

Sunday School Lesson



Mrs. Lawrence

Subject: God Establishes The Passover
October 10, 1982

Lesson	Scripture
The Great Exemption	Exodus 12:11-13
The Permanent Statute	Exodus 12:14-17
The Story Told Again and Again	Exodus 12:24-27
Background Scripture...	Exodus 11-12

Lesson Background

The immediate result of Moses' efforts in carrying out God's command to Pharaoh to "let His People go" was an increase in great and horrible burdens upon His people. He hardened his heart to God's will which was indicated by his refusal to free the people. The coercion God used to free His people was in the form of ten plagues. Each time Pharaoh refused His pleas, He would send a plague in the following order:

1. The water in the Nile turned to blood (7:14-24);
2. Frogs from the Nile covered the land (7:25, 8:15);
3. People and animals were plagued by lice (8:16-19);
4. Swarms of flies filled the country (8:20-32);
5. An epidemic killed many cattle (9:1-7);
6. Boils tormented people and animals (9:8-12);
7. A hail storm devastated Egypt (9:13-35);
8. Locusts destroyed remaining plants (10:1-20);
9. Darkness covered the land for three days (10:21-29);
10. First-born sons of Egypt die (11:1-10)

Nine of the above plagues failed to change Pharaoh's attitude. But God sent the tenth plague which was effective in the deliverance of His people. He gave specific instructions to Moses and Aaron for the preparation and celebration of the first Passover. Read Exodus 12:2-10 for details.

Lesson Explained

In preparation for a hasty departure from Egypt, God's people were to eat the Passover in haste, and to have their loins girded, their shoes on and their staff in hand, (vs. 11). The tenth plague was also directed "against all the gods of Egypt," and it demonstrated the powerlessness of these gods to stand against Jehovah. The blood that the Israelites applied on their door frames as specified would serve as "a token" or as "a sign" of their faith in obedience to God. The death plague would "pass over" (meaning of Passover) that family, (vss. 12-13).

In verse 14, God ordered a reminder to His people's rescue from the death that tragic night. They were to keep the Passover Feast, a feast to the Lord throughout their generations. And keep it forever. The Old Testament records at least six times when the Passover Feast was kept.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread was part of the passover celebration. It was to begin by removing all leaven from the homes of the Israelites. The final words in verse 15 are threatening: "Whoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel." "Leaven" in scripture means evil. Its elimination symbolizes separation from sin and defilement, (I Cor. 5:7-8). The holy assembly was to be held on the first and seventh days of the celebration. The purpose of which was to worship God. This celebration was to become a permanent part of Israel's religious life. We should remember here that before the Hebrews left Egyptian bondage they demanded recompense or pay for their labor as slaves, (38:24-31). Their demand was granted, and they left with an abundance, (vs. 16).

Verses 18-20 complete the instructions God gave, and verses 21-23 tell how Moses passed God's instructions on to the people. And the last portion of the printed text tell what Moses said. The people accepted the instruction regarding how to tell the story to their children. Their attitude is demonstrated in the words: "And the people bowed the head and worshipped," (vss. 24-27).

Closing Summary

Passover holds a special significance for Hebrew people because it is a reminder of their redemption by God from Egypt. In the symbolism of the Passover, we get a glimpse of the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ. So the message of the Passover to today's Christian is: Hold on to redemptive faith for their own salvation, and then, in the spirit of the living Lord, pass it on!



James M. Brown, a member of the First Baptist Church-West, 1801 Oaklawn Avenue, for 56 years recently received a plaque from the church for his long time service to First Baptist. Brown, born in Orangeburg County, S.C., came to Charlotte in 1921. He joined the church in 1926 under the leadership of the Rev. A. W. Tutt. Brown has served on the Usher Board and Board of Directors. In 1938, he was ordained as a Deacon and was made Treasurer of the church under the ministry of Dr. John H. Moore and has served in that capacity for the past 43 years. "I like the church and love the people," is Mr. Brown's favorite quotation.

Charlotte Post Initiates "Beauty Of Year" Contest

By Loretta Manago
Post Staff Writer

Another vigorous circulation campaign has been launched by The Charlotte Post.

On Friday, October 1, circulation director, Cynthia Cuttina, and publisher-editor, Bill Johnson, met with several young ladies to initiate the Charlotte Post's "Beauty of the Year" campaign.

At this initial meeting eager contestants listened as rules and regulations were discussed and in return contestants had the opportunity to iron out any questions or concerns they may have.

The "Beauty of the Year" contest, which is set up similar to The Charlotte Post's "Churchwoman of the Year" contest, is a six-week campaign which began October 4 and will conclude November 15. In order to qualify as a contestant a young lady must have been selected as "Beauty of the Week" in the past 18 months.

The grand prize winner shall be determined by the highest point total. The contestant reporting the highest number of sales over 200 shall receive the grand prize worth \$1,980. Broken down the grand prize consists of \$1,500 dollars, a color TV, two visits to the beauty parlor and \$100 shopping spree.

Second and third place winners will be known as having the second and third highest numbers of sales over 200.

The contestants who are vying for the title "Beauty of the Year" are: Cynthia Terry, LaLisa Leary, Dionne Alexander, Rita Edwards, Wanda Ward, Doris Chisholm, Regina Conner, Thelma Neely, Annette Patterson, DiJuana Harris, Shrondra Womble and Trena King.

At the close of the contest a special meeting shall be held at which time the winners will be awarded their prizes and other gratuities.

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