

**Men's Sunday Night**  
**A Study in the Book of Exodus**  
**Lesson 6 – Exodus 12-13**  
**Journey to Freedom**  
**Christ, the Slain Lamb**

The Jews have a religious and a civil calendar, and Passover marks the beginning of their religious year. The death of the lamb makes a new beginning, just as the death of Christ makes a new beginning for the believing sinner. Selected on the tenth day, and slain “between the evenings” of the fourteenth and fifteenth days, the lamb was set aside for death. So, Christ was the Lamb foreordained before the foundation of the world. The lamb was to be a male without blemish, a picture of the perfect Lamb of God in whom there was no spot or stain.

From the tenth to the fourteenth days, the people watched the lambs to make sure they were satisfactory; similarly, Christ was tested and watched during His earthly ministry, especially during the last week before He was crucified. It is not enough to call Christ a Savior among many. Each of us must be personally able to say, “He is my Savior!”

The blood of the lamb was sufficient to save from death, but the people had to feed on the lamb to get strength for their pilgrim journey. Salvation is just the beginning. We must feed on Christ if we are to have the strength to follow Him. Too many people receive the Lamb as their salvation from death, but they do not feed on the Lamb daily.

### **Exodus 13**

The lamb had died for the firstborn; now the firstborn would belong to God. The Jews were a “purchased people” just as we are God’s purchased people. The nation would forever honor the Lamb by giving their firstborn to the Lord. The hands, eyes, and mouth would be given to Him for His service.

God led His people, not on the nearest way, but on the way that was best for them, just as He does today. The pillar was a cloud by day and a fire by night. God always makes His will clear to those who are willing to follow. He saves us, feeds us, guides us, and protects us, and yet we do so little for Him. Joseph knew what he believed and where he belonged. His tomb in Egypt was a reminder to the Jews that one day God would deliver them.

**Read Exodus 12:1-51 and Answer the Following Questions:**

1. What are the steps the Children of Israel should follow in order to be ready for the 10<sup>th</sup> plague? (See 12:3-11)
2. Why was this event called the “Passover”?
3. What protected the Children of Israel from this plague? What is the significance of this for us today?
4. What two feasts were the Children of Israel told to celebrate from this time on? Why? (See 12:14-27)
5. When the 10<sup>th</sup> Plague took place at midnight, what happen?
6. How fast did the people have to leave Egypt? How many Israelites left? How long had they been in Egypt?
7. Who delivered the Children of Israel from Egypt? How does that encourage you today?

**Read Exodus 13:1-22 and Answer the Following Questions:**

8. What does the Lord ask Moses to do now that Israel is freed from slavery?  
(Consecrate Means: Dedicate to a purpose)

9. What else does He ask them to do? (See 13:3-10)

10. What did the Israelites do with the animals first born? (See 13:11-16)

11. Which way would have made the most sense for the people of Israel to travel?  
What didn't God send them that way? What does that tell you about your own life?

12. What did Moses make sure they took with them? Why? (See Gen. 50:25)

13. What was the sign of God's presence with His people, and what did He do for them? How does God lead us today?

## The Leading of the Lord

Do you ever wish that God would lead you the way He led Israel through the Wilderness, with a miraculous pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Those must have been very reassuring signs to the people that their God was present with them and actively intervening to lead them through the wilderness.

God adopted a kind of communication well known to large groups of travelers in the ancient world. When armies marched long distances, with their lines sometimes drawn out for miles, they needed a way for the troops at the front to communicate with troops at the rear. So, the leaders lighted an open fire of burning coals to carry to the front of the march. At night the flames provided a fire that could be seen for miles. During the day, water poured on the coals produced an easily recognized cloud of smoke and steam. When marching through unfamiliar terrain, the rear-guard troops only had to march toward the cloud to stay on course.

In the case of Israel, God Himself was in the cloud and in the fire, which He produced supernaturally. But how does He lead believers today? The most direct way is through the Bible. His written revelation to humanity. (Basic-Instructions-Before-Leaving-Earth). The vast majority of what we need to know about God will be revealed in Scripture. If we keep aiming toward that, we'll tend to end up in the right spot.

Does God lead His people today? Yes, He does. But we need not look to the skies for His will when we have it written right here in front of us. It's called His Word!!!!