

# The Blood of A Lamb

## Exodus 11: 4-8; 12:1-14

### I. The tenth plague is the most devastating of all.

- A. Few things are more precious to us than our children.
  - 1. Children were highly valued in ancient Egypt.
  - 2. A wail rises up across all of Egypt.
- B. The firstborn son was especially valued.
  - 1. The heir who would inherit a double portion.
    - (a) Pharaoh's firstborn son was heir to the throne.
  - 2. Firstborn son was the expression of a man's strength (Genesis 49:3).
  - 3. Cultures of Ancient Near East emphasized legacy.
    - (a) They had no understanding of genetics.
    - (b) But the child was "the seed" of the man.
    - (c) In a sense, his life continued in his offspring.
  - 4. Children were seen as a blessing from God or the gods.
    - (a) To lose a child was the withdrawal of blessing.
    - (b) For every family with a son to lose their firstborn son on the same night was devastating.
    - (c) Every household lost someone.
    - (d) In addition, the firstborn of the cattle died.
- C. The Lord himself did this (Exodus 12:12).
  - 1. Judgment for what Egypt did to God's firstborn (Exodus 4:22-23).
  - 2. But God understands the grief.
    - (a) Passover illustrates the death of God's Son.

### II. The image of Passover is a prophetic picture of the Gospel.

- A. Justice requires that sin be accounted for.
  - 1. "The wages of sin is death."
    - (a) In love, God sent his Son to redeem.
    - (b) He took the judgment we deserved.
    - (c) He is the Lamb of God, the true Passover Lamb.
- B. The death of the firstborn: all the heirs will be judged.
  - 1. We are all heirs of Adam.
- C. Passover instructions
  - 1. Kill a lamb. Paint its blood over your doors.
    - (a) It must be a male without blemish (no sin).
  - 2. Eat a meal together.
    - (a) Roast the lamb. Don't boil it (like a burnt offering).
    - (b) No leftovers. This is a sacred meal.

- 3. Eat it with bitter herbs (reminder of bitterness of Egypt).
  - (a) For us, remember that life in the world without Jesus is bitter.
  - (b) Do not forget and want to go back!
- 4. Eat it with unleavened bread.
  - (a) Leaven is like sin; works its way through whole loaf.
  - (b) So unleavened bread represents Jesus (no sin).
- D. God said, "when I see the blood, I will pass over you."
  - 1. "No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt."
    - (a) Not one of you shall go out until morning (Ex. 12:22).
    - (b) Stay under the blood!

### III. Remember, the Last Supper was a Passover meal.

- A. It was reinterpreted by Jesus.
  - 1. Like he reinterpreted the Law in Sermon on the Mount.
  - 2. The cup: "this is the blood of a new covenant."
  - 3. This bread is my body. He then broke it.
    - (a) Jesus' body was broken to bring us out of "Egypt" (oppression).
    - (b) Remember the bitter herbs. Life in Egypt is bitter.
- B. Have you painted the blood over your doorway?
  - 1. A doorway is an entry point.
    - (a) When you come under the blood, judgment is denied entry.
    - (b) The Holy Spirit enters. We become a temple.
  - 2. A door also represents security.
    - (a) We find true security in relationship with Jesus.
  - 3. We come under the blood by trust (faith) in Jesus.
    - (a) If you don't trust Jesus, your own "righteousness" is over the doorway.
    - (b) Your "righteousness" is like filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6)
    - (c) It provides no protection, no security, no redemption.
- C. Celebrate the Passover as a "lasting ordinance."
  - 1. Jesus said, "Do this in remembrance of Me."
    - (a) Breaking of bread pledges covenantal loyalty
    - (b) Renew the covenant regularly.
  - 2. Never let the Gospel become secondary.
    - (a) The Gospel is the center of Christianity.
    - (b) The Gospel is the power of Christianity.