

EXODUS Lesson 13

Exodus Chapter 13

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Memory verses for this week: Psa 46:7 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah.

Introduction: We continue our study on Exodus this week. In last week's lesson, we studied about the institution of the passover. All of the families who killed the passover lamb, applied the blood to the lintel and door posts, were passed over by the death angel as he passed through the land of Egypt. If no blood was found, the first born of every family died, even in Pharaoh's house.

I. The Sanctification of the The Firstborn

Exo 13:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Exo 13:2 Sanctify unto me all the firstborn, whatsoever openeth the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and of beast: it is mine.

The Lord speaks to Moses and says to separate the firstborn of all the children of Israel. All the firstborn males of every man and beast were the Lord's. Several lessons can be learned from this.

1. Their redemption (salvation) out of the bondage of Egypt was the foundation of it all.
2. A redeemed people become the property of the Redeemer.

I Cor. 6:19-20 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

3. There is an inseparable connection between redemption and holiness. In Romans 3 - 5, we read of our salvation corresponding to Ex. 12, and then in Rom. 6 and 12, we find the exhortation to holiness.

Exo 13:3 And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place: there shall no leavened bread be eaten.

God commands that the Memorial be remembered in verse 3 where he says "Remember The Day."

Several points are made that were to be remembered. First they were to remember the day of redemption. Secondly, they were to remember that it was a deliverance from bondage. And lastly, they were to remember the strength of the Lord's hand.

Exo 13:4 This day came ye out in the month Abib.

Exo 13:5 And it shall be when the LORD shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore unto thy fathers to give thee, a land flowing with milk and honey, that thou shalt keep this service in this month.

Exo 13:6 Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, and in the seventh day shall be a feast to the LORD.

Exo 13:7 Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days; and there shall no leavened bread be seen with thee, neither shall there be leaven seen with thee in all thy quarters.

They were to remember it by the eating of unleavened bread. In the bible, leaven is a symbol of evil. Since we are saved by the blood of the Lamb, we are to separate ourselves from evil.

I Cor. 5: 6-8 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

It also typifies the evil of false doctrine.

Matt. 16:6, Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Act 23:7 And when he had so said, there arose a dissension between the Pharisees and the Sadducees: and the multitude was divided.

Act 23:8 For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit: but the Pharisees confess both.

Exo 13:8 And thou shalt shew thy son in that day, saying, This is done because of that which the LORD did unto me when I came forth out of Egypt.

Exo 13:9 And it shall be for a sign unto thee upon thine hand, and for a memorial between thine eyes, that the LORD'S law may be in thy mouth: for with a strong hand hath the LORD brought thee out of Egypt.

They were to remember the passover by telling their sons of it. Like the Israelites, we should also tell our children how God delivered us.

Deut. 6:6-7 And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of

them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

Eph 6:4 And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

Exo 13:10 Thou shalt therefore keep this ordinance in his season from year to year.

Exo 13:11 And it shall be when the LORD shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, as he sware unto thee and to thy fathers, and shall give it thee,

Exo 13:12 That thou shalt set apart unto the LORD all that openeth the matrix, and every firstling that cometh of a beast which thou hast; the males shall be the LORD'S.

They were to remember the passover by keeping the word of God in the mind and in letting it direct their labors. The firstborn we to be set apart for the service of the Lord. Here we learn the meaning of sanctification. The firstborn was representative of the whole nation.

The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defined sanctification as:

the state of growing in divine grace as a result of Christian commitment after baptism or conversion.

Exo 13:13 And every firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb; and if thou wilt not redeem it, then thou shalt break his neck: and all the firstborn of man among thy children shalt thou redeem.

Exo 13:14 And it shall be when thy son asketh thee in time to come, saying, What is this? that thou shalt say unto him, By strength of hand the LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the house of bondage:

Exo 13:15 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh would hardly let us go, that the LORD slew all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man, and the firstborn of beast: therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all that openeth the matrix, being males; but all the firstborn of my children I redeem.

Exo 13:16 And it shall be for a token upon thine hand, and for frontlets between thine eyes: for by strength of hand the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt.

In verse 13, rules were laid down that the unclean must be redeemed. The firstborn of an ass must be redeemed by a lamb. The firstborn of Israel was redeemed by a lamb also in Ex. 12, therefore in need of redemption.

Lev. 12:6, And when the days of her purifying are fulfilled, for a son, or for a daughter, she shall bring a lamb of the first year for a burnt offering, and a young pigeon, or a turtledove, for a sin offering, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, unto the priest.

Num. 8:17, For all the firstborn of the children of Israel are mine, both man and beast: on the day that I smote every firstborn in the land of Egypt I sanctified them for myself.

The details as to how the firstborn of man is to be redeemed in the future, is not here revealed. However, it is revealed in Num. 3:40-51.

Num 3:40 And the LORD said unto Moses, Number all the firstborn of the males of the children of Israel from a month old and upward, and take the number of their names.

Num 3:41 And thou shalt take the Levites for me (I am the LORD) instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel; and the cattle of the Levites instead of all the firstlings among the cattle of the children of Israel.

Num 3:42 And Moses numbered, as the LORD commanded him, all the firstborn among the children of Israel.

Num 3:43 And all the firstborn males by the number of names, from a month old and upward, of those that were numbered of them, were twenty and two thousand two hundred and threescore and thirteen.

Num 3:44 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

Num 3:45 Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the children of Israel, and the cattle of the Levites instead of their cattle; and the Levites shall be mine: I am the LORD.

Num 3:46 And for those that are to be redeemed of the two hundred and threescore and thirteen of the firstborn of the children of Israel, which are more than the Levites;

Num 3:47 Thou shalt even take five shekels apiece by the poll, after the shekel of the sanctuary shalt thou take them: (the shekel is twenty gerahs:)

Num 3:48 And thou shalt give the money, wherewith the odd number of them is to be redeemed, unto Aaron and to his sons.

Num 3:49 And Moses took the redemption money of them that were over and above them that were redeemed by the Levites:

Num 3:50 Of the firstborn of the children of Israel took he the money; a thousand three hundred and threescore and five shekels, after the shekel of the sanctuary:

Num 3:51 And Moses gave the money of them that were redeemed unto Aaron and to his sons, according to the word of the LORD, as the LORD commanded Moses.

When Joseph and Mary came to the temple to redeem the Redeemer, they brought the sacrifice of the poor.

Luke 2:21-24, And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb. And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; (As it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) And to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.

Lev 12:8, And if she be not able to bring a lamb, then she shall bring two turtles, or two young pigeons; the one for the burnt offering, and the other for a sin offering: and the priest shall make an atonement for her, and she shall be clean.

There are none too poor to be redeemed by our Redeemer (Christ). Salvation is a gift, and it is free to the person receiving salvation, but it cost God His only Begotten Son there on the cross.

If not redeemed, the ass must have its neck broken. Man if unredeemed must also suffer judgment and death. In the Scriptures, the ass is used to represent a man in some instances.

Gen. 49:14, Issachar is a strong ass couching down between two burdens.

An ass would enter Jerusalem, but only under the hand of Jesus. This is the only hope of the sinner.

Zech. 9:9, Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass.

God made it clear the lesson to be taught to the young as the years went by. The Passover was to be observed, and there was to be a remembrance of the deliverance of Israel by the hand of God. This was to be a token that they thought about on a continual basis. We will re-read Verse 16 which said:

Exo 13:16 And it shall be for a token upon thine hand, and for frontlets between thine eyes: for by strength of hand the LORD brought us forth out of Egypt.

II. The Journey of the Firstborn

Exo 13:17 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt:

Exo 13:18 But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt.

The Jews found an unusual direction for their journey. They certainly were not led by the shortest route as it says in verse 17.

Psa. 37:23, The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.

God's leading may not seem right to man, but it is right. The path may not make sense to us, but God has reasons for the valleys we walk through in this life.

Psa. 23:3, He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

God knew what was best for them. We need to do what it says here in this

verse in Proverbs. We can know this, but to actually do it and trust God in the hard times, that is a challenge. We must have faith.

Prov. 3:5-6, Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

George Morrison stated:

“It took God one night to take Israel out of Egypt, forty years to take Egypt out of Israel.”

We need to not get so much of the world in us that we are no earthly good. We need to have heavenly thoughts, and be of value in the work of God here on earth. Paul knew about this.

Php 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Php 1:22 But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.

Php 1:23 *For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire **to depart**, and to be with Christ; which is far better:*

Php 1:24 Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.

Php 1:25 And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith;

Php 1:26 That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.

God would train them in the long wilderness journey.

Deut. 8:2-4, And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live. Thy raiment waxed not old upon thee, neither did thy foot swell, these forty years.

Verse 18 says they went out harnessed. “Harnessed” meant that they were in battle array, arrayed for battle by fives, armed. Five is the number of grace.

Exo 13:19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.

Exo 13:20 And they took their journey from Succoth, and encamped in Etham, in the edge of the wilderness.

Joseph's faith was vindicated by Moses taking the bones of Joseph with them on the journey.

Gen 50:24 And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he sware to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Gen 50:25 And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence.

Gen 50:26 So Joseph died, being an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

Heb. 11:22, By faith Joseph, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

Verse 20 records how the children of Israel journeyed from Succoth to Etham, which was on the edge of the wilderness.

Exo 13:21 And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

Exo 13:22 He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

God did not send the people out by themselves without protection. He provided protection for their journey. The pillar was the visible sign of God's presence. The pillar symbolizes the Holy Spirit to guide and protect.

Rom. 8:14, For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

While we do not have this same kind of guidance of a pillar in a cloud, we do have the Word of God for light. God directs us each day by the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Psa. 119:105, Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Eph. 1:17-18, That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of truth that teach us the Word of God.

John 16:12-13 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

While we may not see a fire from the clouds, we also have a fire.

Jer. 23:29, Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?

The child of God has direction from the Lord, but the unsaved do not have this light.

I Cor. 2:11-16, For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

Note that the pillar was not given until they were delivered from Egypt by the blood of the lamb. The pillar was God's gift, but was unasked for.

Joh 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

Joh 14:14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Joh 14:15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Joh 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

Joh 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

Joh 14:18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

The pillar gave light that they might see in the dark hours.

John 16:13. It gave light to Israel, but it brought darkness to the Egyptians.

The pillar was also given for a covering.

Psa. 105:39, He spread a cloud for a covering; and fire to give light in the night.

Eph. 4:30 God spake to them from the cloud.

Psa. 99:7, He spake unto them in the cloudy pillar: they kept his testimonies, and the ordinance that he gave them.

Num. 12:5-6, And the LORD came down in the pillar of the cloud, and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam: and they both came forth. And he said, Hear now my words....

The cloud was not light but darkness to the Egyptians.

Exo 14:20 And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night.

Matt. 11:25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.

John 14:17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

The cloud was never taken from them while they were in the wilderness. Likewise when you are saved, the Holy Spirit takes up abode in your body and seals you unto the day of redemption.

Neh. 9:19 Yet thou in thy manifold mercies forsookest them not in the wilderness: the pillar of the cloud departed not from them by day, to lead them in the way; neither the pillar of fire by night....

John 14:16, And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever.

Study Questions:

1. What is the meaning of sanctification?

the state of growing in divine grace as a result of Christian commitment after baptism or conversion

2. Why were the firstborn the property of the Lord?

Because God sanctified and set them apart.

3. What is the connection between redemption and holiness?

Without Christ, we can never be holy. So redemption by the blood is required for holiness.

4. How were they to remember “the day?”

They were to observe the passover feast each year, and to teach their children what God did when he delivered the nation out of bondage.

5. What is leaven a symbol of? Give proof.

evil and sin.

Matt. 16:6, Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

6. Why did the firstborn of an ass need to be redeemed?

It was a reminder of that Passover night when even the firstborn of the beasts died.

Exo 13:15 And it came to pass, when Pharaoh would hardly let us go, that the LORD slew all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man, and the firstborn of beast: therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all that openeth the matrix, being males; but all the firstborn of my children I redeem.

7. How was it to be redeemed?

By the blood of a lamb.

8. If the firstborn of the ass was not redeemed, what must be done?

It must be killed by breaking its neck.

9. Why was Israel not led by the shortest route?

To give them time to get the sins of Egypt and the lust for it out of their system so they would not run back to it when they faced the battles in the promised land.

10. How was Joseph’s faith vindicated?

Moses took his bones out of Egypt to bring them to another burying place.

1. 11 The pillar was a visible sign of_____.

Protection. God was there to lead them both day and night.

11. The pillar was a type of_____.

The Holy Spirit

12. How long did the cloud stay with them?

All forty years of the wandering in the wilderness.

13. Did Israel ask for the cloud?

No. God provided it for them like he does the Holy Spirit to the saved.

14. Why was the pillar not given to them while they were in the land of Egypt?

They were in bondage. Now they were redeemed by the blood of the lamb.

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THE BOOK OF EXODUS

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Prov 4:18 But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day.

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Practice Random Acts of Kindness. Each act spreads, and many will be blessed.