

There's more to the story (Passover)

Passover is the first religious feast God commanded for His people and was first observed prior to the people of Israel being set free from Egypt (**Exodus 12:12**). It was to be observed on Abib 14 (also called Nisan) (**Leviticus 23:5**). Passover is to commemorate and remember God rescuing His people out of slavery in Egypt and showing them mercy to those whom the blood was applied. The Passover is a type and shadow as it would point to the true Passover Lamb (Jesus) whom by His sacrifice and His blood can we then be set free and escape wrath and judgment.

Passover required a lamb

- **Exodus 12:3** Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'On the tenth of this month they are each one to take a ^[b]lamb for themselves, according to their fathers' households, a ^[a]lamb for ^[d]each household.
- **John 1:29** The next day he *saw Jesus coming to him and *said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
- **1 Corinthians 5:7** Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are *in fact* unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.

The lamb had to be a one-year-old male, unblemished lamb.

Being unblemished meant that lamb could have no defects, flaws, or abnormalities. The term unblemished is used in to describe Christ and reflects His sinlessness. Christ is sinless and perfect without flaw or fault.

- **Exodus 12:5** Your ^[a]lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats.
- **1 Peter 1:18-19** knowing that you were not ^[a]redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, ¹⁹ but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ.
- **Hebrews 4:15** For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as *we are*, yet without sin.
- **Hebrews 9:14** how much more will the blood of Christ, who through ^[a]the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse ^[b]your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

The lamb was to be chosen and inspected

*The lamb was to be chosen on Abib (Nisan) 10 and inspected and examined until the Abib(Nisan) 14. He was to be examined to ensure there were no blemishes that would disqualify it from being sacrificed. Jesus came into Jerusalem (**John 12:12-13**) and was inspected and examined in the days leading up His death on the Passover. After being examined for fault of blemish, the verdict was announced by Pilate in John 19:4*

- **Exodus 12:1-6** Now the Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of ^[a]Egypt, ² "This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year to you. ³ Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'On the tenth of this month they are each one to take a ^[b]lamb for themselves, according to their fathers' households, a ^[c]lamb for ^[d]each household. ⁴ Now if the household is too small for a ^[e]lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take one according to the ^[f]number of persons in them; according to ^[g]what each man should eat, you are to ^[h]divide the lamb. ⁵ Your ^[i]lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ ^[j]You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it ^[k]at twilight.
- **John 19:4** Pilate came out again and *said to them, "Behold, I am bringing Him out to you so that you may know that I find no guilt in Him."
- **The Lamb was inspected, not the person! The worthiness of the Lamb saved them, not the worthiness of themselves. The lamb was holy and unblemished, so the people to whom the blood covered were declared holy and with spot or blemish. What was looked at was the blood of the lamb, not the worth of those inside the house. The lamb was examined and was innocent, so are all who are in Christ because of Him and His righteousness not because of us!(Col 1:22)(Eph 5:27)(Jude 24)**

The purpose of the lamb was to avoid judgment

The 10 plagues were judgments. The last plague (the death of the firstborn) was not exclusively applied to the Egyptians, but also applied to the Israelites. This judgment was to come on the Israelites as well unless the conditions to avoid the judgment were fulfilled. The Passover Lamb and his blood was for the purpose of avoiding punishment and death of the firstborn male. Israel was guilty and deserving of judgment and wrath from God. They needed the blood of the Lamb. Without the blood of the Lamb, there is no avoidance of judgment, wrath, and death.

The judgment was on the firstborn

- **Exodus 12:12** For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am the Lord.
- **Hebrews 11:28** By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that he who destroyed the firstborn would not touch them.

Since the firstborn was spared to those families that had the blood of the lamb was applied, the concept of the firstborn belonging to God is prevalent in the Bible. The Israelites were commanded to set apart and devote their firstborn offspring of every womb and the first offspring of every beast to the Lord as they belong to Him. Since in the Passover the firstborn was spared, God wants the Israelites to have a continued reminder of that very fact by these commands.

- **Exodus 13:1-16** Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ²“Sanctify to Me every firstborn, the first offspring of every womb among the sons of Israel, both of man and beast; it belongs to Me.”³ Moses said to the people, “Remember this day in which you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; for by a powerful hand the Lord brought you out from this place. And nothing leavened shall be eaten. ⁴On this day in the month of Abib, you are about to go forth. ⁵It shall be when the Lord brings you to the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, which He swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, that you shall observe this rite in this month. ⁶For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the Lord. ⁷Unleavened bread shall be eaten throughout the seven days; and nothing leavened shall be seen among you, nor shall any leaven be seen among you in all your borders. ⁸You shall tell your son on that day, saying, ‘It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.’ ⁹And it shall serve as a sign to you on your hand, and as a reminder on your forehead, that the law of the Lord may be in your mouth; for with a powerful hand the Lord brought you out of Egypt. ¹⁰Therefore, you shall keep this ordinance at its appointed time from year to year.”¹¹ “Now when the Lord brings you to the land of the Canaanite, as He swore to you and to your fathers, and gives it to you, ¹²you shall devote to the Lord the first offspring of every womb, and the first offspring of every beast that you own; the males belong to the Lord. ¹³But every first offspring of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, but if you do not redeem it, then you shall break its neck; and every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem. ¹⁴And it shall be when your son asks you in time to come, saying, ‘What is this?’ then you shall say to him, ‘With a powerful hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery. ¹⁵It came about, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the Lord killed every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore, I sacrifice to the Lord the males, the first offspring of every womb, but every firstborn of my sons I redeem.’ ¹⁶So it shall serve as a sign on your hand and as phylacteries on your forehead, for with a powerful hand the Lord brought us out of Egypt.”

The firstborn at the time of the Passover were spared only through the blood of the Passover Lamb. Later generations had to be ransomed by the consecration of the Levites to God or through the price of 5 shekels.

- **Numbers 3:12-13** “Now, behold, I have taken the Levites from among the sons of Israel instead of every firstborn, the first issue of the womb among the sons of Israel. So the Levites shall be Mine. ¹³For all the firstborn are Mine; on the day that I struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I sanctified to Myself all the firstborn in Israel, from man to beast. They shall be Mine; I am the Lord.”
- **Numbers 3:40-51** Then the Lord said to Moses, “Number every firstborn male of the sons of Israel from a month old and upward, and make a list of their names. ⁴¹You shall take the Levites for Me, I am the Lord, instead of all the firstborn among the sons of Israel, and the cattle of the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the cattle of the sons of Israel.” ⁴²So Moses numbered all the firstborn among the sons of Israel, just as the Lord had commanded him; ⁴³and all the firstborn males by the number of names from a month old and upward, for their numbered men were 22,273.⁴⁴ Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ⁴⁵“Take the Levites instead of all the firstborn among the sons of Israel and the cattle of the Levites. And the Levites shall be Mine; I am the Lord. ⁴⁶For the ransom of the 273 of the firstborn of the sons of Israel who are in excess beyond the Levites, ⁴⁷you shall take five shekels apiece, per head; you shall take them in terms of the shekel of the sanctuary (the shekel is twenty gerahs), ⁴⁸and give the money, the ransom of those who are in excess among them, to Aaron and to his sons.” ⁴⁹So Moses took the ransom money from those who were in excess, beyond those ransomed by the Levites; ⁵⁰from the firstborn of the sons of Israel he took the money in terms of the shekel of the sanctuary, 1,365. ⁵¹Then Moses gave the ransom money to Aaron and to his sons, at the command of the Lord, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.

The people at the Passover were redeemed by the blood of the Passover Lamb and the scripture also states that people after the Passover were ransomed by the work of the priestly lineage. Jesus is our true High Priest who has entered the Holy of Holies and applied His blood as the true Passover Lamb to His people (firstborn) to pay the ransom for our sins and to avoid judgment. We as believers are to be a kingdom of priests.

Jesus is referred to as the firstborn, as is the true Church

- **Luke 2:21-23** And when eight days had passed, ^[1]before His circumcision, His name was *then* called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb.²² And when the days for their purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him up to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every *firstborn* male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”)
- **Romans 8:29** For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren.
- **Hebrews 1:6** And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, “And let all the angels of God worship Him.”
- **Hebrews 12:22-24** But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of ^[a]angels, ²³to the general assembly and church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of *the* righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood, which speaks better than *the blood* of Abel.

The firstborn of Israel were set apart at the time of the Passover. However, the Levites served in the sanctuary in place of the firstborn(**Numbers 3:11-13**). In the assembly in Heaven all believers are spared from wrath and judgment, set apart (sanctified), become a kingdom of priests (**1 Peter 2: 4-5, Rev 1:5-6**) to offer up the sacrifices of our bodies (**Romans 12:1**) and sacrifices of praise (**Hebrews 13:15-16**), and share in the inheritance of the firstborn. Esau scorned his status as being the firstborn and sold it. As a result, he found no repentance (**Hebrews 12:17**).

The lamb must be killed/slain

- **Exodus 12:6** You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it ^[b]at twilight.
- **Exodus 12:21** Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, “^[a]Go and take for yourselves ^[b]lambs according to your families, and slay the Passover *lamb*.”

Jesus was slain:

- **Isaiah 53:7** He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth.
- **Mark 8:31** And He began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.
- **Revelation 5:9** And they *sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the ^[a]book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.

The blood of the lamb had to be applied to the door to save the firstborn

The people that were saved, had to enter through the door (Jesus) that had the blood (Jesus) applied

- **Exodus 12:21-23** Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, “^[a]Go and take for yourselves ^[b]lambs according to your families, and slay the Passover *lamb*. ²²You shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood which is in the basin, and ^[c]apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and the two doorposts; and none of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning. ²³For the Lord will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite *you*.”
- **John 10:9** I am the door; if anyone enters through Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.
- **John 14:6** Jesus *said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.

The blood of Christ our true Passover Lamb is applied to save the first born from sin, death, and judgment.

- **John 1:29** The next day he *saw Jesus coming to him and *said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
- **1 Peter 1:18-19** knowing that you were not ^[a]redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, ¹⁹but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, *the blood* of Christ.
- **Revelation 5:9** And they *sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You to take the ^[a]book and to break its seals; for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood *men* from every tribe and tongue and people and nation.
- **Revelation 12:11** And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even ^[a]when faced with death.
- **Romans 5: 9** Much more then, having now been justified ^[a]by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him.

- **Hebrews 9:22** And according to the ^[a]Law, *one may almost say*, all things are cleansed with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.
- **Matthew 26:26-28** While they were eating, Jesus took *some* bread, and ^[b]after a blessing, He broke *it* and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." ²⁷ And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.
 - See Hebrews **9:11-28** and **Hebrews 10:1-14** for more verses discussing the superiority of Christ's sacrifice and blood compared that of actual animals in the OT.
 - *The blood was applied with hyssop (**Ex 12:22**). Hyssop is referenced in **John 19:29**(Jesus on the cross).

Eat the flesh, roasted with fire

They were instructed to eat the flesh of the lamb that had been roasted with fire. This language is picked up in the story of the 3 men in the fiery furnace. The fire of the furnace is the imagery the everlasting lake of fire (**Matthew 13:36-43**). The 3 men who were bound (in bondage)in the fire (their deserving of hell) were rescued by God as He went in to rescue them. This speaks to Christ taking the punishment that was due Him on the cross. Christ, the Passover Lamb would take on "the fire" or rather the punishment and wrath of God (which should be the everlasting lake of fire) in the place of His people. The language about eating the flesh of the Passover Lamb can be seen in John 6 as Christ speaks about having to eat his flesh to have eternal life. This concept would continue to be seen as Christ breaks the bread at the last supper and tells them to eat it for it represents His body.

- **Exodus 12:8** They shall eat the flesh that *same* night, roasted with fire, and they shall eat it with unleavened bread ^[a]and bitter herbs.
- **John 6:44-58** No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught of God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me. ⁴⁶ Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the One who is from God; He has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰ This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh." ⁵² Then the Jews *began* to argue with one another, saying, "How can this man give us *His* flesh to eat?" ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in yourselves. ⁵⁴ He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. ⁵⁵ For My flesh is true food, and My blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. ⁵⁷ As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats Me, he also will live because of Me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread which came down out of heaven; not as the fathers ate and died; he who eats this bread will live forever."
- **Matthew 26:26-28** While they were eating, Jesus took *some* bread, and ^[b]after a blessing, He broke *it* and gave *it* to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." ²⁷ And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; ²⁸ for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.

Unleavened bread and bitter herbs

They were instructed to eat unleavened bread. Bread that was leavened had yeast in it. Since the Israelites left quickly, no yeast was added as there was no time for the bread and yeast to rise. Throughout scripture the majority of the time that leaven is mentioned it is a representation of sin. The bread eaten at the Passover was unleavened bread as it will represent Christ being unleavened bread (sinless) and His body that will be broken (the unleavened bread at the last supper). The bread in the tabernacle and temple was unleavened as to represent the sinless of Jesus. Bitter herbs represent the sorrow and bitterness of His sorrow and suffering (**Isaiah 53:4**). We are also who belong to Christ will often suffer for Christ. Not only have we been granted faith to believe, but also to suffer for Him (**Phil 1:29**). The suffering on the Israelites at the hands of the Egyptians were considered bitter (**Exodus 1:13-14**)

- **Exodus 12:8** They shall eat the flesh that *same* night, roasted with fire, and they shall eat it with unleavened bread ^[a]and bitter herbs.
- **1 Corinthians 5:7** Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are *in fact* unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.
 - Due to Christ being our Passover Lamb we are a new lump and are now unleavened bread. We are not sinless, but rather looked upon as sinless and blameless because of the imputed righteous of Christ to His people to whom He was slain and bled for. Simul Justus et peccator (simultaneously justified and sinner). We are unleavened because He was unleavened.

None can be left until morning

- **Exodus 12:10** And you shall not leave any of it over until morning, but whatever is left of it until morning, you shall burn with fire.

Jesus was body was taken down the same day of His death and was buried

- **Matthew 15:42-45** When evening had already come, because it was the preparation day, that is, the day before the Sabbath, ⁴³ Joseph of Arimathea came, a prominent member of the Council, who himself was waiting for the kingdom of God; and he gathered up courage and went in before Pilate, and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴ Pilate wondered if He was dead by this time, and summoning the centurion, he questioned him as to whether He was already dead. ⁴⁵ And ascertaining this from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph.
- **John 19:31** Then the Jews, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (^lfor that Sabbath was a high day), asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and *that* they might be taken away.

Special location

The people could not sacrifice the Passover lamb anywhere they wanted, but rather at the place that was designated by God that He would establish His name. This would be His tabernacle and eventually the Temple in Jerusalem. Three times per year, the men of Israel were commanded to go to Jerusalem for certain feasts (Exodus 23:14-17) and the Passover was one of the three feasts. Jesus, the true Passover Lamb was sacrificed in Jerusalem.

- **Luke 2:41** Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.
- **John 2:13** The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

No bones broken

The Passover Lamb although sacrificed and killed was to not have a bone broken. Jesus died before the guards came to break the legs of the 2 criminals and His and as a result no bones of Jesus were broken.

- **Exodus 12:46** It is to be eaten in a single house; you are not to bring forth any of the flesh outside of the house, nor are you to break any bone of it
- **John 19:31-36** Then the Jews, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies would not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (^lfor that Sabbath was a high day), asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and *that* they might be taken away. ³² So the soldiers came, and broke the legs of the first man and of the other who was crucified with Him; ³³ but coming to Jesus, when they saw that He was already dead, they did not break His legs. ³⁴ But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. ³⁵ And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you also may believe. ³⁶ For these things came to pass to fulfill the Scripture, "Not a bone of Him shall be ^lbroken."

The Passover Lamb dies at 3 pm (twilight)

The Passover Lamb was to be sacrificed and killed at 3 pm. Jesus, the true Passover Lamb died on the 9th hour (3 pm).

- **Exodus 12:6** You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to kill it ^lat twilight.
- **Matthew 27:45-50** Now from the ^lsixth hour darkness ^lfell upon all the land until the ^lninth hour. ⁴⁶ About the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" ⁴⁷ And some of those who were standing there, when they heard it, *began* saying, "This man is calling for Elijah." ⁴⁸ Immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink. ⁴⁹ But the rest of them said, "^lLet us see whether Elijah will come to save Him^l." ⁵⁰ And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.

The sojourner could partake of Passover

The congregation of Israel were to partake of Passover. However, if a stranger or sojourner (Gentile) celebrates the Passover they are to be circumcised and they shall be like the native of the land. No circumcised person may eat of it. This speaks to the mystery of the Gospel, the grafting in of the Gentiles (Ephesians 2:11-3:9) (Romans 11). Spiritual Israel is not just ethnic Jews, but all those who believe in the promise and are children of the promise through faith like Abraham (Genesis 15:6) (Romans 9:6-8) and are circumcised of the heart (Jeremiah 4:1-4) (Romans 2:28-29).

- **Romans 2:28-29** For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. ²⁹ But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

- **Jeremiah 4:4** “Circumcise yourselves to the Lord And remove the foreskins of your heart, Men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, Or else My wrath will go forth like fire And burn with none to quench it, Because of the evil of your deeds.”

Deliverance from slavery

The celebration of the Passover was that His people were delivered from slavery after the Passover Lamb was slain. We are enslaved to sin (Romans 6:16-23)(2 Timothy 2:26) prior to Christ saving us and making us to be born again. The Passover was the one act that brought about deliverance out of slavery and judgment.

- **John 8:31-36** So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered Him, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have never yet been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, ‘You will become free?’” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

The necessity of the Passover

If one did not observe the Passover, they were cut off from the people of Israel and would bear their sin. Without the Passover Lamb (Christ) and His blood applied to us (1 Peter 1:2) we are not a part of Spiritual Israel and are not a part of the household of God which carries a death sentence because of the sin (Romans 6:23)

- **Numbers 9:13** But the man who is clean and is not on a journey, and yet ^[a] neglects to observe the Passover, that ^[b] person shall then be cut off from his people, for he did not present the offering of the Lord at its appointed time. **That man will bear his sin.**
The man who bears his own sin will die a spiritual death (**Romans 6:23**). But those who the Lamb bears their sin, will live.
- **1 Peter 2:21-25** For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, ²² who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; ²³ ^[a] and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously; ²⁴ **and He Himself ^[b] bore our sins** in His body on the ^[c] cross, so that we might die to ^[d] sin and live to righteousness; for by His ^[e] wounds you were healed. ²⁵ For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and ^[f] Guardian of your souls.

When the fullness of time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption as sons. The exact time for Christ to take on flesh and to enter His creation was ordained and determined before the foundation of the world. The exact date and time that the eternal Son of God would be slain on a cross as the true sacrifice for the sins of His people was also set before the foundation of the world. The date and the hour of His death were not random but were rather perfect and precise. The day of His death was Passover as He is the true Passover Lamb who was slain to redeem and lead spiritual Israel out of slavery. The Lamb was inspected, not the person in the house! The worthiness of the Lamb and the blood of the Lamb applied in faith saved the firstborn, not the worthiness of the people themselves. Christ the Passover Lamb was inspected and found worthy to be the true Passover Lamb. He the Passover Lamb who is holy and unblemished and so are the people to whom His blood covers as they are declared holy and with spot or blemish by faith in the Lamb. The unblemished spotless blood of Christ our Passover Lamb applied is what rescues, covers, and saves all the firstborn who have entered through Him as He is the Door. The Lamb was examined and was innocent and so are all who believe in Him as they have been declared holy and innocent by the imputed righteousness of the Passover Lamb and escape death and eternal judgment. We are spared because God did not spare His only begotten Son, the true Passover Lamb!

There’s more the story!!!