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The Passover

Definitions in **bold** letters are from **Strong's** Exhaustive Concordance

Other definitions are from **Webster's** Dictionary, 1828 / 1913 Edition

or Roget's Thesaurus – **October 27, 2019**

Exodus 12:1-14

Introduction: The Passover which appears in this chapter by the direct authority of **Almighty God** is NOT merely the adaptation of some **previously-existing pagan rite** celebrating "the birth of lambs, and probably a communion meal shared by the shepherd group and its deity." The account given here is the **original account** of the **Passover**, and it is NOT an account of how the ordinance was observed at "a late period in Israel's development."

The **Lamb SLAIN** from **the foundation** of the **world** was indeed **typified** (represented) by the **Passover lamb** in this chapter, but no less so than it was typified by the **offering** of **Abel**.
(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/exodus-12.html>)

1 Peter 1:18-20, Forasmuch as ye KNOW that ye were NOT redeemed (**ransom** [buy out of servitude or penalty]) **with** corruptible things, as **SILVER** and **GOLD**, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your **fathers**; But **with the** precious **blood** of Christ, **as** of a **lamb** without blemish and without spot: **Who verily was foreordained BEFORE the foundation (conception) of the world...**

Exodus 12:1-2, And **the LORD (Jehovah [Yahweh])** spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, This month shall be unto you the **beginning of months:** it shall be the **FIRST month** of the **year** to you.

NOTE: Not only the **first**, as after expressed, but the **chief** and **principal** (MOST important) of them, now famous for their coming out of Egypt IN it, and would be more so for the **sufferings** and **death** of the **Messiah**, and **redemption** by him from sin, Satan, and the world, law, hell, and death, for he suffered at the time of the **Passover**. ...it shall be the **first month** of the year to you; which before was the **seventh**; while the Israelites were in Egypt they observed the same **beginning** of the **year** and course of months as the Egyptians, as Josephus intimates; and with the Egyptians, the month **Thot** was the **first month**, which answered to **Tisri** with the Jews, and both to our **September**, or a part of it, so that the **beginning** of the year **was then** in the autumnal equinox, at which season it is thought **the world was created**; but now to the Israelites it was changed unto the vernal equinox, for this month of **Abib** or **Nisan** answers to part of our **March** and part of **April**; though indeed both beginnings of the year were observed by them, the ONE on **ecclesiastic**, the OTHER on **CIVIL**... (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/exodus-12.html>)

Exodus 12:3-4, Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the **tenth day** of this month they shall take to them every man **a lamb**, according to the house of their fathers, **a lamb** for an house: And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the **number** of the **souls**; every man according to his **eating** shall make your count for the lamb.

NOTE: ... the Jewish doctors commonly understand it as being peculiar to the **passover in Egypt, and NOT in later times**; for they say, 'what difference is there between the **Passover** in **Egypt**, and the **Passover** in **later ages?** the passover in Egypt was taken

within the tenth day, and was obliged to sprinkling with a bunch of hyssop upon the lintel, and upon the two side posts, and was eaten with haste in **ONE night**, but the **Passover in LATER ages** was **kept all the SEVEN days.**"

(<https://www.haaretz.com/jewish/.premium-the-jewish-festivals-and-holidays-1.5289618>)

The ground and reason of this special direction for taking up a lamb on the **tenth day** was, that **they might have a lamb ready**; and that through the multiplicity of business, and the hurry they would be in at their departure, they might NOT forget it, and neglect it... **according to the number of the souls**; which Josephus says were never fewer than ten, and were often twenty, but no man might feast alone; with which agrees the Jewish canon
(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/exodus-12.html>)

Exodus 12:5, Your **lamb (sheep or goat:--(small)** shall be **without blemish**, a **MALE** of the first year: ye shall take it out from the Sheep, or from the GOATS:

NOTE: Here too the **Christ** is **typified**. It was specifically foretold that the **Seed of Woman** should crush the serpent's head, (Gen. 3:15) but it was equally true that the **Messiah** would be a **MAN**, a **He-Man**, (Rev. 12:13), his masculinity being specifically stressed by the sacred writers. A male (lamb) a year old would be in the prime of life, at the zenith of its strength, just as **Christ** was **crucified** at about **age 33**, the very **pinnacle of earthly strength** and maturity. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/exodus-12.html>)

Exodus 12:6, And ye shall keep it up until the **fourteenth day** of the same month: and the whole assembly of the **congregation** of Israel shall KILL it in the **evening**.

NOTE: Only the **heads of households** actually **did the killing**, but, in the aggregate (totalness), they represented ALL Israel. In this too, one sees the responsibility of all Israel, indeed of ALL people, in the crucifixion of Christ.

...**Kill it at even**... Literally, between the TWO evenings. There are two interpretations of this: (1) between 3:00 p.m. and sundown, and (2) between sundown and dark. We believe that the correct interpretation is (1), basing it upon the fact that **Christ suffered death** at the **ninth hour** (3:00 p.m.), as noted in Matt. 27:46.

When the lambs were sacrificed in the temple, by a continual succession of offerers, it became impossible to complete the sacrifices in the short time originally allowed. Of necessity the work of killing the victims was commenced pretty early in the afternoon, and continued until after sunset. The interpretation was then altered to bring it in line with the altered practice. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/exodus-12.html>)

NOTE: ...it is remarkable, that on this very day, the **tenth of Nisan**, **four days before** the **Passover**, and so as many days before his sufferings and death, he (Jesus) made his entry into Jerusalem, near to which he was to be offered up, (John 12:1, John 12:12)
(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/exodus-12.html>)

Exodus 12:7, And they shall take of the **blood**, and **strike** it on the **two side posts** and on the **upper door post** of the **houses**, wherein they shall eat it.

NOTE: ...as a sign of safety to those within. The posts must be considered of tents, in which the Israelites generally lived, though some might be in houses. **It was to be on the side posts** and **upper doorposts**, where it might be looked to, **NOT on the threshold**, **where it might be trodden under foot**. This was an emblem of the blood of sprinkling. (Heb. 12:24, 10). (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/jfu/exodus-12.html>)

Exodus 12:8-10, And they shall **eat the flesh** in that **night**, **ROAST** with **fire**, and UNLEAVENED bread; and with BITTER herbs they shall eat it.

Eat NOT of it **raw**, nor **sodden (boil)** at all with water, but **roast with fire**; his head with his legs, and with the **purtenance (bowels)** thereof. And ye shall let nothing of it remain until the **morning**; and that which remaineth of it until the morning ye shall **burn with fire**.

NOTE: The solemnly **eating** of the lamb was typical of our gospel-duty TO Christ. (1.) The paschal lamb was killed, NOT to be **looked upon only**, but to be **FED UPON**; so we must by FAITH make Christ ours, as we do that which we eat, and we must receive spiritual **strength** and **nourishment** FROM him, as from our food, and have delight and satisfaction in him, as we have in eating and drinking when we are hungry or thirsty... (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/mhm/exodus-12.html>)

John 6:63, It is the spirit that quickeneth (give LIFE); the flesh profiteth nothing: the **WORDS** that I SPEAK unto you, they are SPIRIT, and **they are LIFE.**

NOTE: ...the **manner** of **roasting it**, according to the Jewish canons, was this, they bring a spit (bar pointed) made of the wood of pomegranate, and thrust it into its mouth quite through it, and put the thighs and entrails within it; they do NOT roast the passover lamb on an iron spit, NOR on an iron grate.

...Justin Martyr is still more particular, who was by birth a Samaritan, and was well versed in Jewish affairs;says, the **lamb** was **roasted** in the **form** of a **cross**; one spit, he says, went through from the lower parts to the head, and again another ACROSS the shoulders, to which the hands (or rather the legs) of the lamb were fastened and hung; and so was a very lively emblem of **Christ crucified...**

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/geb/exodus-12.html>)

NOTE: With bitter herbs... Nettles, chicory, wild lettuce and endives are among the bitter herbs supposed to have been used, and used by the Jews for this ceremony until today. The meaning of this also is reflected in the reality of the Lord's Table, where the prospect is retrospective to the **sufferings** and **death** of **Our Lord**, and prospective to the coming of his glorious Second Advent. Just so, in that Passover, the **bitter herbs** were retrospective to the **bitter slavery** and **hardships** of Israel in Egypt, and prospective to their **trials** and **hardships** as they struggled to reach the Promised Land.

(Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/exodus-12.html>)

Exodus 12:11, And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD'S (Jehovah [Yahweh]) PASSOVER (prepermission [passing by; omission], exemption).

NOTE: Not a bone of Christ was broken, despite the fact of a unit of the **Roman army** having been dispatched with orders to break his legs. And, just as they ate that first Passover in haste, Israel was in a **hurry** for the true Passover **to die**, and the purpose of Pilate's order to break his legs was that of hastening his death (which had already occurred). John 19:31-33. (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/exodus-12.html>)

Exodus 12:12-14, For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite (kill) all the FIRSTBORN in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against ALL the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD (Jehovah [Yahweh]). And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and 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. And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

NOTE: Against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments... This has a limited application to what God had already done during the previous visitations of his wrath, but the thing in view here is the devastating series of judgments that fell upon **that final** and **fatal night** when the **first-born** both of man and of beast from the greatest to the lowest in all the land of Egypt **DIED in agony at the midnight hour!...** ...Even the **pagan god Pharaoh**, whose **first-born** was heir ... to the throne... ...was NOT spared. The **JUDGMENT of God** fell upon the **palace** as upon the **hovel** (shed, cottage) or the **kennel**. (See Heb. 11:24-26, 28) (Source: <https://www.studylight.org/commentaries/bcc/exodus-12.html>)