

Purpose of Passover and the 7 Days of Unleavened Bread

~ Today's Exodus Road to Salvation

Clermont – 23/3/2024 Pre-Passover and DOUB

Albert Einstein once said that: “**The whole of creation awaits the revealing by the sons of men**”. In other words, everything that can or will ever be, is already here. We just haven't discovered it yet. But all the parts and components are already here just awaiting discovery.

Albert Einstein was borrowing from Rom 8:19, 22-23, but did not understand its true meaning.

Rom_8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

Rom 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

Rom 8:23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

Actually Einstein's theory could be modified: “**The whole of creation awaits the revealing by God**”.

God has the master timetable and plan as to when all will be revealed.

What does keeping God's Ceremonies and Holy Days such as Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread reveal to us from God?

SPS: The PURPOSE of Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread is to reveal today's Exodus road to Salvation.

Exodus Road to Salvation

Think about it... Does life have any lasting value if there is no salvation at the end of it?

Francis Bacon: “**A wise person will make more opportunities than they find**”. Finding the way to our salvation is one of those precious opportunities.

It is a great opportunity to keep the Days of Unleavened Bread, because they show us the modern exodus road to salvation in today's world.

As we live in this world's Babylon so the Israelites were in the bondage of sin in Egypt.

Egypt is a physical type representing sin and false worship of God.

WHO'S FEAST DAYS?

Leviticus 23:1-2

Lev 23:1 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Lev 23:2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts.

No Easter or Christmas mentioned here. The purpose of these feast days picture God's Plan for all humanity and the EXODUS ROAD TO SALVATION.

PASSOVER AND 7 DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

Lev 23:4 'These are the **feasts of the LORD**, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their **appointed times**.

Lev 23:5 On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the **LORD's Passover**.

Lev 23:6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** to the LORD; seven days you must eat unleavened bread.

Lev 23:7 On the **first day you shall have a holy convocation**; you shall do no customary work on it.

Lev 23:8 But you shall offer an offering made by fire to the LORD for seven days. The **seventh day shall be a holy convocation**; you shall do no customary work on it.' "

WHAT ARE THE APPOINTED TIMES (SEASONS)?

Deut 16:16 "Three times (seasons) a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread (BARLEY SEASON), at the Feast of Weeks/Pentecost (WHEAT SEASON), and at the Feast of Tabernacles (FRUITS SEASON Dates, Figs, Grapes, Pomegranates); and they shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed.

Deut 16:17 Everyone shall give as they are able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you.

WHY 7 DAYS?

Have you ever wondered why there are 7 Days of Unleavened Bread and 7 days of the Feast of Tabernacles? Could it be that these 7 days represent the 7 thousand years of man's existence on the earth inclusive of the 1,000 years of the millennium? A complete time period to determine salvation for all people and to be de-leavened as Jesus Christ is unleavened and without sin.

WHAT DOES PASSOVER PICTURE?

Passover pictures the total sacrifice of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who shed His blood to pay the death penalty for us, so we can be **FORGIVEN**, when we **REPENT** of our sins.

It pictures the way we can be **RECONCILED** to God, through Jesus Christ's sacrifice on behalf of us.

Hebrews 9:22 And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission (or forgiveness of our sins?).

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Rom 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1John 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

That's why we need to **EXAMINE OURSELVES** before we partake of the PASSOVER

1Corinthians 11:28 But let a man **examine** himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

2 Corinthians 13:5 **Examine** yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified.

Galatians 6:3 For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

Gal 6:4 But let each one **examine** his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.

Gal 6:5 For each one shall bear his own load.

HOW DO WE EXAMINE OURSELVES leading up to PASSOVER?

In **prayer and fasting**, as God to show us our thoughts, words and actions that are not God's ways.

Psalm 26:2 Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; Try my mind and my heart.

Joel 2:12 "Now, therefore," says the LORD, "Turn to Me with all your heart, With **fasting**, with weeping, and with mourning."

Joel 2:13 So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm.

Psalm_34:18 The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart, And saves such as have a **contrite (repentant)** spirit.

Psalm_51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, A broken and a **contrite** heart—These, O God, You will not despise.

Isaiah_57:15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, With him who has a **contrite** and humble spirit, To revive the spirit of the humble, And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

Isaiah_66:2 For all those things My hand has made, And all those things exist," Says the LORD. "But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a **contrite** spirit, And who trembles at My word.

WHAT DO THE 7 DAYS OF UNLEAVENED BREAD PICTURE?

The Days of Unleavened Bread occur during the time of the BARLEY (poor man's grain) HARVEST and point to the Resurrection of our Saviour Jesus

Christ , late on the weekly Sabbath day, during the Days of Unleavened Bread, after being 3 days and 3 nights in the grave.

Jesus then ascends as the **FIRST** of the Firstfruits to His Father in the 3rd Heaven at the time of the Wave Sheaf Offering, which was the omar of fine barley flour, waved up and down by the High Priest about 9am on the morrow after the Sabbath.

Days of Unleavened Bread picture us, as God's called saints and Firstfruits, to follow the example of our Saviour Jesus Christ and to become **UNLEAVENED** and **CONVERTED** by being **TRANSFORMED** by the renewing of our minds.

The Days of Unleavened Bread picture us, being forgiven through Christ's sacrifice and saved by Jesus Christ's life being lived within us, as we become more unleavened like Jesus.

We have Christ living in us through the indwelling of God's own holy spirit and by loving and revering God with total commitment and the keeping of God's commandments and right way of life.

This means putting away sin out of our lives and putting on God's righteousness or His right way of life.

1 Corinthians 5: 7-8

Therefore **purge out the old leaven**, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are **unleavened**. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

1Co 5:8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Passover pictures the death of Jesus Christ for the remission and forgiveness of our sins. This is the first positive step in the right direction towards Salvation. Therefore we keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread by putting away sin.

Charles Tomlinson: "**The boughs of the oak tree are roaring inside the acorn shell**".

The Days of Unleavened Bread **REMIND** us to be set free from the acorn shell of sin. **THEN WE BEGIN TO GROW SPIRITUALLY** with the shackles of sin removed.

OUR EXODUS to God's Kingdom

The **first exodus** was Israel leaving Egypt the land of sin.

Second Exodus is us leaving this world's ways of sin and seeking God's spiritual ways in loving obedience.

HOW MANY DAYS DID IT TAKE ISRAEL TO LEAVE EGYPT?

Was it one, two, three, four, five, six or seven days?

It was actually 7 days.

Just as it is going to take mankind 7,000 years to leave the Egypt of this world.

It is going to take 7,000 years to finally de-leaven this world and ourselves, in order for us to be given eternal salvation by God.

De-leavening ourselves, spiritually speaking, is just that important.

Numbers 33:3-8

And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the **fifteenth day** of the first month; on the **morrow after the Passover** the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians.

4 For the **Egyptians buried all their firstborn**, which the LORD had smitten among them: upon their gods also the LORD executed judgments.

5 And the children of Israel removed from **Rameses**, and pitched in **Succoth**.

Were the Israelites permitted to leave their homes on 14 Abib?

Exodus 12: 12

For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.

When did they begin the Exodus out of the land of sin - Egypt?

Numbers 33:3-8

And they departed from Rameses in the first month, on the **fifteenth day** of the first month; on the **morrow after the Passover** the children of Israel went out with an high hand in the sight of all the Egyptians.

How far did they get in that first long night?

From Rameses to Succoth. Rameses is old Cairo today and was once called Babylon by the Persians, because it was the city of Semiramis in Egypt.

How far did they get in the fourth, fifth and sixth days?

No camp names are given for the fourth and fifth Days of Unleavened Bread but by sunset on the sixth day they were encamped in a cul-de-sac between the mountains and the sea.

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Exodus 14: 9 But the Egyptians pursued after them, all the horses and chariots of Pharaoh, and his horsemen, and his army, and overtook them **encamping by the sea, beside Pihahiroth, before Baalzephon** (on the Western Shore of the Gulf of Aqaba).

Did God set His people safely across the Red Sea (Gulf of Aqaba) before daylight on the 7th day??

Exodus 14: 21-27:

Exo 14:21 Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.

Exo 14:22 So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Exo 14:23 And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen.

Exo 14:24 Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians.

Exo 14:25 And He took off their chariot wheels, so that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians."

Exo 14:26 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen."

Exo 14:27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the LORD overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.

Exo 14:28 Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained.

Exo 14:29 But the children of Israel had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

Exo 14:30 So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.

Exo 14:31 Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD and His servant Moses.

Great Special Sabbath meeting on that 7th Day of Unleavened Bread

Congregational hymns were sung.

Exodus 15:1:

Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider has he thrown into the sea.

Exodus 15: 20:

20 And Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.

21 And Miriam answered them, Sing you to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider has he thrown into the sea.

7 Symbolic Days of coming out of sin in those Days of Unleavened Bread

God promises to help us in our Exodus, to come out of sin. So today we spend 7 Days of Unleavened Bread coming out of sin, and reminding ourselves of our Saviour Jesus Christ and the importance of living God's way of life and becoming like Him and our Father.

1 Corinthians 10: 13:

13 There has no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted (or tested) above that you are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that you may be able to bear it.

Will Christ keep Passover when He returns to this earth?**Matthew 26: 29:**

29 But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.

Luke 22: 15-16:

15 And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer:

16 For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God.

Is Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread to be kept as a Memorial until He Returns?**I Corinthians 11: 25:**

25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do you, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

26 For as often as you eat this bread, and drink this cup, you do show the Lord's death till he come.

Serve God rather than Sin

God wants us to be free, but what is missed in this celebration of freedom is right in front of our very noses.

"Let my people go," said Moses, but we forget the rest of what Moses said. "Let my people go, **THAT THEY MAY SERVE ME (GOD).**"

We have been freed from slavery so that we may be better servants of God.

God freed the Israelites from the bondage of Egypt so that they could be a nation of priests who would serve him. (Exodus 19:5-6).

We are freed from the bondage of sin so that we too could be a holy priesthood and servants of the Most High (I Peter 2:5, Rev 1:6, 5:10).

We will either serve God or sin.

Let's continue to keep these Days of Unleavened Bread every year of our lives in our Exodus of coming out of this World of the 3 S's; Satan, Society and Self.

Let's rededicate ourselves to God's purpose for us, to be RECONCILED to God, in loving respectful service to God, in doing God's will.

Through examining and repenting of our sins, and receiving Christ's covering sacrifice, we can ultimately receive God's wonderful gift of eternal Salvation, as sons and daughters in God's family forever.