

"The 10 Plagues upon Egypt"

Part 26

Exodus 7-12

Introduction: Tonight, in our study of the plagues we have come to a very interesting detail of the tenth plague. So far, we have looked at the Lamb and the blood of the Lamb. This tenth plague would be the slaying of the firstborn and the only means of protection from the judgment would be the blood of the Passover Lamb. The blood was to be applied on the doors of the dwellings of the Israelites. It was to be applied to the two side posts and the top lintel. None was to be placed upon the threshold of the door. When God would pass through the land to slay the firstborn and He would see the blood He would Passover the homes and they would be protected from the slaying of the firstborn.

So, the Lamb was to be killed by the head of every family and the blood applied with hyssop to the doors. But there was also something else and that was that God gave orders to consume the meat of the Lamb. This is what we are going to consider tonight.

I. The Meal

a. The Flesh

Notice Exodus 12:8

Israel was commanded to eat the flesh of the Lamb. Eating the flesh did not provide protection and security for that is what the blood did. Eating the Lamb would provide strength for the people for the journey ahead. They would be leaving Egypt and walking through the wilderness to the promise land. Their bodies would need the protein for strength for the journey.

Application:

This is a picture of how the Lamb of God provides the strength we need for the journey we are on in this world.

John 6:35a

³⁵ And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life:**

Philippians 4:13

¹³ I can do all things through Christ **which strengtheneth me.**

Now we must understand that Jesus Christ is the Word of God.

John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² The same was in the beginning with God.

³ All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Since Jesus Christ is the WORD, we then feed upon the Word for the strength we need for the journey we are on. Let me show you a situation from David's life to show you the importance of feasting upon the Lord to gain our strength.

1 Samuel 30:1-6

And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire;

² *And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way.*

³ *So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives, and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives.*

⁴ *Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep.*

⁵ *And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite.*

⁶ *And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the LORD his God.*

Let me show you the definition of the word "**encouraged**".

"To strengthen, prevail, harden, be strong, become strong, be courageous, be firm, grow firm, be resolute."

David was in a situation in which he was tired and weary. He and his men had been out in battle and now his own people turned upon him and blamed him for the capture of their families. Under this pressure David knew where to turn and that was to the Lord. It was the Lord who then gave him the strength to pursue and to recover all that had been stolen away.

Application:

David had been attacked by the Amalekites who captured their families. We can clearly relate to this because the Amalekites represent the flesh in the Bible. We are in a battle everyday with the flesh and we are in need of strength. If we do not access the power of our Lord, then we can expect we too will be robbed. We will be robbed of joy, peace, contentment as well as many other blessings which God desires for us to enjoy. Not only do we need strength for the battle with the flesh, but we also battle with Satanic forces. This journey we are on is not easy. We are soldiers in the middle of spiritual warfare, and we need the strength of Jesus Christ in our lives.

Psalm 1:1-3

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

² But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

³ And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Let us notice what the Psalmist wrote:

Psalm 119:28

²⁸ My soul melteth for heaviness: strengthen thou me according unto thy word.

Notice what Isaiah said concerning strength from the Lord.

Isaiah 40:29-31

²⁹ He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

³¹ But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

b. The Fire.

Notice Exodus 12:8

Here we see the flesh of the Lamb had to be roasted with fire. Fire in the Bible speaks of judgment. This is a picture of what Jesus endured on the cross for us.

Romans 6:23

²³ For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God's Word tells us that the payment required for our sins is death which is eternal separation from God. If a person dies in their sins, they will experience eternal separation from God in the fires of His judgment. We get a view of this in Luke.

Luke 16:19-24

¹⁹ There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day:

²⁰ And there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores,

²¹ And desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table: moreover the dogs came and licked his sores.

²² And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

²³ And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

²⁴ And he cried and said, Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.

Here we see the fires of God's judgment. Now let me show you what Jesus experienced on the cross.

Matthew 27:45-46

⁴⁵ Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour.

⁴⁶ And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

This was the separation from God the Father that was demanded as judgment.

John 19:28

²⁸ After this, Jesus knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the scripture might be fulfilled, saith, I thirst.

Here we see the results of the fires of judgment as Jesus states that He thirsts.

On the cross Jesus experienced our eternal judgment. He felt the flames of God's judgment and He experienced the darkness of separation from God the Father.

The Passover Lamb of Exodus 12 had to be roast with fire for it was a picture of what happened to our Lord on the cross as He died for us.

c. The Other Foods.

Notice Exodus 12:8

Here in this verse we also see that there were two other foods to be eaten with the Lamb. One was unleavened bread and the other was bitter herbs. Both of these have spiritual meaning.

1. The unleavened bread.

Leaven represents sin in the Bible and Paul connects Exodus 12 with the believer's life in 1 Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 5:1-8

It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

² And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

³ For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed,

⁴ In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,

⁵ To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

⁶ Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

⁷ Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

⁸ Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

A little leaven or yeast when placed into fresh bread dough spreads rapidly through the dough and causes the entire lump to rise.

This is exactly what sin does in our lives. It affects every area of our lives. When sin is present with us it hinders our feasting upon Jesus Christ. We all know that if there is sin in our lives then the last thing you desire to do is read the Word of God and pray. So, the picture here is that if we are going to gather strength by feeding upon the Word **sin must not** have a place in our lives.

2. Bitter Herbs.

This speaks of remorse and regret over sin. We cannot know the fellowship of His sufferings until we understand that His suffering was the result of our sin. In order to have fellowship with our Lord as we feast upon the Word we **MUST** have a hatred for sin. We are certainly not perfect in practice because we still live in these bodies of sin, so sin still happens and when it does there must be a remorse and a bitterness of soul when we sin. This is the result of walking close to our Lord and staying in His Word. When we drift into the world we become desensitized toward sin and there is little remorse and bitterness. Walking with the world will defile the conscience.

Titus 1:15

¹⁵ Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

Notice Exodus 12:15

We need to notice that leaven was to be eliminated for seven days. Notice the words of MacIntosh on this thought:

"The feast spoken of in this passage is that which, in this life and conduct of the Church, corresponds with the feast of unleavened bread. This lasted seven days, a complete circle of time; and the Church collectively, and the believer individually, are called to walk in practical holiness, during their days, or the entire period of their course here below; and this, moreover, as the direct result of being washed in the blood, and having communion with the sufferings of Christ."

d. The Forbidden.

Notice Exodus 12:9-10

There were three things that were forbidden when it came to eating the Lamb.

1. It was not to be eaten raw.

The preparation was not to be rushed. The Lamb was to be given plenty of time to cook. To eat the raw meat was not healthy.

The meaning here for us is that we are to take time to learn of Jesus Christ. We are not to become so busy in life that we must rush through our time with the Lord but our time with the Lord is to have top priority. We are to spend quality time in His Word and in prayer. Those who don't do this have very little interest in the things of the Lord.

2. It was not to be sodden with water.

The flesh of the Lamb was not to be boiled in water. The meaning for us here is that NOTHING pertaining to the Lord and His Word is to be watered down. Much of theology is boiled down in the waters of human reasoning today and the end result is the Truth is eliminated. The Truth of the Word is sharp, and it cuts but it is what is needed today.

Hebrews 4:12

*¹² For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and **sharper than any twoedged sword**, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

So many today have watered down the Gospel of Jesus Christ and for that reason there are hundreds of thousands who are lost and think they are saved. Under no circumstances is it EVER justified to water down or soften the Truth of God's Word. It must be delivered as it is and let God use it to work in the hearts of people.

3. They were to let nothing of it remain until the morning; and that which remaineth of it until the morning they were to burn with fire.

This was to prevent the sacrifice from being disrespected. The ancient heathens would often feed the remains of the sacrifice to their beasts or let it to spoil. That was never to be done with the Passover Lamb. If there was any left it was to be burn with fire.

The meaning for us here is that we are to be sure in our worship and in our teaching that Jesus Christ is never disrespected. An example of great disrespect would be what John Lennon and the Beatles did with Jesus Christ in one of their songs. They putrefied Him by calling Him "a garlic eating, stinking, little, yellow, greasy, fascist, Catholic Spaniard". Hollywood has often done the very same thing. Right now, there is a movie set to be released in which Michael Jackson's daughter portrays Jesus as a lesbian. This makes all involved guilty of showing great disrespect to our Lord. What these people do not know is they will be cursed for all eternity for what they are doing.

Conclusion: Let us learn to hold our Lord in a place of the highest respect and honor.