

## BLURRING THE MEANING OF PASSOVER



On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the **Lord's Passover** (Lev. 23:5). Passover is the most important celebrated or remembered holiday for the Christian Church. It has its beginning when Israel was freed from Egypt's bondage. The deep meaning behind it lived for thousands of years without the Jewish people realizing its embedded prophetic message. It was to the nation of Israel a time to abstain from leaven bread, a time to sacrifice animals destined for sacrifice to atone for the nation's sin. They were to keep the lamb or kid until the fourteenth day of the month and kill them on the evening of that day.

(Exodus 12:6). The (animal's) blood (the Lord said) shall be for a token or sign to you upon [the doorposts of] the houses where you are, [that] when I see the blood, I will **pass over you**, and no plague shall be upon you to destroy you when I smite the land of Egypt (Exodus 12: 13). And this day shall be to you for a **memorial**. You shall keep it as a feast to the Lord throughout your generations,

keep it as an ordinance forever (Exodus 12:14). Passover was to Israel a memorial, a celebration to the Lord.



In YAHSHUA'S days, He celebrated the Passover with His disciples, one day before the Jews'. That was on our calendar on Wednesday evening at Six o'clock, which makes it the beginning of the new day of Thursday. In God's calendar, the new day starts at sunset. Genesis 1:5 proves it: and YAHWEH called the light day, and the darkness, He called night. And there was **evening** and there was **morning, one day**. This proves that the divine calendar before YAHSHUA'S death was a day before Israel's. He was the deep meaning of Passover, the only Passover Lamb that would be able to take the sins of the world. John the Baptist so introduced Him to the people: Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world! (John 1:29). Not understood by the Jewish nation, the message stayed hidden from them, as Isaiah asked, Who has believed our message? While the nation was sacrificing animals for the atonement of their sins in that most important Passover, aloof of what was happening in the spiritual world, God's Son- the Passover Lamb was fulfilling the Law through the nails being nailed through His hands and feet and His blood being poured out as a sacrifice for the world.

For His last Passover on earth, He instructed His disciples where to find the place for them to celebrate it. The disciples found it exactly as He told them and there, they prepared the Passover [supper] (Luke 22:8-13). Reclining at the table, YAHSHUA said to the apostles, I have earnestly and intensely desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I shall eat it no more until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God. He took a cup, and when He had given thanks, He said, Take this and divide and distribute it among yourselves; for I say to you that from now on I shall not drink of the fruit of the vine at all until the kingdom of God comes. Then He took a loaf and when He had given thanks, He broke [it] and gave it to them saying, this is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me. And in like manner, He took the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament or covenant in My blood, which is shed for you (Luke 22:14-20). That was a very special Passover celebrated YAHSHUA'S way. No shedding of innocent animals' blood was necessary, for, in a few hours, His blood, the only blood with the power to save and forgive humankind would be poured out. After YAHSHUA'S death and resurrection, the disciples and their followers continued celebrating Passover with a new meaning, now that that part of the law had been fulfilled. No longer was it commanded as a sign for the Jewish nation but in celebration of the life of YAHSHUA Who came to fulfill the Law in full, by shedding His own blood to atone for the sins of men. Passover is a time for realization in gratitude for the gift of His life, and acknowledgment of our own sins which were the cause of His sufferings. That's what this season is all about.

Nowhere in Scriptures do we read that Passover means Easter bunny, eggs, egg hunting, candies, and gift for the well-behaved kid. Nowhere in the Bible do we read that YAHSHUA celebrated Easter. It is amazing how the so-called Christians have for so long strayed from the true meaning of this feast! Meaningless traditions have engulfed the souls of Christians, as if they were numb to the point of not perceiving the pagan practices added to Passover, or as they called it, Easter. YAHWEH was the One Who constituted the Passover. He called it Passover with a reason: ... "When I see the blood, I will **pass over you**, and no plague shall be upon you to destroy you when I smite the land of Egypt (Exodus 12:13b). He was the One Who set the date when it should be observed. It was done as a memorial of the time when Israel left Egypt. It is not to be observed on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox, otherwise, its meaning becomes lost, as it has, in the traditions created by men. So why was Passover changed from Nisan 14<sup>th</sup> to Sunday of the first full moon after the vernal equinox?

We have Constantine, the Emperor of Rome to blame in part. These were truly arrogant decisions made to overwrite God's command: when to celebrate the Passover and the change of its name to the pagan name of Easter (Ishtar). The thought that the Easter bunny is the predominant pagan symbol of this most important Christian holiday, should cause every Christian to be ashamed to the point of repentance. Passover should not be celebrated for business boost, as in the purchase of new clothes, and everything that comes with it. But it is to be celebrated as a memorial to our Savior YAHSHUA.

Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians, tells us what he received directly from YAHSHUA concerning Passover. He said, For I received from the Lord Himself that which I passed on to you, that the Lord YAHSHUA on the night when He was treacherously delivered up and while His betrayal was in progress took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke [it] and said, Take, eat. This is My body, which is broken for you. Do this to call Me to remembrance. Similarly, when supper was ended, He took the cup also saying, This is the new covenant [ratified and established] in My blood. Do this, as often as you drink [it] to call Me to remembrance (I Cor. 11:23-24).

This is pure Passover observance: "in remembrance of Him," for every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are representing and signifying and proclaiming the fact of the Lord's death until He comes (I Cor. 11:26). The traditions that men attached to Passover do not represent or proclaim the death and resurrection of our Lord YAHSHUA because Easter bunny, eggs of all colors, candies, gifts, Easter trees, are of pagan origins.

YAHWEH's commandment of the observance of Passover to be done at a certain time carried a great significance in the prophetic message. That was to be observed on a certain date Perfectly pointing out to the time when His Son, the Lamb of God was to give up His life as a ransom for the sins of men. As a matter of fact, YAHSHUA was betrayed according to Luke 22:15-22 the evening of Nisan 14. The month of Nisan coincides to March-April in the Gregorian calendar. The change of date and name of this feast constitutes a serious interference on the meaning and purpose of the feast. The focus has been redirected to the tradition of men, not on YAHSHUA'S death and resurrection. "Easter" is to many young people, to children and adult alike, the synonymous of egg coloring and egg hunt, as well as Easter bunny. Where in their mind is there room for the message of

truth?" There is no room anywhere, for the minds of men are crowded with traditions from their forefathers, and that is very difficult to break for some people. There is absolutely no biblical connection to the practice of Easter. Its name does not reflect the present History of God's people, neither the Messiah of Whom this feast is observed. It carries no Biblical foundation.

Passover meaning was historically demonstrated in the deliverance of Israel, and subsequently, judgment upon the land of Egypt. Prophetically, it will happen in God's timing when the deliverance of YAHSHUA'S bride will take place, prior to God's judgment coming on the earth and to its wicked people. His Holy Spirit is the mark and sign for those who are His, the same way Israel was marked by the blood on their doorposts. The blood shall be for a token or sign to you upon [the doorposts of] the houses where you are, [that] when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall be upon you to destroy you when I smite the land of Egypt (Exodus 12:13).



I pray this message will give you a new meaning and perspective of Passover in the past, in the present, and what it means for the bride of Christ in the future.

**PASSOVER IS THE REDEMPTION STORY !**