



# Blackfoot

## Church of Christ

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### Christ our Passover

“For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us”

1 Corinthians 5:7

By Ross Ward

In the Corinthian letter, Paul makes a very powerful analogy of Jesus being our Passover. There are many aspects of this analogy that make for good lessons for us to consider today.

The Passover is a reference to one of three Israelite annual feasts. God first instructed the Children of Israel to partake of this feast while there were slaves in Egypt, just prior to them becoming a nation of their own. The events surrounding the implementation of the Feast, recorded in Exodus 12, help us to understand its meaning. The initial Passover Feast came after God had sent 9 miraculous and devastating plagues upon the Egyptian nation. These plagues showed Pharaoh (and the Israelites) God’s great power over all creation. As we might remember, Pharaoh’s stubborn heart prevented him from releasing the Children of Israel as God was requesting. The 10<sup>th</sup> and final plague that God sent upon Egypt was the “Death of the First Born”. God instructed the Israelite slaves that on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month, they were to prepare a lamb as well as unleavened bread, eat this for a meal, then paint the door posts with the blood from the lamb. They are given the following promise

“when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.”

Exodus 12:13

So it was, as the Lord came through Egypt that night, He passed over the houses marked with the blood of the lamb and they were saved from this horrendous plague. This feast was called the Passover Feast and it was memorialized

annually on the same the day and month of the last plague, the day that the Israelites were released from Egyptian slavery.

So, Paul stays Jesus is our Passover. Let's now consider some analogies of our Savior to this feast.

1. Jesus was slain on the same day as the lamb was slain for the Passover feast. On the evening of the Passover (The beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> day by Jewish time keeping), He and his disciples ate the Passover meal: Matthew 26:19-21, "And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.<sup>20</sup> Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve. <sup>21</sup> And as they did eat,..." In succeeding events from that same night; Jesus was arrested, tried, and crucified, dying before the sunset of the next day. Matthew 27:46, Jesus died about the 9<sup>th</sup> hour. We see that Jesus died on the same day as the Passover Feast.
2. Jesus was the perfect lamb. We find that the Passover lamb was to be without blemish, so was Jesus. 1 Peter 1:19, (we are redeemed with) "the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot"
3. The faithful Christian is Passed Over in judgment and protected from the Judgment of God. Just as the faithful Israelites were spared from judgment of God. We too can be spared from the Judgment of God when we are faithful to his commands. Jesus states in Matthew 7:21, "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." Jesus tell us we must obey his will, not just acknowledge faith in him and his authority. We see that the only ones spared in Egypt, were those who followed God's instructions. If there was not blood on the door post of a house, then judgment came to that house. But that was not the fulfillment of the Israelite's salvation, it was the beginning. They were carefully instructed in Deuteronomy 8 that they must remain faithful to God or they would fall victim to the judgment of God.  
"And it shall be, if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day that ye shall surely perish.<sup>20</sup> As the nations which the LORD destroyed before your face, so shall ye perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the LORD your God. " Deuteronomy 8:19-20
4. Because of Jesus, we are released from slavery. The plagues in Egypt allowed for the release of the Israelites from slavery. Release for the Israel was only accessible after the Passover. We too are offered release from slavery. First, we learn from Jesus that sin is a slavery, John 8:34,

“...Whosoever commits sin is the servant of sin.” We also learn that Jesus offers release from sin: John 8:31-32, “If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” We see that continuing in Jesus teachings, sets us free. Jesus, our Passover, allows us to be released from sin. We also probably remember that even though Israel was released from Egyptian slavery, they longed to return on several occasions. We can have the same response to sin today. We must continue in Jesus and remain separated from sin. Our release from slavery, as with Israelites, is not a onetime event it is a life long journey. Reference Deuteronomy 8 again.

5. We have a memorial feast in the Lords Supper of which we partake. The Israelites’ Passover Feast was a memorial of God delivering them from Egyptian captivity.

“...that thou mayest remember the day when thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of thy life.” Deuteronomy 16:3

In a similar manner, we partake of the Lords Supper, to remind us of the sacrifice made on our behalf.

“For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.” 1 Corinthians 11:26

6. Our memorial feast is comprised of similar elements. The Israelites were to make unleavened bread for their memorial. Their example is the exact reason we know the Lords Supper taught by Jesus is also of unleavened bread. Jesus would not have broken the law of the Passover feast and since it was the Passover meal they partook of when Jesus implemented the supper, they would not have even had leaven in their houses.

“Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses:” Exodus 12:19

We find the bible has many analogies between the Israelite’s Passover Feast and Jesus our savior. These make great lessons for us to remember. We also see that, as the Israelites followed God’s instructions, they showed their faith in God and by acting upon that faith, they were saved from God’s judgment. We are truly blessed to be children of a God who cares for us enough to prepare and reveal a way for us to be righteous, and a way that we can be at peace with him. Let us not forget.

## Prayer Requests & Announcements

- Chad, Kass, and kids are spending spring break in California
- David and Catherine are traveling abroad and plan to return the end of this week.
- Tammy Woodward is being treated for cancerous brain tumors and is experiencing problems with the treatments she is undergoing.
- Several of our number are in the recovery phase of surgeries
- Keep April in your prayers as she deals with health issues
- The Christians in the Philippines.
- Bible class studying evangelism is postponed
- Joe Price will be bringing lessons for us May 19-24

**For prayer requests, call or text**

Chad @ (208) 221-2587 or Ross @ (208) 680-6590

## Assignments

<b><u>Today</u></b> <b>Bible Study</b> – Ross Ward <b>Song Leader</b> – Tom Mitchell <b>Lord’s Table</b> – Ross Ward <b>Sermon</b> – Ross Ward	<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>Bible Study</b> – Tom Mitchell <b>Song Leader</b> – Tom Mitchell <b>Invitation</b> – Ross Ward
<b><u>Next Sunday</u></b> <b>Bible Study</b> – Ross Ward <b>Song Leader</b> – Ben Palmer <b>Lord’s Table</b> – Chad Mitchell <b>Sermon</b> – Ross Ward	<b><u>Next Wednesday</u></b> <b>Bible Study</b> – Chad Mitchell <b>Song Leader</b> – Ben Palmer <b>Invitation</b> – Ross Ward

Blackfoot Church of Christ  
370 North Shilling Ave.  
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221

### **Meeting Times:**

Sunday Class 10:00AM  
Sunday Worship 11:00AM  
Wednesday Class 7:30PM



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