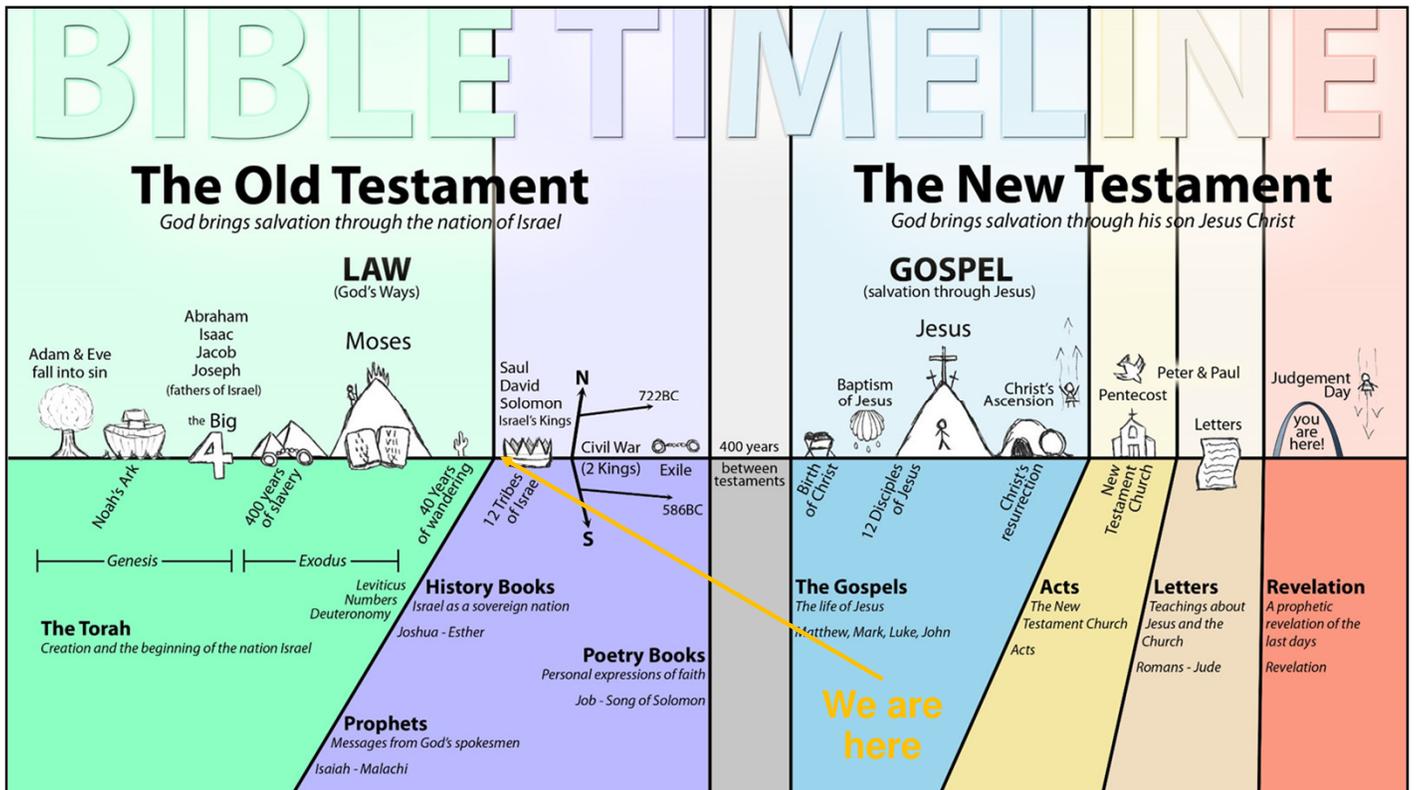


Old Testament

Passover



Passover

What is the Passover?

Passover

The Passover has various meanings. It could refer to:

- 1) Historical event
- 2) Celebration / Festival / Rite
- 3) "the Passover" could refer to the sacrificial lamb

Passover – OT References

Exodus 12 - Passover

- 12: 1-13
- 12: 21-27
- 12: 43-49

Exodus 12 – Feast of Unleavened Bread

- 12: 14-20
- 13: 3-10

Passover – Exodus 12

Observations?

- First Passover
- Each family sacrificed a lamb
- Blood was placed on the door posts and lintels
- All of it was to be eaten in the home
- No foreigner was to eat of it (unless they were circumcised and then observed it faithfully)

Passover – Exodus 12

Observations?

- May not leave the home during the night
- No uncircumcised man was to eat of it

Feast of Unleavened Bread Exodus 12

Observations?

- Lasts for one week (7 days) starting the day after Passover
- No leaven in their homes
- No leaven to be consumed
- Israelites were to eat unleavened bread

Passover – OT References

Leviticus 23:4-8

Observations?

Passover – OT References

Numbers 9: 1-14

Observations?

- Second year after the Exodus
- If your bible has the heading, "Second Passover," this refers to the second Passover allowed for those who are unclean by contact with the dead. This heading does not mean that the Passover was not celebrated in the first year after the Exodus, although a first year celebration is not recorded.

Passover – OT References

Numbers 9: 1-14

Commentary

- Leprosy is readily apparent. However, unclean by way of contact with the dead is not. There may have been temptation to observe the Passover even though unclean. This may account for the second Passover.

Passover – OT References

Numbers 28: 16-25

Observations?

- Specific quantities are given
- Are the quantities for the family or the congregation as a whole?

Passover – OT References

Numbers 33: 3

Observations?

- Simple recounting of the first Passover
- Notice that the Feast of Unleavened Bread could not have been kept that first Passover because the Israelites left Egypt the next day after the Passover.

Passover – OT References

Deuteronomy 16: 1-8

Observations?

- “the Passover sacrifice” should be understood to be plural (similar for example to “the Thanksgiving turkey”)
- At the place that the Lord shall choose
- “go to your tents” implies that this is a pilgrimage feast

Passover – OT References

Deuteronomy 16: 1-8

Observations?

- No eating of leaven, but the Feast of Unleavened Bread is not mentioned directly in this text.

Passover – OT References

Joshua 5: 2-7, 10-11

Observations?

- Israelites are now in the promised land
- Israelites were circumcised; this is the generation that was born in the wilderness
- First observance of the Passover in the promised land

Passover – OT References

2 Chronicles 8: 12-13

Observations?

- Solomon observed the “three annual feasts – the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Weeks, and the Feast of Booths.
- Does not mention Passover separately

Passover – OT References

2 Chronicles 30: 1, 10-15

Observations?

- Hezekiah reinstates the Passover; calls Israel to repent
- Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread maintain a distinction but also are joined
- Passover observed in the second month

Passover – OT References

2 Kings 22: 8, 10-13

2 Kings 23: 21-23

Observations?

- The book of the law is discovered and Josiah calls for repentance and a return to the faith
- Passover is observed
- Verse 22, “No such Passover had been kept since the days of the judges....”

Passover – OT References

2 Chronicles 35: 1-19

Observations?

- More detailed account of 2 Kings 23

Passover – OT References

Ezekiel 45:21

Observations?

- Ezekiel prophecies shortly after the time when the first temple (built under Solomon) was destroyed.
- He looks forward and commands the observance of the Passover in the new temple.

Passover – OT References

Ezra 6: 19-22

Observations?

- The returned exiles observe the Passover
- The second temple has just been completed and dedicated

Passover – OT References

Observations from a brief survey of the OT references?

- Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread are separate events joined to each other
- The frequency of observing the Passover varied
- The manner in which it was observed varied
- Passover requires a sacrifice!
- Without a sacrifice, there is no Passover.

Passover – NT References

Jesus in Jerusalem just prior to His betrayal and crucifixion.

- Matthew 26
- Mark 14
- Luke 22
- John 11:55 - 19

Passover – NT References

Passover linked to the chronology of events

- Luke 2:41 – Jesus parents went to Jerusalem every year at Passover
- John 2: 13,23 – Jesus at Jerusalem at the start of His ministry (after the wedding at Cana)
- John 6 – Jesus feeds the 5000 (around the time of the Passover)
- Acts 12:3, 20:6 – References to events in the apostolic ministry of Peter and Paul

Passover – NT References

Passover explained

- Recall that the observance of Passover varied over the history of Israel
- That divergence of thought, idea, ritual observance, etc. has increased over the past 2000 years
- Jesus Christ provides the explanation and gives us the true understanding of Passover

Passover – NT References

1 Corinthians 5: 7-8

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. ⁸ Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Christ is our Passover

Passover – NT References

Colossians 2: 16-17

¹⁶ Therefore no one is to act as your judge in regard to food or drink or in respect to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath day— ¹⁷ things which are a mere shadow of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.

Passover + All Feasts = Shadow of Redemption

Christ = Reality of Redemption

Luther on the Feasts

All these festivals – and whatever others there may have been – we celebrate by allegory of the Spirit in one festival. For we observe the Passover every day, when we eat and sacrifice Christ, the Lamb of God; that is, as Paul explains it in 1 Cor. 10, we proclaim and believe that He was offered up for us. So daily we have Pentecost, when we receive the new Law, the Spirit, into our hearts (Jer. 31:33) through the ministry of the Word. Daily we celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles, when we teach and experience that we are strangers in this world and sojourn in the tabernacles of our bodies, which last but a short time. ---- Luther's Works, Volume 9, Lectures on Deuteronomy

Bokser on the Passover

Baruch M. Bokser was a professor of Talmud and rabbinical studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

In his book, "The Origins of the Seder: The Passover Rite and Early Rabbinic Judaism," he properly articulates the Christian position regarding the Passover.

"The case of Passover therefore objectively proves that from the perspective of the Christian tradition, Judaism and the literal meaning of the Hebrew Bible are obsolete, being fulfilled and surpassed in Christianity and Jesus."

Concordia Commentary Leviticus John W. Kleinig

Extended commentary from pages 507-510

Passover

Questions?

Next Week

1 and 2 Samuel