

The Lord's Supper

Beginnings

- Jesus created the Lord's Supper during the last Passover seder (eating of the Passover lamb at a meal) He ate with His disciples,
 - We should understand the Biblical information concerning **Passover** as differentiated from the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** and **Sabbaths** in order to establish the context
 - Exodus 12:1-22

Brief History of Israelites Pre-Passover

- Beginning with promise to **Abraham**, Genesis 12:1-3
 - Land
 - Nation
 - Blessing for all nations (**Jesus**)
- Abraham struggles to believe God (Ishmael and **Isaac**)
- Isaac struggles (Esau and **Jacob**)
- Jacob (**Israel**) struggles (**Joseph** and his brothers)
 - Joseph's rise from slave to power in Egypt
 - Subsequent slavery for Israelites (**God did not forget**)
- **Moses** prepares Israelites for freedom, Exodus 12

Passover

1 Now the LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, 2 “**This month** shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year for you. 3 Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, ‘On the **tenth** of this month they are, each one, to take a lamb for themselves, according to the fathers’ households, a **lamb for each household**. 4 Now if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take **take one according to the number of persons *in them*; in proportion to what each one should eat, you are to divide the lamb.**

(Exodus 12:1-13)

Passover

5 Your lamb shall be an **unblemished male a year old**; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 You shall keep it until the **fourteenth** day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to slaughter it at twilight. 7 Moreover, they shall **take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses** in which they eat it.

(Exodus 12:1-13 cont'd)

Passover

8 They shall **eat the flesh** that *same* night, **roasted** with fire, and they shall eat it with **unleavened bread and bitter herbs**. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled at all with water, but rather roasted with fire, *both* its head and its legs along with its entrails. 10 And you shall not leave any of it over until morning, but whatever is left of it until morning, you shall completely burn with fire. 11 Now you shall **eat it in this way**: *with your garment* belted around your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in a hurry— **it is the LORD'S Passover.**

(Exodus 12:1-13 cont'd)

Passover

12 For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and fatally strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the human *firstborn* to animals; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am the LORD. **13** The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and **when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will come upon you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.**

(Exodus 12:1-13)

Feast of Unleavened Bread

14 'Now this day shall be a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it *as* a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations you are to **celebrate it *as* a permanent ordinance.** 15 For **seven days you shall eat unleavened bread**, but on the first day you shall remove dough with yeast from your houses; for whoever eats anything with yeast from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.

Exodus 12:14-20 (cont'd)

Feast of Unleavened Bread

16 And on the **first day you shall have a holy assembly,** and ***another holy assembly on the seventh*** day; **no work at all** shall be done on them, except for what must be eaten by every person—that alone may be prepared by you. 17 You shall also keep the *Feast of Unleavened Bread*, for on this very day I brought your multitudes out of the land of Egypt; therefore you shall keep this day throughout your generations as a permanent ordinance

Exodus 12:14-20 (cont'd)

Feast of Unleavened Bread

19 For **seven days** there shall be no dough with yeast found in your houses; for whoever eats anything with yeast, that person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether *he is* a stranger or a native of the land. 20 You shall not eat anything with yeast; in all your dwellings you shall eat **unleavened bread.**”

Exodus 12:14-20

Sabbaths (Shabbat)

- During the Feast of Unleavened Bread there *might* be 3 “sabbaths” depending on whether one uses a lunar calendar, solar calendar, or counts the days of the week
 - First day (Nisan 15th)
 - Saturday *between* the 15th and 22nd
 - Last day (Nisan 22nd)
- Sabbath was:
 - Day without work (except for preparing the day’s meals)
 - Holy assembly