

A Passover Like No Other

2 Kings 23:21-27 (cf. 2 Chronicles 35:1-19)

1. A faith leading to _____ (v. 21-24)
 - a. Observation of the _____
 - i. Commanded by the “_____”
 - ii. First such Passover since the _____
 1. Time – since _____ was prophet
 2. Extent – in theology & _____
 - iii. _____ contributions of the king (2 Ch 35)
 1. Appointed and encouraged _____
 2. Instructed Levites regarding the _____
 3. Provided _____ lambs & 3,000 bulls
 4. Inspired official and Levite _____
 5. All participants found their places
 - b. Final removal of _____ practices
 - i. “_____” burned
 - ii. Abominable _____ burned
 - iii. Discovered _____’s words carried out
2. A faith marked by _____ (v. 25)
 - a. No king _____ Josiah
 - i. _____ him or after him
 - ii. _____ turning to the LORD
 - b. No king with such adherence to the _____
3. A faith free of _____ (v. 26-27)
 - a. Nothing Josiah did would _____ God’s wrath
 - i. Reforms done by _____
 - ii. Reforms done because they were _____
 - b. Nothing Josiah did would _____ Judah
 - i. Judah to be cleared away like _____
 - ii. Jerusalem rejected despite _____ status
 - iii. Temple rejected despite place of the _____

Which of these is the general theme?

1. *What we do will not change God's will, especially concerning His plans of salvation and judgment OR*
2. *True faith does not take pragmatism into account but serves in sincerity because it is right to obey the LORD.*

And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, 'This is the statute of the Passover: no foreigner shall eat of it, but every slave that is bought for money may eat of it after you have circumcised him. No foreigner or hired worker may eat of it. It shall be eaten in one house; you shall not take any of the flesh outside the house, and you shall not break any of its bones. All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. If a stranger shall sojourn with you and would keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised. Then he may come near and keep it; he shall be as a native of the land. But no uncircumcised person shall eat of it. There shall be one law for the native and for the stranger who sojourns among you.'

Exodus 12:43-49

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

Deuteronomy 6:5

For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

Romans 8:6-8

“Wrath [upon Judah] is consuming and coming and certain. But Josiah already knew all this. Huldah's prophecy (22:16-17, 20) had made that clear. Yet he pressed on in fidelity to the covenant, in commitment (vv. 1-3), sacrament (vv. 21-23), and worship (v. 24). But why? Would it make any eventual difference? Would it last? Would it save the nation? Would it cool God's wrath? No, to all these. But Josiah's is a faithfulness that does not confuse obedience with pragmatism and so pushes on, not because it will change anything but simply because God demands it. Obedience without incentives is likely genuine.

(2 Kings: *The Power and the Fury*, Dale Ralph Davis, 2005, p. 330)