

ONE in the word

“Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me (Jesus).” (John 5:39)

January 24

TODAY'S READING: Exodus 10-13

OVERVIEW: The last three of the ten plagues including the death of the firstborn; the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread instituted by God as a memorial feast; the removal of Joseph's bones from Egypt.

HIGHLIGHTS & INSIGHTS: God's desire in delivering His people up out of the bondage of Egypt was to totally separate us as a people unto Himself. In 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, God lets us know that He wants us to make absolutely no compromises with the world and/or the devil. It is interesting to note the four compromises Pharaoh (a picture of Satan) offered to Moses and the people of Israel (the individual believer in Christ) in the midst of the ten plagues. They are the same compromises Satan will be seeking to cause us to make as we continue our pilgrimage with Christ.

1. **Worship God, but stay in Egypt (Exodus 8:25-27)** God demands complete separation from the world because friendship with the world is enmity with God (James 4:4). Satan doesn't mind if you are double-minded but God most certainly does! (2 Corinthians 6:14-18; James 1:8; 4:8)
2. **Leave, but don't go too far away (Exodus (8:28)** Satan says, "Sure, do the God thing," but you don't have to be a fanatic. Give God a place in your heart but don't go overboard with it! God says, "*If I'm God, follow me alone. If anything else is god, then follow it. But don't think that you can do both!*" (1 Kings 18:21) The fact is you can't be close to God and close to the world at the same time. Jesus said it is an impossibility (Matthew 6:24)! He also said it makes Him sick (Revelation 3:15-16)!
3. **Leave, but allow your children to remain in Egypt (Exodus 10:7-11)** Satan will let men think they are doing well spiritually, if in so doing, he can take captive the next generation. Men/fathers have been called to *lead* their families to worship God and God alone (1 Timothy 3:4-5; Titus 1:6).
4. **Leave, but keep your possessions in Egypt (Exodus 10:24-26)** Satan wants you to think that your relationship to God and your relationship to your money and possessions are two different things. They simply are not! Jesus said in Matthew, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon (money)" (6:24), and "...where your treasure is, there will your heart be also" (6:21). If you are thinking that you are walking in the perfect will of God for your life, but your treasure is in Egypt (the world), you have been duped!

In order to avoid the death of the firstborn plague, the people of Israel had to kill a spotless lamb and apply the blood to the doorposts of their house. When God saw the blood, He passed over that house and did not kill the firstborn. In the same way, God rejects our first birth and requires that we be “born again” (John 3:3) by the blood of the spotless Lamb of God (1 Peter 1:18-19).

Note the progression concerning the lamb in Exodus 12:3-5. It is “A lamb,” then “the lamb,” then “your lamb.” The practical implications are powerful: in order for your sin to be removed, you need “*A lamb*” (Luke 2:11). But, not just any lamb will do! It must be “*THE Lamb*” (John 4:42). But in order for your sin to actually be taken away, “*THE Lamb*” must become “*YOUR Lamb!*” (John 20:28)

Part of the Passover feast is that the lamb was to be eaten. Too often we forget that we are supposed to feast on the Word of God (John 1:1, 14) and desire it more than our necessary food (Job 23:12).

CHRIST IS REVEALED:

- As the LIGHT TO HIS PEOPLE – Exodus 10:22-23 (John 8:12)
- The sacrifice of an UNBLEMISHED LAMB with no BROKEN BONES – Exodus 12:5, 46 (1 Peter 1:19; Psalm 34:20; John 19:36)
- As the PASSOVER LAMB – Exodus 12:3-5 (1 Corinthians 5:7b; 1 Peter 1:19; John 1:29)