

Passover, Exodus and the Firstborn

Fred R. Coulter—February 16, 2013

Greetings, everyone! Welcome to Sabbath services! {news items covered}

Referring to a documentary: All these ‘religions’ *go completely contrary to Word and will of God!* Therefore, they cannot understand and they do not know. Most people don’t understand that if you don’t obey God automatically *spiritual blinders* come on you. It’s automatic! All the churches of the world—the ‘religions’ of the world—and even the warning from us; remember what we read in the 1-John: *Beloved, flee idolatry!* It’s the idols in the mind! It’s not just the physical idols. People become so addicted to these things.

I was amazed how Jerusalem is just burdened down, almost beyond belief of shrines and places to stop and pray for Catholics, for Orthodox, for Armenians, for Jews, for Muslims. It was incredible! You look at those stonewalls and you think maybe that’s a remnant going clear back to the time of Christ.

No, I thought they were, but they’re not. They were built by a Muslim—Suleiman—who was a beneficent Islamic ruler of Jerusalem. He allowed Jews and Christians and Armenians and everyone to come there. He said that he had a dream of God that if he didn’t build the walls of Jerusalem he was going to be eaten by lions. So, he built the walls around Jerusalem nine feet thick. Sometimes on these documentaries you can learn some things.

But it was amazing to me, because we’re going to see that what they are doing is exactly where Adam and Eve started. We’re going to talk about the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread today and cover some things in the Old Testament and hope to end some confusion.

The first thing I want to cover is this *spiritual blindness* and desire of human beings to improve on what God has given and done.

Genesis 1:14: “And God said, ‘Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide between the day and the night, and let them be for signs, and for appointed seasons, and for days and years.’” Let me state right here that the Holy Days of God are determined by the movement of the moon and the sun and the earth and the stars that He created. It is there; it cannot be changed; and God cannot change it until He changes the creation.

It’s kind of like God asked Job when finally Job got his wish and remember, he said, ‘Oh, I wish that God would talk to me.’ God says, ‘Here I am.’ He said to Job, ‘Job, where were you when I hung

the foundations of the earth? Where were you when I laid its cornerstone?’

Genesis 2, as we have seen with the little series that Mike Heiss is doing, that the 7th day Sabbath is also part of the creation of God. Another lesson from Job: *No man is going to tell God what to do and no man is going to improve on what God has created!* He made the Sabbath.

Genesis 2:1: “Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.” What is the witness of God to man? *The heavens and the earth!* Didn’t God say many times, ‘I call heaven and earth against you this day...’? *Yes, indeed!*

Here’s what God did to establish the Sabbath. Verse 2: “And by *the beginning of* the seventh day...”—which is the correct meaning of it because the *King James* says, ‘and on the 7th day...’ Sunday-keepers look at that and say, ‘Oh, God was still working on the 7th day and He finished it on the 7th day.’ But that’s not what the Hebrew means.

“...God finished His work which He had made. And He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made.” Of course, He had already made Adam and Eve so He was resting with them. I wonder what that first Sabbath service was like. ‘Hello, you’re My creation. I made you male and female.’ Even put a language in them so that they could think and talk back to Him.

Verse 3: “And God blessed the seventh day... [Not any other day. Cannot be the first day. We’re likewise going to see with the Passover, too, and the Days of Unleavened Bread.] ...and sanctified it... [made it Holy] ...because on it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.”

Let’s come over here to Gen. 3 and we’ll just summarize it. The serpent came and he asked a question. We’re not told how long that God instructed them, how long they were living in the Garden of Eden before the serpent was allowed to come in. Just like in the angelic realm, people don’t stop and think about this: Why is Satan the devil Satan the devil and a cast out from God? Along with a third of the angels who became demons? *Because he wanted to become like God!* He wanted to go and overthrow the throne of God. So, he was cast down.

When you put the various accounts of the Bible together, because the Bible is made a ‘little here, a little there, line upon line, precept upon precept,’ and so forth, when you put it all together you get the full story.

The serpent asked the woman, he said, 'Is it true that God said you shall not eat of any tree of the Garden?' Of course, he knew that was wrong and she wanted to correct him. She said, 'No, we can eat it, but we're not to eat the one that's in the midst of the Garden because in eating it we will die.' Satan said, 'You won't die.' Wants to improve upon God's way—*his* way. He tells them this:

Genesis 3:5: "For God knows that in the day you eat of it, then your eyes shall be opened... [When your eyes are opened to evil, *they are closed to righteousness*; it's automatic.] ...and you shall be like God, **deciding**... [not *knowing*, but *deciding*] ...good and evil." You choose and you decide and that's the same thing that has happened to all mankind since then. That's what happened with Cain, and look at how the civilization became before the Flood, so evil that God had to destroy it.

You know what happened. We won't go into detail in it. She picked the fruit; she ate. Adam looked at her and said, 'She didn't die.' She said, 'Here try it, you'll like it.' He tried it and then they were in the clutches of Satan the devil. Remember, ***Satan always comes with a benefit! Satan always comes with an improvement upon God!*** We're going to see what happens when that takes place.

You know the result of it. They were judged; given the sentence of death and expelled from the Garden of Eden. They still had contact with God at the East Gate. So that's probably where an altar was for offering sacrifices because we have the account of Cain and Abel. Abel gave a sacrifice that was accepted of God. Why would it be accepted of God? *Because he did it according to the instructions of God!* If you do what God says, God says you'll be accepted. Cain didn't, he wanted to do it his way. An interesting point here is this: *Josephus* records that this was 135 years from the time of creation. If you read about when Seth was born, Adam was 135 years.

There Cain, the attitude of Satan the devil and Cain killed his brother. The whole moral of the story is: You cannot improve on God's way. If God wants to change something, He will change it. We have many things in the Old Testament that are like seeds that are planted. Just like the Sabbath and the Holy Days; just like the Passover; just the situation concerning the Calculated Hebrew Calendar.

There are a lot of people out there who think, 'We're going to improve on the calendar that God gave to the priests and the Levites.' You can't improve upon it because God gave it to them. *No one has any authority to devise any calendar or to change any day but God.* He gave it!

You know what happened at the Flood. After the Flood then we have the same thing begin to pick

up again. Let's see then where God begins dealing with Abraham because everything in the Bible from this time of Abraham to the end of time and on into eternity begins here. It flows out from there, both the plan of the children of Israel and the plan of the Church.

Remember we are told that Christ was slain from the foundation of the world. God's plan was all well-thought out and all set in motion. Here the whole world was again given over to idolatry by the time of Abram so God called him out of the land of the Chaldeans.

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. And I will make *of* you a great nation. And I will bless you and make your name great. And you shall be a blessing'" (vs 1-2). Is his name great? And going to be greater? His name is mentioned all the way through the Bible—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. We come to the New Testament where we are called in Christ 'the seed of Abraham.' God begins to unfold a step at a time what He is going to do.

Verse 3: "And I will bless those that bless you and curse the one who curses you. And in you shall all families of the earth be blessed." He had to go. It's the same requirement here for Abraham. In order to obey God, he had to do exactly what He said. He had to leave father, mother, brother, sister. I think his father just died.

Jesus said in Luke 14:26: "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, and his wife and children, and brothers and sisters, and in addition, his own life also, he cannot be My disciple." Same requirement here!

As we go through we're going to see threads or seeds of the Old Covenant and the New Covenant. Abraham had his problems. He had his difficulties. He had his sins, but he was also faithful. In Genesis 15 a very important thing took place from which comes:

- the Passover for Israel
- the Passover for the New Testament Church
- the promise of *physical* seed of nations
- the promise of *spiritual* seed as the stars of heaven

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...'" (vs 1-2). God does things that are contrary to the way that

people would think. In order for Isaac to be born, He waited until Abraham was 100 and his wife was 90 so that they would know this came from Him. In the case of Jesus, Mary was a young woman, probably 19 or 20, a virgin. Again, two impossible extremes, connected with what God is going to do. So, he offered Eliezer to be his heir.

Verse 3: “And Abram said, ‘Behold, You have given no seed to me; and lo, one born in my house is my heir.’... [because that was legally the law] ...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.’ And He brought him outside and said, ‘Look now toward the heavens and number the stars... [the only time you can see those are at night] ...if you are able to count them.’ And He said to him, ‘So shall your seed be.’” (vs 3-5). We have *two promises* right here. It’s interesting that these are called *seed*, because these are the *seeds of God’s Word* that expand out through the rest of the whole Bible.

Verse 6: “And he believed in the LORD. And He accounted it to him **for righteousness.**” Righteousness is *right standing*. Righteousness *because he believed!* Most people don’t believe. They want God to do things for them, but they don’t want to do anything for God.

So then, He had this special sacrifice, which we detail quite thoroughly in the book, *The Day Jesus the Christ Died*. I suggest before Passover you review this book. If you really want to get all the facts, then you get this book, *The Christian Passover*. One man kept saying, ‘Why do you have to have a book that is nearly 500 pages long to explain about the Passover?’ *Because there are so many ideas of men that they have taken away from the Word of God and inserted their own ideas and their own interpretations*, one of which we’re going to cover today. That’s why the book had to be so thick. There are many, many arguments and nuances even from the Jews.

From here then, the blessing would go forth. Gen. 17 is the expansion toward the children of Israel and the circumcision. Abraham had to wait still a little while longer; he was 85 when Gen. 17 took place. Then we come to Gen. 22, here’s another type of the Passover. We have the seed because what took place in Gen. 15 was the proto-Passover and Day of Unleavened Bread. You’ll find the meaning of it here in these books. I’m not going to go through it at this time because you can sit down and take the time and read the material.

Gen. 22 we also have something that is exactly a New Testament test. Do we believe God and believe Christ to do what They say? That

doesn’t mean you’re going to be without sin. It doesn’t mean you’re not going to have a life free of mistakes. It means that

- you *believe* God
- you *love* God
- you *obey* God

When you find out that you’re doing things that you should not do, what do you do? *You repent and ask God for forgiveness and you make it right!* It’s through the sacrifice that that occurred. In Gen. 22 Abraham was asked to offer his only son, his beloved son, and that discounted Ishmael. There’s another whole story that goes along with Ishmael and the Arabs and the problems that we have between the Arabs and the Jews and the Arabs and Christians and Muslim things today.

It’s interesting. In the last days everything that is going on centers around the descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Ishmaelites, Esauites, Isaac and Jacob. The rest of the world gets involved, because God intends it to be for the whole world.

So, he offered his son on the altar. He was tried. He was willing to do it because Heb. 11 says ‘he counted God worthy to raise him from the dead.’ From the time of Abraham’s calling to the time of Gen. 22 and the offering of Isaac is a period of 40 years—40 is the number of trial. Let’s come down to the place where he was ready to use the knife on his son.

Genesis 22:10: “And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son.” Remember, this is the one through whom the promise of seed was going to come, *physically and spiritually*.

- *Physically* through the children of Israel.
- *Spiritually* through Jesus Christ who came from the tribe of Judah of the line of David.

Verse 11: “And the angel of the LORD called to him from the heavens and said, ‘Abraham! Abraham!’ and he said, ‘Her I *am*.’ And He said, ‘Do not lay your hand upon the lad, nor do anything to him, for **now I know that you fear God...**’” (vs 11-12). This is why we have to:

- live
- change
- grow
- overcome
 - ✓ we’re going to have our ups and downs
 - ✓ we’re going to have our difficulties
 - ✓ we’re going to have our problems
 - ✓ we’re going to have sins that come against us

—that even we, sometimes, don’t suppose that we would do.

God intervened: "...for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me" (v 12). Then God provided a ram in the thicket and Abraham offered that instead of Isaac. All the rest of the Bible, as we saw, started in Gen. 12 on this side of the Flood. Everything else has been guaranteed at this point to take place.

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, 'because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son; that in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens...' (vs 15-17).

When we get to the Feast of Pentecost, we understand that Jesus said that 'those who enter into the Kingdom of God shall shine like the sun.' That's a star. Daniel said the same thing in Dan. 12.

"...and as the sand which is upon the seashore.... [physical seed] ...And your seed shall possess the gate of his enemies. [that is certainly true referring to Christ] ...And in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, **because you have obeyed My voice**" (vs 17-18). That is the key thing—**obey My voice!** Someone's always going to say, 'How do we know the voice of God?'

- we know it because *it's recorded*
- we know it because *God has preserved it*
- we know it because *God has made it available*

Let's see what God told Isaac after Abraham died, Genesis 26:2: "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 2-3). Everything keys on Abraham.

Verse 4: "And I will multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens..." This is to Isaac. You read in Gal. 4 that just as Isaac was the seed of promise, so *spiritually we are the seed of promise* and we're the seed of Abraham.

"...and will give to your seed all these lands. And in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, **because...**" (vs 4-5). Here's one of the most powerful verses in the Old Testament, especially for those who say, 'There weren't any laws between the creation of Adam and Eve and Moses.' You imagine, 3500 years, no laws?

"...**Abraham obeyed My voice**... [There that is again—**obey My voice!**] ...and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My

laws" (v 5). What God gave to the children of Israel was not something new under the sun. These are always God's laws. They're not the laws of the Jews. They're not the laws of Moses. I defy anyone to show me one law that Moses said, 'God didn't say this, but I tell you...' You won't find one, *not one!* This is a very powerful verse because it shows all the laws, the commandments, the statutes, and so forth, were in effect. '**Obey My voice.**'

Now let's stop for just a minute, a little sidebar: During the temptation of Jesus Christ by Satan the devil, what was the first thing that Satan asked Him to do? Satan said, 'If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.' He could do that. What was Jesus' answer? '**Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God!**' That comes from Deut. 8. That comes from right here—'*obey the voice of God.*' That's the whole substance of the Bible.

(go to the next track)

If you want a very interesting study, and since a lot of you have your handy-dandy computers, your iPads, your SmartPhones and all of that. It came time for God to begin calling Moses. What did He do? *He caused this bush to burn!* Moses went over to see it, because it wasn't burning up.

Exodus 3:4: "And the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see. God called to him out of the midst of the bush, and said, 'Moses! Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.'.... [You ever talk to a bush? Imagine what he thought.] ...And He said, 'Do not come near here. Put off your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you stand *is Holy ground*'" (vs 4-5). *Any place God is, is Holy because He is Holy!*

A little sidebar: Project to the New Testament. If you have the Holy Spirit of God and God is dwelling in you, you are a temple of God and you are Holy. Isn't that what we find in the New Testament? *Yes, indeed!* Same exact procedure here.

Verse 6: "And He said, 'I *am* the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God." Then He tells them, 'I heard the cry of the people,' etc. etc. When he said, 'Who am I going to say has sent me?'

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," and they shall say to me, "What *is* His name?" What shall I say to them?' And God said to Moses, 'I AM THAT I AM'...." (vs 13-14). This goes straight to the Gospel of John, chapter eight, where Jesus said, 'If you do not believe that I AM,' and the

Jews understood what He was saying, ‘you shall die in your sins.’ As we go through some of these things, realize that there’s a lot that goes on into the New Testament.

“... ‘I AM THAT I AM.’ And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, “I AM has sent me to you.”’ 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”’” (vs 14-15).

Now we’re going to see something else interesting. Another thing, another little sidebar we need to understand: The New Testament was written and preserved in Greek. Had it been written and preserved in Hebrew, the Jews would never have allowed it to be printed. And besides, Greek is the basis of almost all modern European languages.

We see something interesting for those who believe in sacred names, because we are to believe in the Father in the New Testament, He is our Father and that is His sacred name. And Jesus Christ His Son, that is His sacred name. If you are Hebrew and you want to pronounce the Hebrew name of Jesus because you speak Hebrew, that is fine. But nowhere in the New Testament are any Hebrew names used. So, anyone who takes the Greek text, takes out the names of God, the way they are in the Greek and inserts the Hebrew names *is going against the will of God*. And they think they’re improving upon God, but they are not.

I’m going to show you something here very important, Exodus 6:1: “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for with a strong hand he shall let them go, and with a strong hand he shall drive them out of his land.’ And God spoke to Moses, and said to him, ‘I am the LORD. And I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob *as God Almighty*... [‘El Shaddai’ in the Hebrew] ...But I was not known to them *by My name JEHOVAH*’” (vs 1-3)—or JHVH. When the covenant changes, the names change.

People say that if you don’t believe in YHVH, you will never be saved. They pronounce that Yahweh, Yahwe, Jehovah, whatever.

- Are Abraham, Isaac and Jacob going to be in the Kingdom of God?
- *Yes! Jesus said they’ll be in the Kingdom of God.*
- Did they ever know God by the name YHVH?
- *No! So, it cannot be a requirement.*

After all the plagues and everything that went on, and these were mighty, mighty plagues. God

literally destroyed the Egyptians. Let’s examine the Passover. We’ve covered already in Lev. 23 that the Sabbath is the 7th day of the week. That sanctions all the Holy Days. ‘These are the Feasts of the Lord that you shall proclaim in their seasons.’ It starts out with the Passover, which is the 14th day of the first month. If you want all the details on all the four words and how they are used, you need to study *The Christian Passover* book in detail. In order to justify not keeping a 14th Passover and keeping a 15th Passover—the reason that we keep the 14th is because that’s the day that Jesus kept. He said, ‘Go into the world and teach all things that I have commanded you to all nations.’

- Did He command us to keep the Passover? *Yes, the 14th day!*
- Did He change things concerning the meaning of Passover?
- Did He change the ceremony itself from a dinner of bitter herbs and lamb to foot-washing, bread and wine? *Yes, He did!*

He was God manifested in the flesh so He had the authority to do so. Now this was to be the New Covenant.

But here, God still used the day, 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...” (vs 1-3). This is what they did. There are parallels of this with Christ. You can read of that in the book, *A Harmony of the Gospels*. Then on the 10th day of the first month Jesus being the Lamb of God was selected by God the Father (John 12).

“... ‘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).

We’re going to cover very carefully here the elements referring to Christ, but we’ll find out when the time the lamb was killed was not the time that Jesus was crucified. So, the timing is different.

Verse 5: “Your lamb shall be without blemish... [a type of Christ] ...a male of the first year. You shall take *it* from the sheep or from the goats.” Of course, lambs are born just before Passover time. Notice the instruction. Remember, if you don’t do what God says the way that God says to do it, you’re in trouble.

Verse 6: “And you shall keep it up until...” the 14th day. We’ve inserted for clarification the

beginning of the 14th day. Why is that correct? Because unless it is *until*, it's not after it begins. Because of all the arguments concerning a 15th Passover, that's why.

“...the *beginning* of the fourteenth day of the same month. And the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it **between the two evenings**” (v 6). Again, in *The Christian Passover* book, *between the two evenings* means **between sunset and dark**.

- Sunset is ‘ba erev’ and *sunset starts when the sun touches the horizon*.
- When it goes below the horizon ‘ben ha arbayim’ begins.

So, right after the sun went down was when they were to kill the lambs.

I'm sure that since it was all the congregation of Israel that they had scouts up on top of the roof watching the sun go down. They were all ready because it says here a little later in chapter twelve that *they did as Moses commanded*. Remember, they were scattered through all the land of Goshen and it was in their houses.

Verse 7: “And they shall take of the blood and strike it on the two side posts and upon the upper door post of the houses in which they shall eat it. And they shall eat the flesh in that night...” (vs 7-8). Not the night of the 15th. You can look at the arguments this way: the Jews say it is the 15th and I'll explain about that a little later, but it is the 14th. They have all kinds of arguments trying to justify a 15th. If they waited another day longer, what would have happened to all the firstborn of Israel? *They would have died!* Think about it! Because you keep it until the 14th, then you're going to eat it in that night.

Verse 8: “**And they shall eat the flesh in that night...** [not the next night] **...roasted with fire...**” When we get to Deut. 16 we're going to see something very interesting, which causes a lot of confusion for people who don't understand it. It is a very difficult part of the Old Testament to understand concerning the Passover. And is one of the places where they try and justify a 15th Passover, instead of a 14th Passover.

“...and unleavened *bread*. They shall eat it with *bitter* herbs. Do not eat of it raw, **nor boiled** at all with water...” (vs 8-9)—*not boiled*; that becomes important. Would God at the beginning of the Exodus tell them to roast it and not boil it, then toward the end of the Exodus in Deut. 16 tell them to boil it? *No!*

“...but roasted with fire, its head with its legs, and with its inward parts” (v 9). That means the heart, the liver, the kidneys.

They had to kill it; they had to skin it; they had to dress it. All of that was brought into the house to be burned. They also had the instructions, as we'll see a little later here, that they were to stay in their houses until morning.

- *morning* is ‘boqer’
- *night* is ‘lailah’

Verse 10: “And you shall not let any of it remain until the morning. And that which remains of it until the morning **you shall burn with fire.**”

- Is that a contradiction? *No!*
- Can human beings eat bones? *No! They were to eat all the flesh.*
- What was left? *The skin, the bones, which they had to burn!*

“...You shall burn with fire.”

You'll find here in *The Christian Passover* book that in order to understand how long it would take to kill a lamb, skin it and get it ready, we actually had a couple kid goats that were of that age. Had a man who could do it and he did it. He killed and skinned both of them in 20 minutes. He just hung them upside down, cut the throat, after the blood had dripped, gone out of them, he just cut right down the belly and all the innards are in a big sack. They just fell right out and he had a pan ready to catch it.

Then he took care of that and put them on the side. Then to skin them was real easy. He just had his knife and he cut a little here, right where the cut is down the belly, loosened a little bit of the skin on both sides. Then he started and took both hands and went right around the animal and all the skin came loose and he took it off, two of them in 20 minutes.

So, for people to say, ‘Well, it took a long time,’ didn't work out that way. So, that's one of the arguments that we posed him.

Verse 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...**” The *King James* says *haste* and *it doesn't mean haste* that you're going to eat it in a hurry and leave at midnight or shortly after midnight.

“...It is the LORD'S Passover.... [here's what He was going to do]: ...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. **And I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD**” (vs 11-12). The whole lesson that they should have learned was this: None of the gods of Egypt had any power against the true God. All the plagues and everything were designed to be an answer to the gods of Egypt.

Carry that forward to Rev. 11:8 that says ‘the city that is called Sodom and Egypt where our Savior was crucified.’ Why mention Egypt there? *Because every one of the gods of the religions of this world came out of Babylon and on into Egypt!* I think if you view all of these Egyptian documentaries that they have, they’re dealing with dead people. None of them are alive.

All of the food and everything that was left for them, if there were grave robbers they took it. The boat that was supposed to carry the king over the water to the ‘promised land’ was still there and he was in it. He never got there because if it were true, all the tombs in Egypt would be empty. Think of that. ‘Judge all the gods of Egypt.’ Then He said, ‘I am the Lord,’ rather than any of their gods.

Verse 13: “And the blood shall be a sign to you upon the houses where you *are*. 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. And you shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it a feast as a law forever” (vs 13-14). That carried right through to the New Testament.

Verse 21: “Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them...” This was before the 10th. All of these instructions were given on the 1st day of the first month. Moses got the instructions; he called the elders.

“...‘Draw out and take a lamb for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover *lamb*. And you shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip in the blood *that is* in the bowl, 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). The *King James* says *morning*—‘boqer.’

The reason that God gave sunset—between the two evenings—midnight, and morning was because all the Israelites were scattered throughout the land of Goshen. You had to have something very simple that everyone could know. Can you see when the sun goes down? *Yes!* Even the lamest brain among all of them can understand that. Can you see when the sun is coming up in the morning? *Yes!*

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...” This is why it is called the Passover because the Lord passed over the firstborn of the children of Israel and judged all the gods of Egypt. Scholars wonder, ‘I wonder why this is called the Passover.’ *Because God said so!*

Verse 25: “And it shall be when you have come to the land which the LORD will give you, 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 25-26).

Where was the lamb killed? They each took a lamb, took it where? *To their house!* That’s where the Passover was to be kept—*in the house!* Where did Jesus keep His Passover with His disciples? *In a house!* He sent two disciples and said, ‘You go into the city and you follow a man and into whatever house he shall go, say to the master of the house, where is the room so that the Teacher may keep the Passover? And he will show you an upper room furnished. There, prepare.’ If you want to know about the so-called ‘temple sacrifice’ of the Passover lamb, it’s in *The Christian Passover* book.

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.’ 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). Everything, all the instructions, they did. But I want to cover this concerning the Passover.

Verse 29: “And it came to pass at midnight the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne, to the firstborn of the captive that *was* in the prison, also all the firstborn of livestock. 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.” (vs 29-30).

The *King James* says in the next verse, ‘and he called for Moses a little after midnight.’ What was the instruction? As soon as they are dead, you can go out? **NO!** The instruction was: ‘**You are to stay in the house until morning,**’ not midnight, as a lot of people would like to think. Stay in your house until morning.

Now stop and think how critical of a thing this is to stay in the house until morning especially for Moses. Why was Moses not able to go into the ‘promised land’? *Because God told him to speak to the rock and ‘it will gush forth water.’* Time previously, God told him to strike the rock. But he was so upset with the children of Israel that he got angry and he struck the rock, so he could not go into the ‘promised land.’

What do you think would have happened to Moses if he would have left at midnight or shortly

after midnight to go to Pharaoh when he told Pharaoh, ‘You will not see my face again.’

Pharaoh he sent word to Moses and Aaron, v 31: “And during the night... [that was after midnight, *before sunrise*] ...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. Also take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone. And bless me also’” (vs 31-32). They were urgent upon them to get them out of the land.

So, the Egyptians were urging the people, ‘Get out of here, lest we all die.’ They continued to spoil them, take all the gold and silver and everything like that, whatever they needed. They were to leave their houses *at sunrise* and they were come to Rameses. To get there they had to walk to Rameses before they were able to assemble and get ready to go on the exodus. Now we’re into the day portion of the 14th—are we not? What are they doing? *They are getting ready to leave*, but they’re not going to go until they all assemble.

You’re not going to have the first ones get there and say, ‘Oh, here we are, let’s go.’ How about those who live four or five miles away? *It would take a little longer to get there!* So, they gathered at Rameses and they didn’t leave until they had all assembled.

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.... [600,000, that’s a lot of people; this is a giant undertaking] ...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 37-39).

Now here is a key verse, v 40. This goes back—as you will see in both books: *The Day Jesus the Christ Died* and *The Christian Passover*—to the night that God told Abraham to come out and count the stars. Then the next morning the offering was given. Then it went on into the second night. So, we have the 14th day and the 15th day identified back in Gen. 15 because of what’s taking place here in Ex. 12.

Verse 40: “Now the sojourning of the children of Israel in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years.” Someone is going to say, ‘Wait a minute. It wasn’t 430 years.’ It was 430 years from the time that Abraham was told he was going to have his own son. God counted that time as though they had already been there, because God promised that He would take them out with a high hand—

didn’t He? *Yes, He did!* We have the information on how you get 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.”

Verse 42 goes into the next night. The 14th being the night of the Passover. They were not to go out of their houses until sunrise. They gathered at Rameses and now when they are all assembled, the day is already far spent before they get started. So they’re starting to leave right at sunset. What do you have on the 15th day of the first month? *A big full moon!* You can imagine what a spectacular event that was when they were leaving.

Verse 42: “It is a night to be much observed to the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt....” They could not have left the night that they had the Passover because they had to stay in their houses until morning. This is the next night. We are to keep the Night to Be Much Observed unto the Lord. It says it right here:

“...This is that night of the LORD to be observed by all the children of Israel in their generations” (v 42). Are we spiritual Israel? *Yes!* Are we then to keep it? *Yes!* That’s why we do.

I got a letter the other day from a woman saying, ‘I don’t know about the Night Much to Be Observed, because I was told that this was something that this leading minister had concocted on his own.’ He didn’t! He read the Scriptures. It says, ‘This is that night of the Lord,’ He owns it just like the Sabbath of the Lord, the Passover of the Lord. ‘The night of the Lord to be observed by all the children of Israel in their generations.’ Then it lists everything about how to keep the Passover again.

Come over here to Exodus 13 and notice what we did here, because the last verse of Exodus 12 should be the first one in Exodus 13.

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...” Now we’re getting into the day portion of it.

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’” (vs 1-2). Then He talks about the seven days of Unleavened Bread. All the firstborn were spared by the sacrifice of the Passover lamb.

Verse 11: “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. And every firstborn of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb.... [that means you would have to take a lamb and sacrifice it] ...And if you will not redeem it, then you shall break its neck.... [Now how important are the firstborn dedicated to God of everything?] ...And **all the firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.**”

That means that in addition to the Passover ceremony that they were to have sacrifices to redeem their firstborn. On what day was this command given? *The 1st day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the 15th day of the month!*

Verse 14: “And it shall be when your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What does this *mean?*’....” Sounds like a little bit like it was back there in chapter twelve where it said, ‘This is because the Lord passed over our houses and spared the firstborn.’

“...you shall say to him, ‘The LORD brought us out of Egypt by the strength of *His* hand, from the house of bondage’” (v 14). The 15th day pictures *leaving* Egypt. If you're under the control of God with the pillar of cloud by day and the fire by night, even though you haven't left the physical soil of Egypt, you have left Egypt *because God is taking you out.*

Verse 15: “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.”

I need to finish Deuteronomy 16 because there is so much confusion concerning it. You may want to look at a *King James Version* as you go along at the same time. You will see where the *King James Version* is a little misleading.

Deuteronomy 16:1: “Keep the month of Abib... [it can also read *observe*] ...and observe the Passover...” It could also read *keep* the Passover. There are two things you are to do here—right? *Observe or keep* the month of Abib. What was to happen in the month of Abib in addition to the Passover? *The Feast of Unleavened Bread!* When does the Feast of Unleavened Bread begin? *The day after the Passover on the 15th day of the first month!*

“...For in the month of Abib, the LORD your God brought you forth out of Egypt by night.... [that is the Night to Be Much Observed] ...And you shall therefore sacrifice the Passover offering to the LORD your God, of the flock and the herd, in the place which the LORD shall choose to place His

name there” (vs 1-2). People read that and say, ‘They were to keep the Passover at the temple.’ However, we're going to see that is not so.

Exodus 12:26: “And it will be, when your children shall say to you, ‘What *does* this service *mean* to you?’ Then you shall say, it *is* the sacrifice of the LORD'S Passover...” (vs 26-27). The Passover sacrifice *is different from* the Passover offering.

This one here is, Deuteronomy 16:2: “And you shall therefore sacrifice the Passover offering to the LORD your God, of the flock and the herd...” What did Exo. 12 tell us? *It shall be from the flock, a lamb or a kid, shall not be a bovine!* But here it says, “...of the flock and the herd...” Why? *No such thing as a Passover calf!*

“...in the place which the LORD shall choose to place His name there” (v 2). *Rather than at your house!* What was to be remembered beginning on the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread? *The firstborn!* What were to be redeemed? *All the males, all the unclean animals!* It didn't say that you could redeem with just a lamb only; you could also redeem of the herd or with *a bovine.*

Verse 3: “You shall eat no leavened bread with it.... [this sacrifice here] ...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.” This has to do with the preparation for the Night to Be Much Observed.

What happened when they had the temple or the tabernacle? It said, ‘When you come into the land, you are to redeem.’ *They keep the Passover on the 14th at home!* They come to the temple and now they can redeem their firstborn children. They can redeem the unclean animals and they can give them to God. So this took the greater portion of the day portion of the Passover to get all these sacrifices ready for the Night to Be Much Observed, which began the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This is not in commemoration of passing over the houses. ***This is in commemoration of coming out of the land!*** That's why the bovine could be eaten.

Verse 4: “And there shall be no leaven seen with you in all your borders for seven days.... [that's the Feast of Unleavened Bread] ...Nor shall *any* of the flesh which you sacrificed in the first day at sunset remain all night until the morning.” This was the same as a peace offering.

Verse 5: “You may not sacrifice the Passover offering within any of your gates which the LORD your God gives you, 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” (vs 5-6). This is the beginning of the Night to Be Much Observed.

Verse 7—two things that are important here: *of the herd* and what we’re going to read now: “And **you shall boil...**” What did it say in Ex. 12? ‘*You shall roast it with fire; you shall not boil it at all with water!*’

“...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” (v 7). They stayed up all night in celebration of the redemption of the firstborn with these sacrifices and the fact that God brought them out of the land of Egypt by night.

This is where the confusion comes in. What we’ve tried to do here in Deut. 16 is to make it very clear because in the *King James Version* it says, ‘and you shall roast and eat,’ but the word here in the Hebrew is for *boil*, not roast. Now we’ve got a whole section again in *The Christian Passover* book.

I’ve had some people write me and say that every year before the Passover comes around, they read through *The Christian Passover* book.

After you have kept the First Day of Unleavened Bread, how many more days of Unleavened Bread remain? *Six!* Simple math.

Verse 8: “Six days you shall eat unleavened bread.... [after the first day] ...And on the seventh day *shall be* a solemn assembly to the LORD your God. You shall do no work”

Let me just tell you something: When the Passover controversy came up in one of the big Churches of God, it took me years and years to solve this problem. The things that solved it:

1. *of the herd*—Ex. 12 said not of the herd
2. *boil*—Ex. 12 said, do not boil
3. Ex. 13 says *redeem the firstborn*

That’s what they did in getting the sacrifices ready to go and then take the sacrifice back and prepare for the meal To Be Much Observed, they did that on the day portion of the Passover. So these are called Passover offerings, rather than Passover sacrifice.

If that doesn’t clear up the mystery, then take a little time and go over it again. If you have *The Christian Passover* book you can read about it.

Scriptural References:

- 1) Genesis 1:14
- 2) Genesis 2:1-3
- 3) Genesis 3:5
- 4) Genesis 12:1-3
- 5) Luke 14:26
- 6) Genesis 15:1-6
- 7) Genesis 22:10-12, 15-18
- 8) Genesis 26:2-5
- 9) Exodus 3:4-6, 13-15
- 10) Exodus 6:1-3
- 11) Exodus 12:1-14, 21-23, 25-32, 37-42, 51
- 12) Exodus 13:1-2, 11-15
- 13) Deuteronomy 16:1-2
- 14) Exodus 12:26-27
- 15) Deuteronomy 16:2-8

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- Genesis 17
- Hebrews 11
- Daniel 12
- Galatians 4
- Deuteronomy 8
- John 8
- Leviticus 23
- John 12
- Revelation 11:8

Also referenced: Books:

- *Josephus*
- *The Day Jesus the Christ Died* by Fred R. Coulter
- *The Christian Passover* by Fred R. Coulter
- *A Harmony of the Gospels* by Fred R. Coulter

FRC:lp

Transcribed: 2-28-13

Formatted: bo-3-1-13

Copyright 2013—All rights reserved. Except for brief excerpts for review purposes, no part of this publication may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means without the written permission of the copyright owner. This includes electronic and mechanical photocopying or recording, as well as the use of information storage and retrieval systems