

THE FINAL JUDGMENT AND THE DELIVERANCE FROM EGYPT

BIBLE TEXT : Exodus 11 :1-10 ; 12 :1-51

LESSON 56 Junior Course

MEMORY VERSE: "When I see the blood, I will pass over you" (Exodus 12:13)

BIBLE TEXT in King James Version

Exodus 11:1-10

¹ And the LORD said unto Moses, Yet will I bring one plague *more* upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let *you* go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether.

² Speak now in the ears of the people, and let every man borrow of his neighbour, and every woman of her neighbour, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold.

³ And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses *was* very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.

⁴ And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt:

⁵ And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maid-servant that *is* behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts.

⁶ And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more.

⁷ But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.

⁸ And all these thy servants shall come down unto me, and bow down themselves unto me, saying, Get thee out, and all the people that follow thee: and after that I will go out. And he went out from Pharaoh in a great anger.

⁹ And the LORD said unto Moses, Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you; that my wonders may be multiplied in the land of Egypt.

¹⁰ And Moses and Aaron did all these wonders before Pharaoh: and the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that he would not let the children of Israel go out of his land.

Exodus 12:1-51

¹ And the LORD spake unto Moses and

BIBLE REFERENCES:

NOTES:

Victory Comes

God's time to bring forth His people in triumph from their enslavement has finally come! He has shown His mighty power in such a way that no one in the land can say he never heard about God. The many gods and goddesses that the Egyptians served have been powerless to help their worshipers in the hour of their greatest need. Of what use is it to worship gods who cannot do anything for you?

How different is the God of the Bible! He has promised that not a hair of our heads shall perish. That means that He notices even the little things. He has said: "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him" (**II** Chronicles 16:9). If we live to please God He will take good care of us.

In this lesson God said He would take such good care of His people that the dogs would not even dare to wag their tongues against them, nor against their cattle. But what was going to happen to the Egyptians? There was going to be death in every home. The first-born of the family was considered the most precious, and upon them was this judgment to fall. Think how every family would mourn when their favorite child suddenly died! It was much greater suffering than if everyone had been killed, because then there would have been no one left to mourn.

The Substitute

The Jews, though a chosen people, were not without sin; and if the first-born of the Egyptians were dying for their sins, the first-born of the Jews would have died, too, had it not been for the blood upon their dwellings. Every family was to kill a lamb and put the blood over their door and on the side posts, and that blood would be a sign to the death angel that the lamb had died in that house in place of the first-born, and the angel would pass over.

The Passover

What happened in Egypt that night was important to all the world for all time. It was so important that God told the Israelites that they should start a new calendar, making this the first month. From now on they were going to live a new life. They were not going to be slaves any more, but free children of God. What they did this night — the eating of the paschal lamb — was to be repeated from year to year "for ever," so they would not forget their great deliverance out of Egypt.

Now we shall see what happened. God gave the people particular instructions that must be carefully obeyed. On the tenth day of the month they were to choose a male lamb from their flocks. It must be perfect, so they were to keep it separate until the 14th day of the month, in order, perhaps, to look it over carefully, and to keep it from becoming defiled. On the evening of the 14th day it was to be killed, and the blood sprinkled on the side posts and over the top of the door — not on the threshold to be stepped on. The lamb was then to be roasted and eaten with bitter herbs. This was called the paschal lamb, and the feast became known as the Passover, and was kept every year by the pious Jews. The Jews still attempt to observe this ceremony today,

Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,
² This month *shall be* unto you the beginning of months: it *shall be* the first month of the year to you.

³ 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:

⁴ 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.

⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take *it* out from the sheep, or from the goats:

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.

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.

⁸ And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; *and* with bitter *herbs* they shall eat it.

⁹ Eat not of it raw, nor sodden at all with water, but roast *with* fire; his head with his legs, and with the purtenance thereof.

¹⁰ 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.

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 passover.

¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite 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.

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ 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.

¹⁵ Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for

but they leave out the blood.

Our Paschal Lamb

We said, however, that this feast was important to all the world, not alone to the Jews. God had promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that through their seed all the nations of the world would be blessed, which referred to Christ. The paschal lamb was a type of Christ. In I Corinthians 5:7 we read: "For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us." The law of God declares that without the shedding of blood there is no remission for sin (Hebrews 9:22); and when Jesus became our Paschal Lamb and shed His Blood for our sins, it was no longer necessary to kill the lamb each year at the Passover. Jesus was our "lamb without blemish and without spot" (I Peter 1:19). Jesus bled and 'died that anyone in the world might be saved and need not die for his own sin.'

The Blood Applied

The fact that the Israelites obeyed Moses and killed the lamb did not save them from death. Even their faith in Moses did not spare them. The blood had to be put over the door and on the side posts before the death angel would pass over them. Just so the death of Christ on the cross, His shed Blood, even our belief in Him, will not save us from eternal death. We must do something about it — we must let Him apply His Blood to our hearts.

We can do this by coming to Jesus in repentance, sorry for our sins and willing to forsake them; and then praying until we know He has forgiven us. That is what it means to be born again — starting a new life, free from the bondage of Satan. We deserve death for our sins, and God requires it: "For the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). But Jesus had mercy on us; and because He died for us, we do not have to die in our sins if we let His Blood cover our hearts.

No Bones Broken

After the lamb was roasted it was to be eaten with bitter herbs. If any of it was left, it was to be burned so that none of it would spoil. Remember, the lamb was a type of Christ, and the Psalmist said, "For thou

wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption" (Psalm 16:10). No bones of the lamb were to be broken; and we find that also was fulfilled. When Jesus was hanged on the cross, and the soldiers came by to break the legs of all those who had been crucified, they broke the legs of the prisoners who hung beside Jesus; but when they saw that He was already dead, they passed Him by. David had prophesied, "He keepeth all his bones: not one of them is broken" (Psalm 34:20). Again He fulfilled the type of the lamb.

The people were to be dressed, have their shoes on, their walking sticks in their hands, all ready to travel, as they ate. Perhaps this command sounded strange to them because Moses had told them not to go out of their houses that night until the death angel had passed; and who would think of starting to **travel in the night?**

The Death Blow

But at midnight there was a great commotion. A terrible calamity had struck Egypt. In every home — from the palace to the stables — the first-born was dead. What a mourning there was for their beloved who was not!

Moses did not have to ask any longer if Pharaoh would let the people go. Right in the night Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron, and he told them to go and take all their children and all their flocks and herds — do anything they wanted to do, only go! All the Egyptians rushed to the homes of the Hebrews and told them to hurry and leave the land. They loaned them of their gold and silver and jewels — which paid them somewhat for their service as slaves. Their riches did not amount to anything in the face of

whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

¹⁶ And in the first day *there shall be* an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save *that* which every man must eat, that only may be done of you.

¹⁷ And ye shall observe *the feast of unleavened bread*; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.

¹⁸ In the first *month*, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even.

¹⁹ Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.

²⁰ Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.

²¹ Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover.

²² And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip *it* in the blood that *is* in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that *is* in the basin; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning.

²³ For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite *you*.

²⁴ And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever.

²⁵ And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service.

²⁶ And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service?

²⁷ That ye shall say, It *is* the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.

²⁸ And the children of Israel went away,

death.

Hasty Departure

The Children of Israel did not tarry. They took all they could carry with them, and started to travel. They did not put leaven in their bread dough, but took it as it was, and left the land of Egypt. Six hundred thousand men, besides the women and children, journeyed that night into the wilderness. Some of the mixed multitude of Egypt had been impressed with the wonders Moses had performed, and they went out with them. What a sight that must have been to behold! It is conservatively estimated that three million people made up this great company, besides all the flocks and herds. Think of the lowing of the cattle, the bleating of the sheep, and the cloud of dust that must have risen as they tramped out on foot from their land of bondage!

The promises of God to His chosen people were fulfilled. They were never to forget this mighty deliverance, but year by year celebrate the Passover as a reminder. They were to tell their children of this great event, and impress upon them the great goodness and mercy of God. It is important that parents teach their children about the love of God, and their duty **to Him**.

The Children of Israel were now on their way to the promised land. But their journey had only begun.

QUESTIONS

- 1 What was the last plague? and who was affected by it?
- 2 How were the Children of Israel to escape the plague?
- 3 Of Whom was the lamb a type? Name some ways in which Jesus fulfilled the type.
- 4 Where was the blood to be placed, and why?
- 5 How can we be saved?

and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

²⁹ And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that *was* in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.

³⁰ And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for *there was* not a house where *there was* not one dead.

³¹ And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, *and* get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said.

³² Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also.

³³ And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We *be* all dead *men*.

³⁴ And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders.

³⁵ And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:

³⁶ And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them *such things as they required*. And they spoiled the Egyptians.

³⁷ And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot *that were* men, beside children.

³⁸ And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, *even* very much cattle.

³⁹ And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual.

⁴⁰ Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, *was* four hundred and thirty years.

⁴¹ And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

⁴² It *is* a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this *is* that night of the

LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.

⁴³ And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This *is* the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof:

⁴⁴ But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof.

⁴⁵ A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof.

⁴⁶ In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof.

⁴⁷ All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

⁴⁸ And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

⁴⁹ One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you.

⁵⁰ Thus did all the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

⁵¹ And it came to pass the selfsame day, *that* the LORD did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.