

## STORY

The Tenth Plague: The First Passover - Exodus 12

## TEACHER PRAYER

Heavenly Father, I thank You that while You have hidden the mystery of Your salvation from the wise and prudent, You have revealed it to children. Impress upon me the seriousness of my high calling as a teacher and enable the love of Christ to shine forth through my teaching. I pray that You would help me see Jesus in this story of Your great Old Testament salvation act of deliverance. Amen

## VOCABULARY

*Passover* - the Jewish festival commemorating God's deliverance of His people from Egypt

*leaven* - yeast, that which makes bread rise

*firstborn* - the oldest child in a family

## OUTER AIM

God saved his people from death and delivered them from Egypt.

## INNER AIM

Jesus, our Passover Lamb, is sacrificed for us.

## BACKGROUND

God told Moses to prepare the people for their Exodus from Egypt. The difference between Israel and Egypt and between Jehovah and the gods of Egypt was about to be revealed in a final cataclysmic stroke from God. The judgment would be the death of the firstborn (11:4-7).

The Passover celebrates the most important salvation act of the Old Testament. The date the Passover took place would become the first month of the Jewish new year emphasizing the importance of the Passover. This month had been named Abib meaning "ears" because the "ears" of grain appeared in this month (March-April depending on the new moon). This is why the date of Easter corresponding to the Passover is always in March or April. This month of Abib is now called Nisan because of the "Passover" sacrifice chosen by each household.

Four days before the Passover took place, a one-year-old male lamb or kid without a blemish was to be sacrificed. The meat of the lamb would have to be totally eaten by a family or group of families. The blood was to be caught in a basin and then "struck" with a branch of hyssop on the two sideposts and the upper doorpost of the house. Hyssop in ancient times was often considered to have cleansing properties.

The blood of a lamb or goat was to be applied directly to the house to make atonement for its inhabitants and convert it to an altar. Seeing the blood, Jehovah would pass over the door and spare the inhabitants of the house. The name "passover" or "pascha" literally expressed the meaning of this observance. The sacrificial meal consisted of the lamb, unleavened bread and bitter herbs. The bitter herbs symbolized the bitterness of the afflictions in Egypt. The unleavened bread symbolized the removal of the old corruption and the need to leave in a hurry. Finally, the Passover lamb symbolized God's great Old Testament act of act of salvation and the deliverance of His people from Egypt.

At midnight, God's judgment came upon Egypt. About midnight Jehovah passed through the land of Egypt and a great cry went up. Pharaoh begged the children of Israel to leave. He even gave them the wealth of Egypt to leave Egypt immediately lest "we all be dead men."

God's salvation was to be a perpetual memory, as each year the Jews were to celebrate the Passover and explain the deliverance of God. Every year at this time, God's people were to reenact the Passover meal that would bring to remembrance God's great salvation act. When the children would ask, "Why are we eating this lamb and unleavened bread, and bitter herbs?" the parents would then tell them how God had delivered His people from Egypt. The observance of the Passover was to be followed by a "feast of unleavened bread," lasting for seven days in which all leaven or yeast was to be purged or removed from the households.

Israel left Egypt with 600,000 men of military age. The total number of the Children of Israel was probably about two million.

## **STUDENT PRAYER**

Dear Jesus, You are the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. We pray that you would help us see how You delivered Your people out of Egypt protecting them from death through the blood of the Passover Lamb. Help us to believe that the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God, protects us from death. Amen.

## **PRESENTATION**

It is important that the teacher review the previous story of the first nine plagues or strokes. Stress the stubborn opposition of Pharaoh to the Jehovah and how senseless it was for Pharaoh to oppose God.

Some have actually reenacted a Jewish Passover meal. It might be interesting to have at least a sample of lamb, unleavened bread, and the bitter herbs. As you tell the story, you can emphasize the "shadow" pictures of these elements in the Passover meal.

Discuss the story in the context of the feeling of horror Pharaoh and the Egyptians felt when they discovered what had happened that night. Now they couldn't wait to get rid of God's people. This will lead into the next story as you reveal the depth of Pharaoh's opposition to God.

It is also important to connect this story with Jesus. The Bible reveals that the lamb which was killed was a shadow picture of Jesus. In 1 Corinthians 5:7, Christ is called "our Passover Who was sacrificed for us." Jesus is the Passover Lamb, Whose blood protects and delivers us from eternal death. In 1 Peter 1:17-18 in a reference to the Passover lamb, Jesus is referred to as the "lamb without blemish or spot." It is the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God that redeems us from sin and death.

Before Jesus died on the cross, He celebrated the last Passover with His disciples. It is called the last Passover because Jesus was establishing the "new covenant" or "new testament" through His death on the cross. Jesus' blood would deliver His people from death by giving them the forgiveness of their sins. In keeping with the Old Testament meal of remembrance, Jesus gave His believers a New Testament meal of remembrance. Jesus took the unleavened bread and the wine from the Old Testament Passover and gave them to His disciples saying, "This is my body. This is my blood shed for you." We are to partake of this meal in remembrance of Him, that is remembering what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross.

## **APPLICATIONS**

1. What was the meaning of the Passover for Old Testament Israel?
2. What is the deeper meaning as seen in the cross of Jesus, cf. I Peter 1: 18-20? Why do you think that Jesus' death occurred at the time of the Passover?

3. What was the Old Testament significance of the lamb, the unleavened bread, and the bitter herbs? What were the people to remember?
4. What is the shadow picture of the Old Testament Passover as it relates to Jesus?
  - a. What does the Passover lamb picture for us? (1 Peter 1:18-19)
  - b. What does the unleavened bread picture? 1 Corinthians 5:6-8
5. When we celebrate communion, what are we to remember?
6. It is important to stress that this Old Testament salvation act of God pointed to a greater salvation act in the death of Jesus. We understand the Sacrament of the Altar better against the backdrop of the Passover Meal.

## **PASSAGES**

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

### Lower

John 1:29 - *Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*

### Middle any of the above and...

1 Peter 1:19 - *You were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

1 Corinthians 5:7 - *Christ our Passover Lamb is sacrificed for us.*

### Upper any of the above and...

1 Peter 1:18-19 - *Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."*

1 Corinthians 11:24-25 - *Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

## **HYMN CHOICES**

"O Christ, Thou Lamb Of God" (TLH 147)

"Lamb Of God, Pure And Holy" (TLH 146)

"The Day Of Resurrection" (TLH 205:1)

# The Tenth Plague/The First Passover

Exodus 12



## The Story

In our last lesson we learned about the nine plagues or troubles God sent Egypt. The picture on this page will help you remember.

Why did God send these troubles? Did Pharaoh let God's people leave his country?

Today's lesson will tell of the last plague sent to Egypt. Will Pharaoh finally let the people leave? Let's find out.

God told Moses about a very important day - the Passover. Why was it called the Passover?

To get ready for the Passover every family of God's people should take an unblemished lamb and kill it. Then they should take some of the blood and put it on the doorposts of the house. The meat of the lamb should be roasted and eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. The meal should be eaten in a hurry and they should be ready to leave.

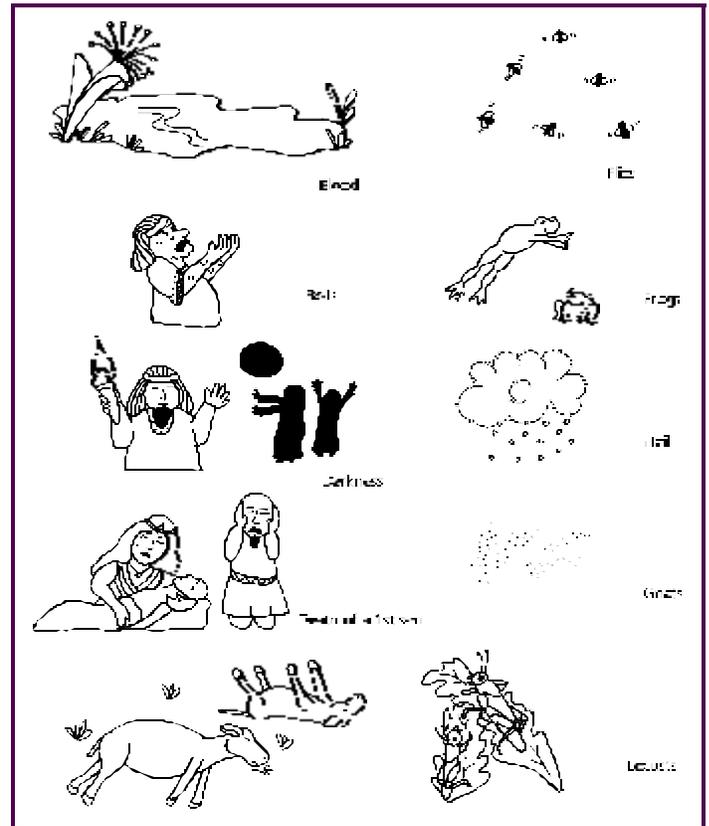
The people of God did as Moses told them.

At midnight the LORD passed over the houses of God's people who had the blood of the lamb on the doorpost. The LORD killed the firstborn of any in Egypt who did not have blood on their doorposts and He also killed the firstborn of their livestock.

*Do you see why it was called the Passover?*

Pharaoh's firstborn died and he was very sad. In all of Egypt there was a great cry because not a house was without someone dead.

Pharaoh called Moses and Aaron that night and said, "Get up and go



out from my people. Go serve the LORD as you have said. Take your animals and go."

All of God's people immediately left Egypt where they had lived for 430 years. The people of Egypt had given them silver, gold and clothing before they left. There was a great number of people. Possibly as many as 2,000,000 people plus all of their animals left Egypt that day.

***God saved His people from death and delivered them from Egypt.***

God commanded the people to celebrate the Passover every year at the same time. They would have the same meal of lamb, unleavened bread and bitter herbs. They would tell their children how the LORD passed over their houses in Egypt so that none of their firstborn was killed.



We no longer celebrate the Passover because Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God shed His blood on the cross to take away our sins. We are now saved from death and given life and heaven.

*Jesus, our Passover Lamb, was sacrificed for us.*

**Activity One** - Get the lamb to the doorpost following the path. Write the letters in boxes under the maze as you go along. It will spell a very important word from today's

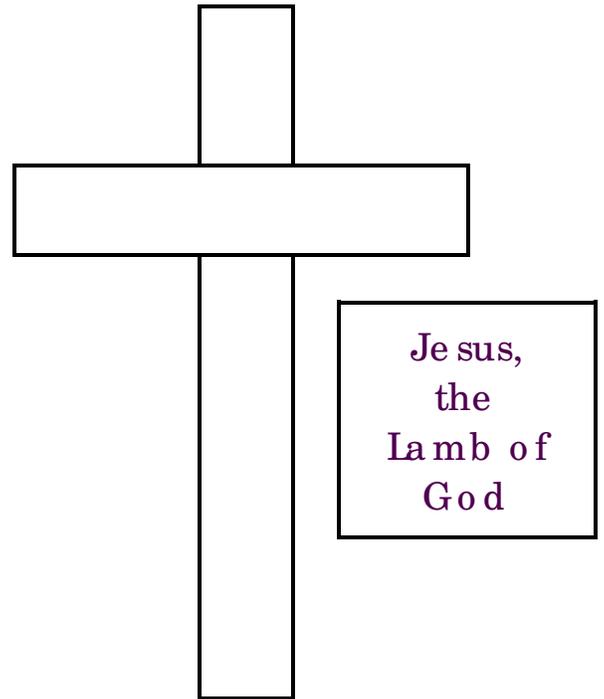
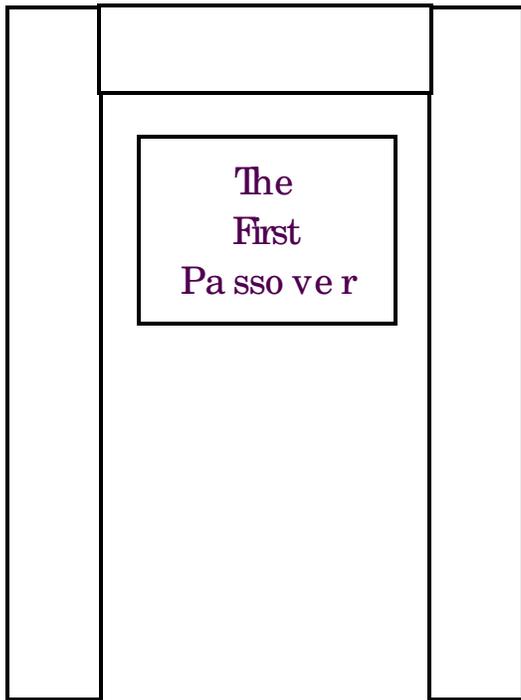
Hidden Word:

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**Passage**

John 1:29 "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

**Activity Two** - Trace the lines or glue strips of paper or popsicle sticks to make a doorway and a cross. Paint or color **red** on the doorpost to show how the blood of the lamb was placed for the Passover. Paint or color red on the ends of the cross to show the blood of the Lamb of God shed for our sins with the nails to his hands and feet and the crown of thorns on His head.



### **Hymn** - TLH 147

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, have mercy upon us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, have mercy upon us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, grant us Thy peace!

### **Prayer**

Dear Father in Heaven,  
Thank You for sending Jesus, the Lamb of God, to save us from death in hell.  
Help us to tell others about this perfect Savior. In Jesus' name. Amen.

# The Tenth Plague/The First Passover

Exodus 12



## The Story

*In our last lesson we learned about the nine plagues or troubles God sent Egypt. The picture on this page will help you remember.*

*Why did God send these troubles? Did Pharaoh let God's people leave his country?*

*Today's lesson will tell of the last plague sent to Egypt. Will Pharaoh finally let the people leave? Let's find out.*

God told Moses about a very important day--the Passover. Why was it called the Passover?

To get ready for the Passover, Moses told every family of God's people that they should take a perfect lamb and kill it. Then they should take some of the blood and put it on the doorposts of the house. The meat of the lamb should be roasted and eaten with unleavened bread, bread with no yeast in it, and bitter herbs. The meal should be eaten in a hurry and they should be ready to leave.

The people of God did as Moses told them.

At midnight, the LORD passed over the houses of God's people who had the blood of the lamb on the doorpost. The LORD killed the firstborn of everyone in Egypt who did not have blood on their doorposts. He also killed the firstborn of their livestock.

*Do you see why it was called the Passover?*

Pharaoh's firstborn died and he was very sad. In all of Egypt there was a great cry because not a house was without someone dead.

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that night and said, "Get up and go out from my people. Go serve the LORD as you have said. Take your animals and go."

All of God's people immediately left Egypt where they had lived for 430 years. The people of Egypt had given them silver, gold and clothing before they left. There was a great number of people. Possibly as many as 2,000,000 people plus all of their animals left Egypt that day.

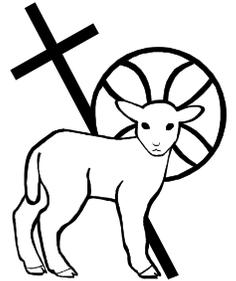
***God saved His people from death and delivered them from Egypt.***

God commanded the people to celebrate the Passover every year at the same time. They would have the same meal of lamb, unleavened bread and

bitter herbs. They would tell their children how the LORD passed over their houses in Egypt so that none of their firstborn was killed. We no longer celebrate the Passover because Jesus, the perfect

Lamb of God, shed His blood on the cross to take away our sins. We are now saved from death and given life and heaven.

*Jesus, our Passover Lamb, was sacrificed for us.*



**Activity One** - Write the letter of the correct answer in the blank.

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. _____ He was ruler of Egypt.   | A. lamb             |
| 2. _____ God sent 10 of these troubles to convince the Pharaoh to let God's people leave Egypt. | B. unleavened bread |
| 3. _____ This was the last trouble God sent.  | C. Jesus            |
| 4. _____ The _____ of the Egyptians and livestock died.   | D. Pharaoh          |
| 5. _____ This unblemished animal was killed.  | E. firstborn        |
| 6. _____ Bitter herbs and this were eaten.  | F. blood            |
| 7. _____ God's people were saved from death by spreading this on their doorposts.               | G. plagues          |
| 8. _____ He is the perfect Passover Lamb.   | H. Passover         |

## Passages

*“Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”  
John 1:29b*

*Christ, our Passover was sacrificed for us. 1 Corinthians 5:7b*

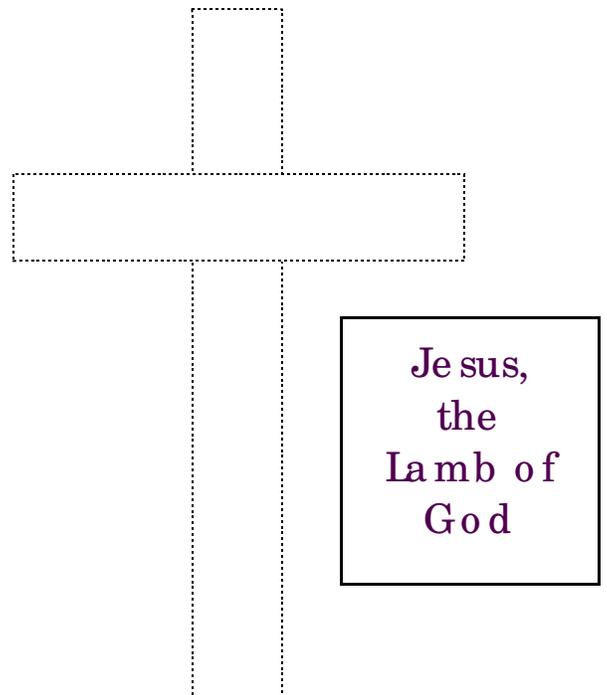
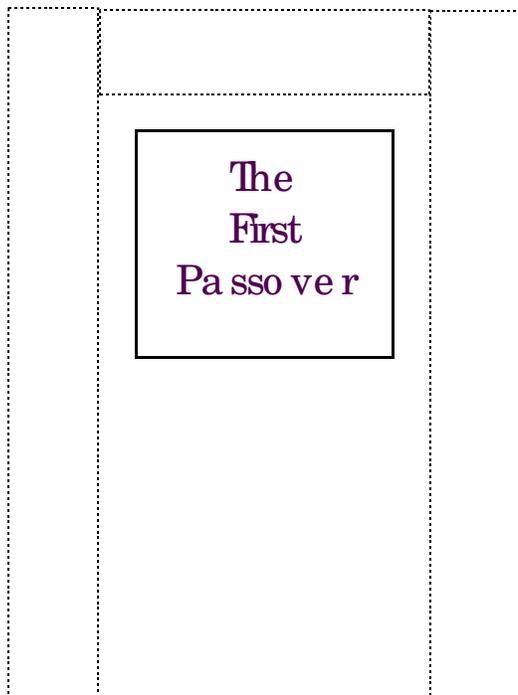
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The sin of the world, have mercy upon us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, grant us Thy peace!

## Prayer

Dear Father in Heaven,  
Thank You for sending Jesus, the Lamb of God, to save us from death in hell.  
Help us to tell others about this perfect Savior. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Activity Two** - Trace the lines or glue strips of paper or popsicle sticks to make a doorway and a cross. Paint or color **red** on the doorpost to show how the blood of the lamb was placed for the Passover. Paint or color **red** on the ends of the cross to show the blood the Lamb of God shed for our sins from the nails to His hands and feet and the crown of thorns to His head.



# The Tenth Plague/The First Passover

Exodus 12

How many of the nine plagues from the last lesson can you name? See page 2 for help.

God sent a tenth and final plague that would convince Pharaoh to let God's people leave Egypt. What is that plague?

The man in the picture at the right is doing something commanded by God to save his family and him. Let us read more about that plague.



## Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, Please send Your Holy Spirit into my heart as we study Your Word. Help me to learn about the Passover lamb and about Jesus, our true Passover Lamb who died for the whole world's sins. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## The Tenth Plague & The First Passover

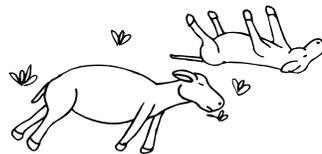
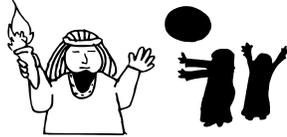
### The Passover Feast Instituted

Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, {2} "This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you. {3} Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth day of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household. {4} And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for the lamb. {5} Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. {6} Now you shall

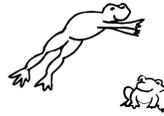
keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. {7} And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. {8} Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. {9} Do not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water, but roasted in fire; its head with its legs and its entrails. {10} You shall let none of it remain until morning, and what remains of it until morning you shall burn with fire. {11} And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you



shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover. {12} For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike 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} Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.'"



who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt when He struck the Egyptians and delivered our households.' " So the people bowed their heads and worshipped. {28} Then the children of Israel went away and did so; just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.



{29} And it came to pass at midnight that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the

captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. {30} So Pharaoh rose in the night, he, 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} Then he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, "Rise, go out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. And go, serve the LORD as you have said. {32} Also take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also."

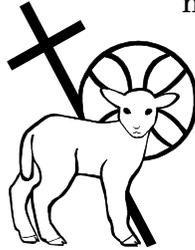
{33} And the Egyptians urged the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste. For they said, "We shall all be dead." {34} So the people took their dough before it was leavened, having their kneading bowls bound up in their clothes on their shoulders. {35} Now the children of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, and they had asked from the Egyptians articles of silver, articles

### The First Passover

{21} Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover lamb. {22} And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning. {23} For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you. {24} And you shall observe this thing as an ordinance for you and your sons forever. {25} It will come to pass when you come to the land which the LORD will give you, just as He promised, that you shall keep this service. {26} And it shall be, when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?' {27} that you shall say, 'It is the Passover sacrifice of the LORD,

of gold, and clothing. {36} And the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted them what they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

{37} Then the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides children. {38} A mixed multitude went up with them also, and flocks and herds; a great deal of livestock. {39} And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they had brought out of Egypt; for it was not leavened, because they were driven



out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared provisions for themselves.

{40} Now the sojourn of the children of Israel who lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. {41} And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years; on that very same day; it came to pass that all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. {42} It is a night of solemn observance to the LORD for bringing them out of the land of Egypt. This is that night of the LORD, a solemn observance for all the children of Israel throughout their generations.

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### **Outer Aim**

**God saved His people from death and delivered them from Egypt.**

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**What God Tells Us** - Draw lines to match up the two (2) columns comparing the lamb of the Passover feast and Jesus, our Passover Lamb.

#### **Lamb of the Passover Feast**

without blemish +

killed +

blood saved the firstborn from death +

#### **Jesus, our Passover Lamb**

+ blood shed on the cross  
saves us from eternal death

+ without sin

+ killed

**What the Story Tells Us** - Crossword Puzzle - Fill in the crossword puzzle using words from the Word Box.

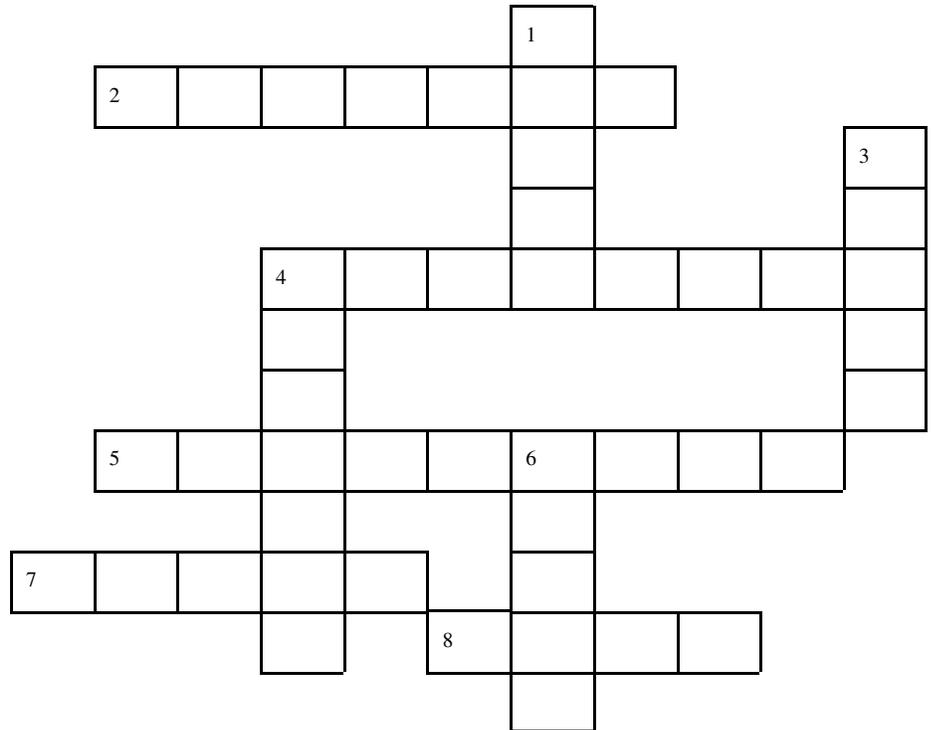
PASSOVER	BLOOD	HERBS	PHARAOH	FIRSTBORN
LAMB	PLAGUES	JESUS	BREAD	

**ACROSS**

- God sent 10 \_\_\_\_ upon Egypt.
- The \_\_\_\_ celebration would take place each year.
- All \_\_\_\_ of the Egyptians were killed.
- The \_\_\_\_ was spread on the doorposts of the Jews' homes.
- An unblemished \_\_\_\_ was sacrificed.

**DOWN**

- \_\_\_\_ is the perfect Sacrifice.
- Bitter \_\_\_\_ were eaten.
- \_\_\_\_ would not let God's people leave Egypt.
- Unleaven \_\_\_\_ was eaten.



**Your Turn** - Draw a picture of a Passover meal. Be sure to label the three (3) things in the meal that God commanded for the Old Testament Jews to eat.

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**Inner Aim - Jesus, our Passover Lamb, was sacrificed for us.**

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**Passages** - Fill in the missing words from the Bible passages. Use your Bible if you need help.

John 1:29 "Behold! The \_\_\_\_\_ of God who takes away the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_."

1 Corinthians 5:7 ... Christ our \_\_\_\_\_, was sacrificed for us.

(You were redeemed ...) 1 Peter 1:19 ... with the precious \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ, as of a lamb without \_\_\_\_\_ and without \_\_\_\_\_.

**Hymn - TLH 147**

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, have mercy upon us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, have mercy upon us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, grant us Thy peace!

**Prayer**

Dear Jesus,

You are the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. We pray that you would help us see how You delivered Your people out of Egypt protecting them from death through the blood of the Passover lamb. Help us to believe that the blood of Jesus, the perfect Passover Lamb, protects us from eternal death in hell and gives us life in heaven.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

# The Tenth Plague/The First Passover

## Exodus 12

How many of the nine plagues from the last lesson can you name? See page 2 for help.

After each plague Pharaoh promises to let God's people go from Egypt but then changes his promise. In Exodus 11 God promises a tenth plague that would guarantee Pharaoh would release the Israelites. Let us study that final plague.

### Prayer

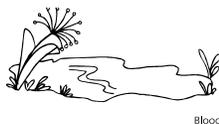
Dear Heavenly Father, Please send Your Holy Spirit into my heart through Your Word that we are about to study. Help me to learn about the Passover lamb and about Jesus, our true Passover Lamb who died for the whole world's sins. In Jesus' name. Amen.



## The Tenth Plague & The First Passover

### The Passover Feast Institute d

Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, {2} "This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you. {3} "Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth day of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household. {4} 'And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for the lamb. {5} 'Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may



Blood



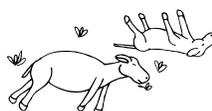
Boils



Darkness



Death of a 1st son



Flies



Frogs



Hail



Gnats



Locusts

take it from the sheep or from the goats. {6} 'Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. {7} 'And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. {8} 'Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. {9} 'Do not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water, but roasted in fire; its head with its legs and its entrails. {10} 'You shall let none of it remain until morning, and what remains of it until morning you shall burn with fire. {11} 'And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your



sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover. {12} For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike 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} Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

### The First Passover

{21} Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover lamb. {22} "And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning. {23} "For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you. {24} "And you shall observe this thing as an ordinance for you and your sons forever. {25} "It will come to pass when you come to the land which the LORD will give you, just as He promised, that you shall keep this service. {26} "And it shall be, when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?' {27} "that you shall say, 'It is the Passover sacrifice of the LORD, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt when He struck the Egyptians and delivered our households.'" So the people bowed their heads and worshiped. {28} Then the children of Israel went away and did so; just as the LORD had commanded Moses



and Aaron, so they did.

{29} And it came to pass at midnight that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. {30} So Pharaoh rose in the night, he, 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} Then he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, "Rise, go out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. And go, serve the LORD as you have said. {32} "Also take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also."

{33} And the Egyptians urged the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste. For they said, "We shall all be dead." {34} So the people took their dough before it was leavened, having their kneading bowls bound up in the circles on their shoulders. {35} Now the children of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, and they had asked from the Egyptians articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing. {36} And the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they granted them what they requested. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

{37} Then the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides children. {38} A mixed multitude went up with them also, and flocks and herds; a great deal of livestock. {39} And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they had brought out of Egypt; for it was not leavened, because they were driven out of Egypt and could not wait, nor had they prepared provisions for the selves.

{40} Now the sojourn of the children of Israel who lived in Egypt was four hundred and thirty years. {41} And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years; on that very same day; it came to pass that all the armies of the LORD

went out from the land of Egypt. {42} It is a night of solemn observance to the LORD for bringing them out of the land of Egypt. This is that night of the LORD, a solemn observance for all the children of Israel throughout their generations.

**Outer Aim**

**God saved His people from death and delivered them from Egypt.**

**What the Story Tells Us** - Change these false sentences to true sentences by crossing out the wrong word (s) and writing the correct word above it.

1. The LORD spoke to Moses and Abraham about the Passover feast.
2. The lamb that was killed should be sickly.
3. The blood from the lamb was to be spread on the ground.
4. The feast included unleavened bread, bitter herbs and boiled lamb.
5. The LORD would visit the homes that had blood on the doorposts.
6. The youngest child in the family of the Egyptians was killed.
7. Pharaoh told Moses and God's people to stay in Egypt.
8. The children of Israel got clothing and copper and silver items from the Egyptians.
9. There were 6,000 men that left Egypt.
10. The children of Israel had been in Egypt 100 years.

**What God Tells Us** - Compare the lamb of the Passover feast and Jesus, our Passover Lamb by completing the chart below. The answers are below the chart, but mixed up.

Lamb of the Passover Feast	Jesus, our Passover Lamb

witho ut b le m ish

b lo o d s h e d o n t h e c r o s s  
s a v e s u s f r o m e t e r n a l  
d e a t h

k i l l e d

k i l l e d

witho ut sin

b lo o d s a v e d t h e  
f i r s t b o r n f r o m d e a t h

**Your Turn** - Draw a picture of a Passover meal or describe the meal. Be sure to label the three (3) things in the meal that God commanded for the Old Testament Jews to eat.

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**Inner Aim - Jesus, our Passover Lamb, was sacrificed for us.**

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**Passages** - Fill in the missing words from the Bible passages. Use your Bible if you need help.

John 1:29 "Behold! The \_\_\_\_\_ of God who takes away the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_."

1 Corinthians 5:7 Christ our \_\_\_\_\_ is sacrificed for us.

1 Peter 1:18-19 Knowing the you were not \_\_\_\_\_ with corruptible things, like \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ, as of a lamb without \_\_\_\_\_ and without \_\_\_\_\_.

**Hymn - TLH # 147**

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, have mercy upon us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, have mercy upon us!  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away  
The sin of the world, grant us Thy peace!

**Prayer**

Dear Jesus,

You are the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. We pray that You would help us see how You delivered Your people out of Egypt protecting them from death through the blood of the Passover lamb. Help us to believe that the blood of Jesus, the perfect Passover Lamb, protects us from eternal death in hell and gives us life in heaven. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**STORY**

The Tenth Plague: The First Passover - Exodus 12

**TEACHER PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, I thank You that while You have hidden the mystery of Your salvation from the wise and prudent, You have revealed it to children. Impress upon me the seriousness of my high calling as a teacher and enable the love of Christ to shine forth through my teaching. I pray that You would help me see Jesus in this story of Your great Old Testament salvation act of deliverance. Amen

**VOCABULARY**

*Passover* - the Jewish festival commemorating God's deliverance of His people from Egypt

*leaven* - yeast, that which makes bread rise

*firstborn* - the oldest child in a family

**OUTER AIM**

God saved his people from death and delivered them from Egypt.

**INNER AIM**

Jesus, our Passover Lamb, was sacrificed for us.

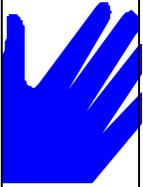
**BACKGROUND**

God told Moses to prepare the people for their Exodus from Egypt. The difference between Israel and Egypt and between Jehovah and the gods of Egypt was about to be revealed in a final cataclysmic stroke from God. The judgment would be the death of the firstborn (11:4-7).

The Passover celebrates the most important salvation act of the Old Testament. The date the Passover took place would become the first month of the Jewish new year emphasizing the importance of the Passover. This month had been named Abib meaning "ears" because the "ears" of grain appeared in this month (March-April depending on the new moon). This is why the date of Easter corresponding to the Passover is always in March or April. This month of Abib is now called Nisan because of the "Passover" sacrifice chosen by each household.

Four days before the Passover took place, a male lamb or kid not yet one year old and without a blemish, was prepared to be sacrificed. The meat of the lamb would have to be totally eaten by a family or group of families. The blood was to be caught in a basin and then "struck" with a branch of hyssop on the two side posts and the upper doorpost of the house. Hyssop in ancient times was often considered to have cleansing properties.

The blood of a lamb or goat was to be applied directly to the house to make atonement for its inhabitants and convert it to an altar. Seeing the blood, Jehovah would pass over the door and spare the inhabitants of the house. The name "passover" or "pascha" literally expressed the meaning of this observance. The sacrificial meal consisted of the lamb, unleavened bread and bitter herbs. The bitter herbs symbolized the bitterness of the afflictions in Egypt. The unleavened bread symbolized the removal of the old corruption and the need to leave in a hurry. Finally, the Passover lamb symbolized God's great Old Testament act of act of salvation and the deliverance of His people from Egypt.



At midnight, God's judgment came upon Egypt. About midnight Jehovah passed through the land of Egypt and a great cry went up. Pharaoh begged the children of Israel to leave. He even gave them the wealth of Egypt to leave Egypt immediately lest "we all be dead men." God's salvation was to be a perpetual memory, as each year the Jews were to celebrate the Passover and explain the deliverance of God. Every year at this time, God's people were to reenact the Passover meal that would bring to remembrance God's great salvation act. When the children would ask, "Why are we eating this lamb and unleavened bread, and bitter herbs?" the parents would then tell them how God had delivered His people from Egypt. The observance of the Passover was to be followed by a "feast of unleavened bread," lasting for seven days in which all leaven or yeast was to be purged or removed from the households.

Israel left Egypt with 600,000 men of military age. The total number of the Children of Israel was probably about two million.

### **STUDENT PRAYER**

Dear Jesus, You are the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. We pray that you would help us see how You delivered Your people out of Egypt protecting them from death through the blood of the Passover Lamb. Help us to believe that the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God, protects us from death. Amen.

### **PRESENTATION**

It is important that the teacher review the previous story of the first nine plagues or strokes. Stress the stubborn opposition of Pharaoh to the Jehovah and how senseless it was for Pharaoh to oppose God.

Some have actually reenacted a Jewish Passover meal. It might be interesting to have at least a sample of lamb, unleavened bread, and the bitter herbs. As you tell the story, you can emphasize the "shadow" pictures of these elements in the Passover meal.

Discuss the story in the context of the feeling of horror Pharaoh and the Egyptians felt when they discovered what had happened that night. Now they couldn't wait to get rid of God's people. This will lead into the next story as you reveal the depth of Pharaoh's opposition to God.

It is also important to connect this story with Jesus. The Bible reveals that the lamb which was killed was a shadow picture of Jesus. In 1 Corinthians 5:7, Christ is called "our Passover Who was sacrificed for us." Jesus is the Passover Lamb, Whose blood protects and delivers us from eternal death. In 1 Peter 1:17-18 in a reference to the Passover lamb, Jesus is referred to as the "lamb without blemish or spot." It is the blood of Jesus, the Lamb of God that redeems us from sin and death.

Before Jesus died on the cross, He celebrated the last Passover with His disciples. It is called the last Passover because Jesus was establishing the "new covenant" or "new testament" through His death on the cross. Jesus' blood would deliver His people from death by giving them the forgiveness of their sins. In keeping with the Old Testament meal of remembrance, Jesus gave His believers a New Testament meal of remembrance. Jesus took the unleavened bread and the wine from the Old Testament Passover and gave them to His disciples saying, "This is my body. This is my blood shed for you." We are to partake of this meal in remembrance of Him, that is remembering what Jesus did for us when He died on the cross.

## APPLICATIONS

1. What was the meaning of the Passover for Old Testament Israel?
2. What is the deeper meaning as seen in the cross of Jesus, cf. I Peter 1: 18-20? Why do you think that Jesus' death occurred at the time of the Passover?
3. What was the Old Testament significance of the lamb, the unleavened bread, and the bitter herbs? What were the people to remember?
4. What is the shadow picture of the Old Testament Passover as it relates to Jesus?
  - a. What does the Passover lamb picture for us? (1 Peter 1:18-19)
  - b. What does the unleavened bread picture? 1 Corinthians 5:6-8
5. When we celebrate communion, what are we to remember?
6. It is important to stress that this Old Testament salvation act of God pointed to a greater salvation act in the death of Jesus. We understand the Sacrament of the Altar better against the backdrop of the Passover Meal.

## PASSAGES

These passages can be assigned as memory work or simply discussed in class as to how they fit the lesson.

### Lower

John 1:29 - *Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!*

### Middle any of the above and...

1 Peter 1:19 - *You were redeemed with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

1 Corinthians 5:7 - *Christ our Passover Lamb is sacrificed for us.*

### Upper any of the above and...

1 Peter 1:18-19 - *Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."*

1 Corinthians 11:24-25 - *Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.*

## HYMN CHOICES

"O Christ, Thou Lamb Of God" (TLH #147)

"Lamb Of God, Pure And Holy" (TLH #146)

"The Day Of Resurrection" (TLH #205:1)