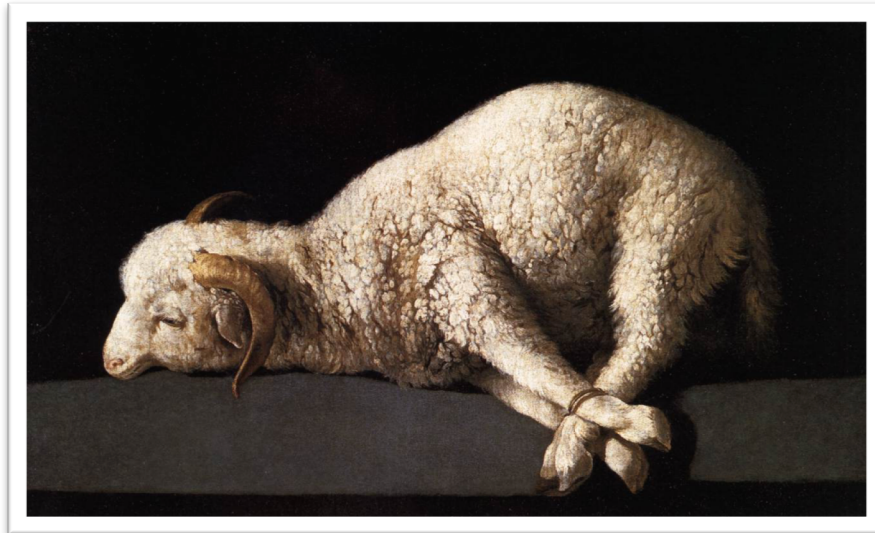


THE PASSOVER



timvalentino.com

To 21st Century Christians...

*“**ASK ABOUT THE FORMER DAYS**, long before your time, from the day God created man on the earth, ask from one end of the heavens to the other. Has anything so great as this ever happened, or has anything like it ever been heard of?”*

- Has any other people heard the voice of God speaking out of fire, as you have and lived?*
- Has any god ever tried to take for himself one nation out of another nation, by testings, by miraculous signs and wonders, by war, by a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, or by great and awesome deeds, like all the things the Lord your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes? (Deuteronomy 4:32-34)*

IT WAS THE TIME OF THE EXODUS. THE LAST PLAGUE WAS ABOUT TO BE EXECUTED.

Choose a male lamb without defect, slaughter it at twilight and roast it over the fire. Be dressed ready to go. You won't understand the full meaning of this ceremony now, but your descendants will. Some will witness the crucifixion of your Savior—the perfect lamb; still others will remember many years after his death because they keep this festival. So—eat in haste, for it is **LORD'S Passover** (Exodus 12:11).

All of Israel sat before their God and blessed their Passover meal, not knowing the true meaning of the celebration and the magnitude of the sacrifice.

“This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that anyone may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. **This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.** At this, the Jews began to argue among themselves, ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’” (John 6:50-52).

They were told to paint their door posts with the blood of the lamb. It will be seen and the death angel will pass over them—their first-born will not die. All those who accept the perfect Sacrifice will receive life eternal. This is a celebration of freedom from the slavery of sin and death, made possible by the blood of Christ—the Lamb. The apostle Paul taught us to keep it on the “same night in which he was betrayed”—the evening of the Passover (1 Corinthians 11:23).

Lifehopecandtruth.com provide a succinct description of the symbolism of Passover. “Symbols of the Passover are full of meaning. Jesus Himself is “our Passover” and “sacrificed for us” (1 Corinthians 5:7). The unleavened bread represents His sinless and broken body (Matthew 26:26), and the wine represents His blood that was poured out for us (Matthew 26:28). The foot washing represents the humility and serving attitude of Jesus, which we are to emulate (John 13:5-8, 9-11, 12-15). <https://lifehopecandtruth.com/life/blog/5-major-differences-between-passover-and-easter/>

This is a commanded annual festival celebrated on “This month is to be for you the **first month**, the first month of your year. Tell the whole community of Israel that on the **tenth day of this month** each is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household” (Exodus 12:2).

“Then Moses said to the people, ‘**Commemorate this day, the day you came out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery,** because the LORD brought you out of it with a mighty hand. Eat nothing containing yeast” (Exodus 13:3).

The Passover is the **first of God’s annual holy days**; the first major event in His grand plan for mankind. Without the payment of our sins, we are already dead. God is transparent. Seven days following the Passover, God said to eat unleavened bread, symbolizing the keeping of sin out of our body—a spiritual temple. Christ’s resurrection is celebrated on the Feast of First-Fruits. Christ’s resurrection confirms our resurrection into eternity. The next holy day is Pentecost; the day the church was renewed with God’s Holy Spirit. The receiving of the Holy Spirit was made possible by the payment of our sins, now finally we can grow in God’s grace and knowledge. The first four events in God’s grand plan has come to pass: The Passover, the Days of Unleavened Bread, Feast of First-Fruits and Pentecost. **Four major events remain unfulfilled: Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day.** Celebrate the holy days and you will not forget God’s grand plan for mankind.

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich.