

## Leaving Egypt - Beginning to Live in Christ

Bible Reading: Exodus 12:35-13:16

The Passover with its deliverance from the sentence of death through the sacrifice of the lamb is a picture lesson of the redemption of the sons of God through the sacrificial death of God's only Son, Jesus Christ. This form of teaching comes from Scripture and is known as typology. The historical event or entity is known as the type and the later event or entity to which it points is known as the antitype. Certain characteristics of the first have a counterpart in the second. We cannot say because this then that; for there is no rigid rule. It is like a parable. Typological teaching differs to spiritualisation. In spiritualisation the characteristics of one are claimed inherently by another as theirs. Typical of this method is to claim by the Christian Church all the promises and blessings of Israel (but often none of the cursing). What we can and do claim is that because the God of Israel is the God of the Christian, and He does not change, then His way made known to Israel then, will not be inconsistent with His known ways today. What has changed is His more perfect revelation of Himself found only in Christ Jesus.

Today we think about what it is to begin to live in Christ, the first steps of new life upon leaving the control and domination of our old world of servitude to Satan and sin. We will follow each verse by turn. How do we know that these records are true and the data accurate? God ordered Moses to keep a journal recording them. See Numbers 33:2. It is a good idea to record the way God is leading and blessing you in life. It can be encouraging to you and others.

**Exodus 6:35** The Hebrews brought with them the gold and silver of Egypt. Whilst we need to learn to live in the Spirit the new life by faith, we still live day to day in a material world, and nothing is evil in itself. More than that, what we bring with us can be used in serving our new master too. See Luke 16:9. What is important is our attitude toward what we hold in our hand.

**v37 Where did the journey take them?** They began from the city of Pharaoh Rameses II, then to Succoth, probably a little documented<sup>1</sup> town on the NW frontier, and thence to Etham, a desert bordering NW Egypt and running down the East of the west arm of the Red sea.

God led them then back to the west bank of the sea to Pi-harhiroth. Exodus 14:1-3 & Numbers 33:5-8. They then crossed the Red Sea and found themselves back in the desert of Etham, but further south. If your Bible Atlas shows the journey above the Red Sea west arm then down its east bank, reject it. Sadly, not all Bible scholars accept that God's word is true.

**v38 Who went?** 600,000 men plus women and children, an estimated 1,500,000 people- a massive task; so much so that unbelieving liberal scholars have disputed this number. Two considerations, the desert (meaning 'deserted place rather than dry') was more fertile then, but still Moses needed God's miraculous intervention, as we shall see.

**v39 What did they do first?** They ate their unleavened Passover bread. The first thing any new Christian needs to do is to feed on Christ through the word of God, that is learning how to trust Him. It is for the redeemed, the unbelieving will not want it, for it is tasteless to them.

John 6:27 "Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal."

The Jews picked up the word 'work', for it suited them. Jesus replied,

John 6:29 "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."

**v40 How did this fit God's plan?** It fitted His prophecy to the day. See Genesis 15:13. In the fulness of time Jesus came Galatians 4:4, and Daniel 9:25-27 foretold the death of Jesus to the day, and predicted the fall of Jerusalem. Many have tried to work out the day when Jesus will come again, but we can best safely leave all that to God.

**v43-49 Is the Passover the same as the communion table?** Passover participants trusted in a future sacrifice. That Sacrifice was Christ of Calvary. But the Communion points back to what has been done once for ever. We simply remember and affirm our trust. 'Do this in remembrance of me Luke 22:19'

For the Hebrews, one lamb for each family. A circumcised foreign slave and a resident alien could share.

Circumcision was a rite given to Abraham Genesis 17:10, as a sign and a seal of God's covenant. It was not a seal of Mosaic law. Circumcision was given 450 years before the Passover and the Mosaic law. Passover was first observed within this covenant seal. Sojourners were required to be circumcised to take part v48.

No bone was to be broken, a pointer to the Sacrifice of Calvary Psalm 34:20 and John 19:36.

Hebrew and Gentile were included on equal terms. This has always been God's plan in Christ v49.

Galatians 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek,

there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

**Exodus 13:1 Why was the firstborn to be sanctified?** Sanctify means to dedicate or consecrate. "It belongs to Me." The principle here is that, that which has been bought by the blood of Jesus belongs to God.

First Corinthians 6:19&20 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

**Have you trusted Jesus as your Saviour?** Then you can trust Him also as your Sanctifier. By His blood our sin is removed and God in judgment sees us in His righteousness. By His resurrection and intercessory life we are fitted to take our place as His sons eternally.

Romans 5:10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life.

We are saved eternally in an instant when we trust that true Passover Lamb. We are sanctified in life as day by day we continue to trust Him.

We learn about His works, His will and His ways (What God does, has planned, and what He values) in the lives of His people.

We must learn to respond to Him appropriately. Examining the experiences of the Hebrews under Moses can help us in this objective.

This is the aim of this series of Bible studies.

Endnotes 1. Rameses, the Delta residence of Rameses II, 1290-1224BC to Succoth, a town in NE of Egypt - Anastasi papyrus V 13C B.C., which tells of some runaway slaves. Traditional dating. Bible quotations in this study are from the NASB, unless otherwise acknowledged.

Welcome

**Glen Park Gospel Church**  
 Lower Road, Eltham North  
 Sundays 10.30 am

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