Just as the lamb was a substitute for the children of Israel, Jesus, God's own Son, came as our substitute, to "take our place" so we could avoid the punishment we deserve for our sin. And just as Israel had to show their trust in God by putting the blood of the lamb on their doorposts, we must show our trust in God by believing in Jesus and following Him. \* Salvation is not automatic for everyone, but only through faith!

Q: Have you been rescued from your sin and the punishment you deserve (**Romans 6:23**)? If not, put your trust in Jesus today! But if yes, praise Him and honor Him for His grace and mercy in going to the cross to pay for your sins! For the the punishment you deserve "passed over" you and fell on Jesus, the spotless lamb of God who shed His blood for you! \*

# Bring It Home



## ראשית First

Read Exodus 12:7

What did this blood  
of the lamb do for the  
children of Israel in  
Egypt?  
What does Jesus's  
blood do for those  
who believe in Him?

## שנייה Second

Read Romans 6:23

What is the penalty  
for sin?  
What is the only way  
to be rescued from  
this penalty?

## Parent Challenge:

What does it mean when we say Jesus is our  
"Passover Lamb"? (see 1 Corinthians 5:7)

