

“EVEN CHRIST OUR PASSOVER IS SACRIFICED FOR US”

INTRODUCTION

- I. An unusual term is used **once** in the New Testament, to describe Jesus. Read 1 Cor. 5:7.
 - A. The context is that of fornication being tolerated in the church at Corinth. 1 Cor. 5:1
 1. They were seemingly proud to have this in their midst. v. 2
 2. They were told to remove the fornicator from their fellowship. v. 3-5
 3. They were reminded that if they did not remove the fornicator, his evil influence would spread like leaven and corrupt the whole church. v. 6
 - B. The allusion to “leaven” gave occasion to Paul to call Christ “OUR PASSOVER.” v. 7
 1. Just as leaven was omitted from the Passover of the Old Testament, the leaven of “sin” is to be omitted from our lives today. v. 7
 2. We follow CHRIST without the leaven of wickedness. v. 8
- II. WHY is Christ called “Our Passover?”

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, let’s consider the PASSOVER OF THE OLD TESTAMENT.

- A. When the Jews were in bondage in Egypt, God raised up Moses to free His people.
 1. God brought the first 9 plagues against Pharaoh which hardened his heart, and he would not let the people go free.
 2. The 10th and final plague **did** free the Jews, as it involved the death of the firstborn of Egypt.
- B. The PASSOVER was instituted in connection with the final plague.
 1. Each Jewish home was to kill a **lamb** without blemish. Exo. 12:3-6
 2. They were to apply the blood of the lamb to the door posts and lintels **over** the door. v. 7
 3. They were to eat the meat of the lamb with unleavened bread. v. 8
 4. In the night, the Lord God would pass **through** the land of Egypt and smite the firstborn in each Egyptian household, and would “pass over” the Jews’ houses where the blood was applied. vs. 11-13
 5. Then, the feast was to become a permanent feast among the Jews. v. 14

II. 2nd, let’s see how Christ is the PASSOVER OF THE NEW TESTAMENT.

- A. Just as a **lamb** was used in the Old Testament Passover celebration, Jesus the Lamb of God is used in **our** salvation. John 1:29
- B. Just as the lamb of the Old Testament Passover was **unblemished**, Christ OUR Lamb is unblemished. 1 Pet. 1:19; 2:22
- C. Just as the lamb of the Old Testament Passover was **killed** as a sacrifice, Jesus was killed in sacrifice for us. Matt. 26:21; 1 Cor. 5:7
- D. Just as the Passover lamb was to have **no bones broken** when killed, Christ had no bones broken in HIS death. Exo. 12:46; John 19:31-36
- E. Just as the BLOOD had to be **applied** to the door posts and lintels in the Old Testament Passover, Jesus’ blood has to be applied to our lives for us to be saved.
 1. Jesus shed His blood in His death, and we spiritually contact that saving blood when we are baptized **into** His death. John 19:34; Rom. 6:3; Rev. 1:5

2, Just so, God was SO exacting that ONLY those applying the blood to spare the firstborn in Israel, He is still exacting that only those applying His blood in baptism (immersion) “to be saved” will then have spiritual life **as the firstborn** ones. Cf Heb. 12:23

F. Just as the Jews **partook** of the Passover lamb, **we** must partake of Christ. Exo. 12:8-10; John 6:53-56

G. Just as the Jews were to be **ready to travel** when they partook, we must be ready to travel the Christian journey when we partake of Christ.

III. 3Rd, let's see HOW WE ARE TO KEEP THE PASSOVER.

A. First of all, we are to “purge out” the old leaven of sin, just as Israel had to purge it's houses of leaven. 1 Cor. 5:7; cf Rom. 6:6; Col. 3:9-10

B. Second, we are to be a “new lump.” 1 Cor. 5:7

1. The word “new” is from the Greek word *neos*, meaning “completely new, fresh, or young.” cf Col. 3:10; 2 Cor. 5:17

2. The word “lump” is from the Greek word *plurama*, meaning “the mass of things mixed,” referring to the WHOLE congregation of people mixed together as **one**. Cf v. 6

C. Third, the BASIS for remaining unleavened is given, in that we are “bought” with the sacrifice of Jesus. 1 Cor. 5:7; 6:20

D. Fourth, there is the EXHORTATION to “keep the feast.” 1 Cor. 5:8

1. Negatively, it is NOT to be kept with the old leaven or some other kind of leavened bread of malice and wickedness. v. 8

2. Positively, it IS to be kept with the unleavened bread of “sincerity and truth.” v. 8

a. Sincerity has to do with devotion, and without hypocrisy. Rom. 12:9

b. Truth has to do with the word of God, which is always the **only** basis for all we do in following Christ. John 8:32; 17:17; Col. 3:17

CONCLUSION

I. If we would enjoy the blessings of Christ, we must “keep the feast” of Christ OUR Passover—who “passes over” our sins in forgiveness.

II. As a sinner, you can have the Lord “pass over” or forgive your sins when in faith and repentance, you are baptized into His death, or if one who has obeyed but is need of being restored for a wayward life, you need to repent and pray that He will pass over your sins.

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