

## Introduction

- God is making a distinction between the firstborn.
- This is the decision moment of salvation that sets a paradigm for it to follow.

## Plague Threatened (11:1-10)

- This will be the final plague and now Pharaoh will let the people go.
- Israel is going to plunder the Egyptians just by asking.
- The Egyptian people fear Moses while Pharaoh does not.
- All firstborn will die, from the people to cattle except for Israel's.
- There is a summary and reminder of God's control.

## Passover (12:1-13)

- This event would mark their calendars and be the beginning of the year.
- They must all kill an unblemished lamb.
- The blood goes on their doorposts.
- They must eat the whole lamb and burn the leftovers.
- They shall eat quickly and dressed ready to leave.
- This is a judgment against all of Egypt, the land, animals, and gods.
- The Bible repeatedly teaches the idea of communal sin and communal judgment.
- Only the blood of innocent will keep them safe.

## Passover (12:14-28)

- The day of Passover will be a special memorial day to keep forever.
- Part of Passover will be the seven day feast of unleavened bread.
- Failure to keep this feast means excommunication.
- They cannot eat anything with leaven in it, which is later symbolic of sin.
- The people prepare to observe and are to touch the blood with hyssop, symbolic of cleaning.
- They are to teach and tell their children the story of their deliverance.

## Plague Comes (12:29-42)

- The plague comes at midnight and claims all of the firstborn.
- Pharaoh finally sends them out, but still does not repent and asks for blessings.
- He shows no repentance or guilt even in this moment of grief.
- The bread is unleavened because they had to leave so quickly.
- The Egyptians want to send them out as fast as possible.
- They plunder Egypt without the sword.
- Close to a million Jews leave the land after 430 years of slavery.
- There are many Egyptians and other foreigners who join them.
- They are to stay up all night as God watched over them all night.

Passover Instituted (12:43-51)

- No one can participate in the ritual unless they are a part of the people of God.
- Slaves are included in God's people if they have the sign of the covenant.
- Foreigners may eat Passover when they convert.
- The "mixed multitude" is always welcome inside of Israel.
- This becomes the paradigm where Israel is always to welcome the alien and stranger "because you were slaves in Egypt."
- There is only one law for all of the people, not separate laws based on citizenship.

Unleavened Bread (13:1-16)

- God claims the firstborn of all things as His.
- They are to keep the feast of unleavened bread even in the promised land.
- It will be a memorial and an active reminder of God's covenant.
- Every single firstborn animal must be sacrificed to God.
- The unclean animals must be redeemed by other sacrifices or killed.
- The firstborn sons must all be redeemed, or purchased (Numbers 18).
- It is a reminder that the firstborn are God's.

Christ

- The entire Passover event is the paradigm of the sacrificial system and of Christ.
- Christ is the firstborn and unblemished lamb who dies in our place.
- The Passover meal foreshadows communion, where we feast on Christ.
- If the blood of lambs turned away the angel of death, how much more powerful is the blood of Christ?

Application

- Our calendars and sense of time should be guided by remembering God's work.
- We need to remember God judges people individually AND communally.
- Remember Passover as the template for God's salvation.