

## 030 The Passover

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

SCRIPTURES: Exodus 12

AIM: To teach that Jesus shed His blood to cleanse us from sin.

This was the last day that the Hebrews would be in Egypt. Although it was a happy day, many fathers and mothers were worried. Moses had said the angel of death would come and kill the firstborn of every Egyptian family. The people were worried that he might make a mistake and go into one of the Hebrew homes.

But with God there are no mistakes. He told the children of Israel to take the blood of a lamb and sprinkle it on the sides and top of their doors and the angel would pass over that house.

All who believed God and were faithful did as they were instructed. At sunset that evening the sprinkling of the blood was going on all over the land of Goshen. That evening men and women were asking each other, "Is the blood sprinkled on your home?"

It was quite a sight to see all the families standing outside as the father sprinkled the blood. The firstborn had reason for concern as they knew their life was at stake. Perhaps the firstborn child was there holding the basin for the father.

Unfortunately some did not believe. They said, "Why do we have to sprinkle the blood on our doorposts?" But if they did not obey they soon learned that God means what He says.

Thousands of lambs must have died that night; but every one was a symbol of Jesus the Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the whole world.

When we obey, like the Hebrews in Egypt, and let Jesus sprinkle His blood upon the doorpost of our hearts, then He will forgive our sins.

What happened to the lamb whose blood was sprinkled on the doorposts? It was roasted and eaten in celebration of the Passover by the whole family. They ate in a hurry, and were all dressed ready to go at a moment's notice.

Probably no one slept that night as everyone was too excited. Soon they would leave the slavery of Egypt.

Suddenly at midnight there was weeping and wailing in every home of the Egyptians. The firstborn of every family was dead. Even Pharaoh's son was dead. The Egyptians who had killed so many Hebrew children were learning what it meant to lose their own. Even the firstborn of the cattle died.

This was the last and most terrible of the ten plagues. Finally Pharaoh decided to let the Hebrew people go. He called Moses and Aaron in the middle of the night. He 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. Also take your flocks and your herds... and be gone."

With death in every Egyptian home, Pharaoh and his people wanted the Israelites to go, and go quickly. They gave the Israelites silver and gold and clothing they were so anxious for them to leave.

That was one of the great events in history; a night when a million slaves were freed. That was the night that God's promise to Abraham came true. God had told Abraham after four hundred years, the Israelites would be delivered from Egyptian bondage.

All this time God was taking care of His people but none of the plagues were in the land of Goshen where the Hebrews lived. God protects us and knows what is best for us.

He also knows that ALL people need to be rescued from the slavery of sin, and by the blood of Jesus he provided redemption for everyone who repents and puts their faith in Him.