

Bo

בא

“Enter”

מִשְׁפָּט

Mishpat

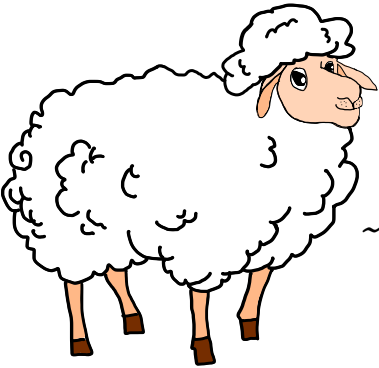
Exodus 10:1-13:16

In this week’s Parasha God sends the final three plagues upon Pharaoh and the land of Egypt. The eighth plague of locusts, the ninth plague of darkness, and the tenth and final plague of death completed His judgement (מִשְׁפָּט - **mishpat**). Pharaoh’s consistent refusal to submit to the authority of God resulted in an end to God’s grace.

God hardened Pharaoh’s heart so that His mighty works and signs would be clearly seen, realized and remembered. All these things testify to future generations that He is LORD and deserves all glory, honor and praise.

So Moshe (Moses) and Aharon (Aaron) came to Pharaoh and said to him, “Thus said the LORD God of the Hebrews: ‘How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me? Send My people forth, that they may serve Me.’”

Exodus 10:3



~ Focus Passage of Scripture ~ Ex 12:1-22 & 12:46

In Exodus 12:1-11 and 12:46 God gave Moshe (Moses) and Aharon (Aaron) instructions for the preparations the Yisra’elites (Israelites) needed to make to avoid God’s judgement of death to the firstborn of every household. They were instructed to take a lamb on the tenth day of the month. This lamb could be from the sheep or the goats, but it had to be a male in the first year of life. The lamb had to be healthy with no defects. They were to choose a lamb according to the size needed to feed their entire household. If the lamb was too large for a family to eat in one meal, they were to combine households in order to consume the entire lamb. None of the lamb should be left over, and all that remained of it should be burned the next morning.

Pray First

Father God,

We praise You because You deserve all glory, honor and praise. May the light of Your glory fill the earth. Please teach us to submit to Your authority so that we can reflect Your light in darkness.

In Yeshua’s name we pray. Amen.

Read Next

Exodus 10:1-13:16

On the fourteenth day of the month the Yisra'elites were to kill the lamb in the afternoon. They were to collect the lamb's blood in a basin, take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood. They were to strike the lintel (top of the door frame) and the two doorposts of their homes with the blood. The Yisra'elites were then to roast the entire lamb in a fire. They were not to break one of its bones, and they were to prepare bitter herbs and unleavened bread to be eaten with it. When everything was prepared, the Yisra'elites were to go into their homes and stay there until the next morning.

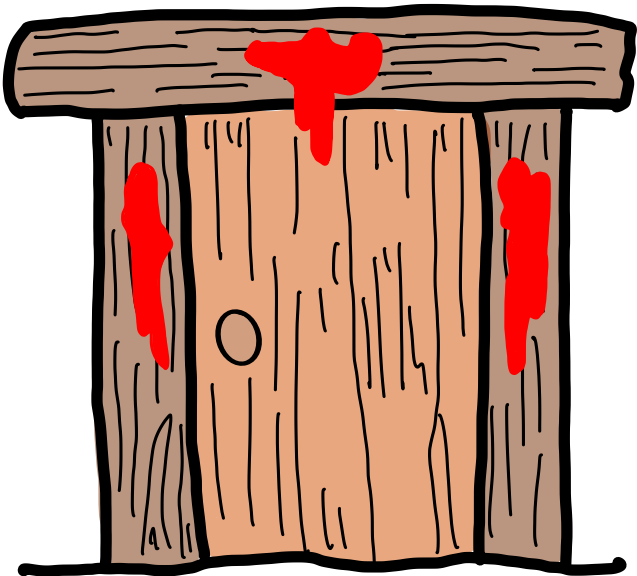
Aviv (First Month of the Year)						
Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Shabbat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Select Passover Lamb
11	12	13	14 Preparation Day Passover	15 Feast of Unleavened Bread Begins	16	17
18	19	20	21 Feast of Unleavened Bread Ends	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

The fourteenth day is often called Preparation Day because many things had to be prepared. All preparations had to be made on the fourteenth day of the first month because at evening time, or the beginning of the fifteenth day, the Yisra'elites were to eat the lamb in their home in a very unusual way. They had to prepare themselves to eat the lamb by putting their belts on their waist, their sandals on their feet and their staff in their hands. They had to eat this meal of lamb, bitter herbs and unleavened bread in a hurry because the LORD's judgment of evil was coming sometime that night.

In Exodus 12:12 God announced that He would pass through the land of Egypt to judge it and all the false gods. His judgment would come in the form of death to the firstborn of every man and beast. Death is the final outcome for anyone who chooses not to submit to God's authority.

In Exodus 12:13-14 God provided a way to avoid His judgment of death. This way was through the blood of the innocent lamb that was chosen on the tenth day and killed on the fourteenth day of the first month of the year. God explained that this blood would act as a sign to Him. It would be seen by Him when He passed through Egypt as the destroyer. God would see this sign and consider those inside the homes marked with blood as blameless of sin against Him and not destroy them. Of course, the people were not blameless of sin against God, but He offered His grace to everyone who submitted to Him and obeyed His instructions. That night God redeemed the lives of those covered by the blood of the lamb. He commanded the people to remember and acknowledge His work of redemption and deliverance every year at this appointed time (מוֹעֵד - mo'ed) forever.

In Genesis 12:15-20 we learn that this feast is to begin in the evening of the fifteenth day, following the end of Preparation Day. It is to last for seven days and is to be called The Feast of Unleavened Bread. Leaven makes the dough of bread rise up. It symbolizes the dangerous sin of pride in a person's life. Pride was the sin that hardened the heart of Pharaoh each time he refused to submit to the authority of God.



During the seven days of The Feast of Unleavened Bread no leaven is to be found in the house nor is anything containing leaven to be eaten. The first and last days of the feast are to be holy convocation days, meaning people who have been saved by God's grace should come together to worship Him. Also, on the first and last days of the feast no work other than meal preparation can be done. These days are set apart to have more time to worship the LORD for all the mighty works He has done. This feast symbolizes the realization of the people that they would have died due to their sins unless they had been saved by the all powerful God of Yisra'el. Anyone for all generations to come who did not acknowledge this feast in this way would be cut off from His people, Yisra'el.

One Law for All

Exodus 12:42-51

After 430 years of exile in the land of Egypt, the Yisra'elites were finally driven out. The LORD brought them out with His mighty hand. They came out with great riches from their neighbors. They ate unleavened bread for seven days as commanded because there was no time for the dough to rise.

The LORD commanded Moshe and Aharon that the observance of this event would be a solemn occasion for all the children of Yisra'el throughout their generations. No one could participate in an unworthy manner. No outsider would be allowed to eat the Passover meal unless he underwent circumcision. Remember, circumcision is the sign of the covenant God made with Avraham. It symbolizes death to the flesh so that new life can begin. All servants bought by an Yisra'elite or strangers who sojourned with them who wished to participate in the Passover observance had to be circumcised first. Once circumcised, they could eat the Passover meal, keep The Feast of Unleavened Bread and were considered a part of Yisra'el.



Leavened Bread



Unleavened Bread

Numbers in the Bible and the Ten Plagues of Egypt

1
God
Unity

The blood of the lamb united the Yisra'elites with God, and they were seen as blameless in His sight. In the first plague of Egypt God turned life-sustaining water into blood.

Following the first plague, Pharaoh hardened his heart because of his pride and refused to send God's people forth.



2
Different
Opinions

In the second plague of Egypt God brought frogs out of the waters. Frogs can represent evil, and water often represents instability. God is good and stable all the time. The frogs are the opposite of God.

Following this plague, Pharaoh hardened his heart because of his pride and refused to send God's people forth.



3
Testing
Revelation
Reveals

In the third plague of Egypt God brought lice throughout the land of Egypt. Pharaoh's magicians were tested by this and could not produce lice. This revealed that the plague was from God, and Pharaoh's magicians confessed this revelation.

Following this plague, Pharaoh hardened his heart because of his pride and refused to send God's people forth.



4
Worldwide
From All Directions
World

In the fourth plague of Egypt God brought wild beasts from every direction into the land of the Egyptians, but He did not bring them into the land of Goshen where the Yisra'elites lived.

Following this plague, Pharaoh hardened his heart because of his pride and refused to send God's people forth.



5
Incomplete
Lacking

In the fifth plague of Egypt God brought severe pestilence to part of the land animals of the Egyptians. Of all the land animals only the cattle, horses, donkeys, camels, oxen and sheep were afflicted.

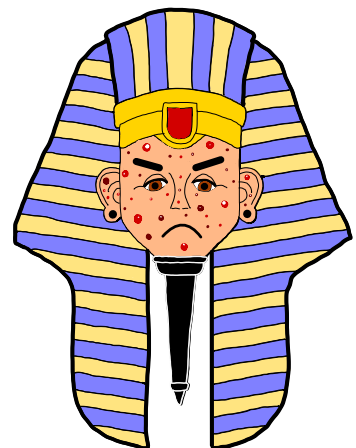
Following this plague, Pharaoh hardened his heart because of his pride and refused to send God's people forth.



6
Grace

God extended His grace to Pharaoh in plagues one through five by giving him an opportunity each time to submit to His authority. Pharaoh refused to submit to God's authority because of his pride, and this hardened his heart. In the sixth plague God struck all men and beasts of Egypt with painful sores, or boils, over their entire bodies. Because of God's grace, they did not die.

This time God hardened Pharaoh's heart for refusing to submit to His authority and receive forgiveness through His grace.



7

Rest

Holy

Set apart for a purpose

In the seventh plague of Egypt God sent destroying thunder, fire and hail from heaven. He forewarned all the Egyptians to provide shelter for all men and beasts so that they would not be killed by the hail. All who feared the word of God and rested in His provision were saved. All who did not die.

Following this plague, Pharaoh hardened his heart because of his pride and refused to send God's people forth. Pharaoh refused to rest in the provision for salvation, given by God.



8

Kingdom of God

Redemption

Newness

Renewal

In the eighth plague of Egypt God sent locusts with an east wind to devour what had not been destroyed by the thunder, hail and fire from heaven. Pharaoh sent for Moshe and Aharon and finally confessed his sin against the LORD and against them. God sent a strong west wind and blew the locusts into the Red Sea. Not one locust remained on the land.

Following this plague, the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart. Because Pharaoh had refused God's grace and provision of rest, it was too late for him to receive God's redemption for new life in His kingdom. The only way to enter the kingdom of God is by His grace and provision.



9

Works

Deeds

Outcome

Result

In the ninth plague of Egypt God sent thick, paralyzing darkness that could be felt over the land of the Egyptians for three days. The land of Goshen had light. Pharaoh had relied on his deeds and works to get the outcome, or result, he wanted. When we rely on ourselves instead of God, the only outcome is darkness.

Following this plague, God hardened the heart of Pharaoh due to his refusal to agree with and rely on God. Pharaoh's deeds led him to eternal darkness.



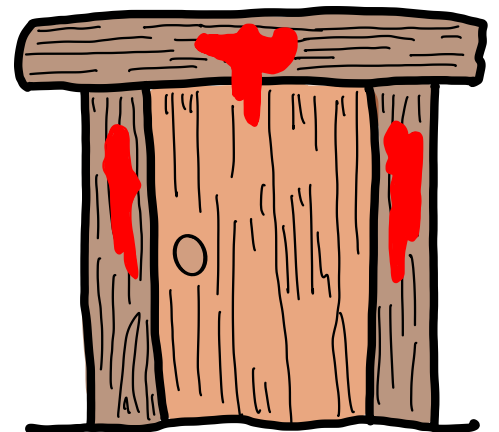
10

Entire

Complete

In the tenth plague of Egypt God destroyed every firstborn man and beast that was not covered by the redemptive blood of the Passover lamb. This was the entire and complete judgement of God.

Pharaoh finally sent God's people forth by driving them out when his firstborn son died.



Here is a spiritual truth. When we know God's truth and disobey it, our heart becomes a little harder and turns further away from God. When we say that God hardened Pharaoh's heart, we are saying that God's spiritual truths are coming upon Pharaoh, and his heart is hardened.

Recap Review Fun

Directions: Draw a line to the correct statement/numbers.

Lice

1

Reveal

Wild animals

2

Different

Water to blood

3

God

Frog

4

Incomplete

Pestilence

5

Grace

Boils

6

Worldwide

Hail

7

Rest

Death of firstborn

8

Complete

Darkness

9

Deeds

Locusts

10

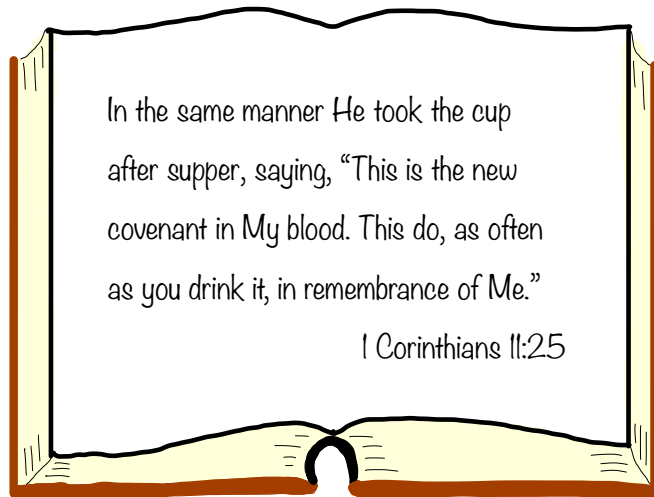
Kingdom

~ New Testament: 1 Corinthians 11:20-34 ~

In this week's New Testament portion the Apostle Paul instructed the people of Corinth in the significance and importance of the last supper that Yeshua (Jesus), the Lamb of God, shared with His disciples. Yeshua met with His disciples on the evening, or the beginning of the fourteenth day, Preparation Day. He took unleavened bread and shared it with them, explaining its new meaning. The unleavened bread now symbolized His body that would be broken for them. Yeshua took the cup and shared it with His disciples, explaining that from now on it would symbolize His blood that would be shed for them. He instructed His disciples that participating in this meal would be done in remembrance of His sacrifice and work of redemption as the innocent Lamb of God. Paul explained to the people of Corinth that they should not come together to participate in this meal called the LORD's Supper or the Last Supper in an unworthy manner.

Yeshua is the Son of God who left His throne in heaven to become the Passover Lamb of God. All those who submit to this provision of God for the redemption from sin are seen as blameless by God and live. Only those who are covered by the innocent blood of Messiah Yeshua should participate in the LORD's Supper. They should participate for the remembrance of Him and His work of redemption for their souls.

Anyone who participates in this meal proclaims the death of Yeshua until He comes again. If someone participates for any other reason, that one is guilty of the body and blood of Yeshua and will be judged accordingly. For this reason many are weak, sick and die.



Pray First

Father God,

We praise You that while we were still sinners You sent Your Son as the Lamb of Redemption. Although we remain sinful, You consider us blameless when we are covered with the innocent blood of Your only begotten Son, Yeshua. Help us live in a way that brings honor to You as our Lord and God.

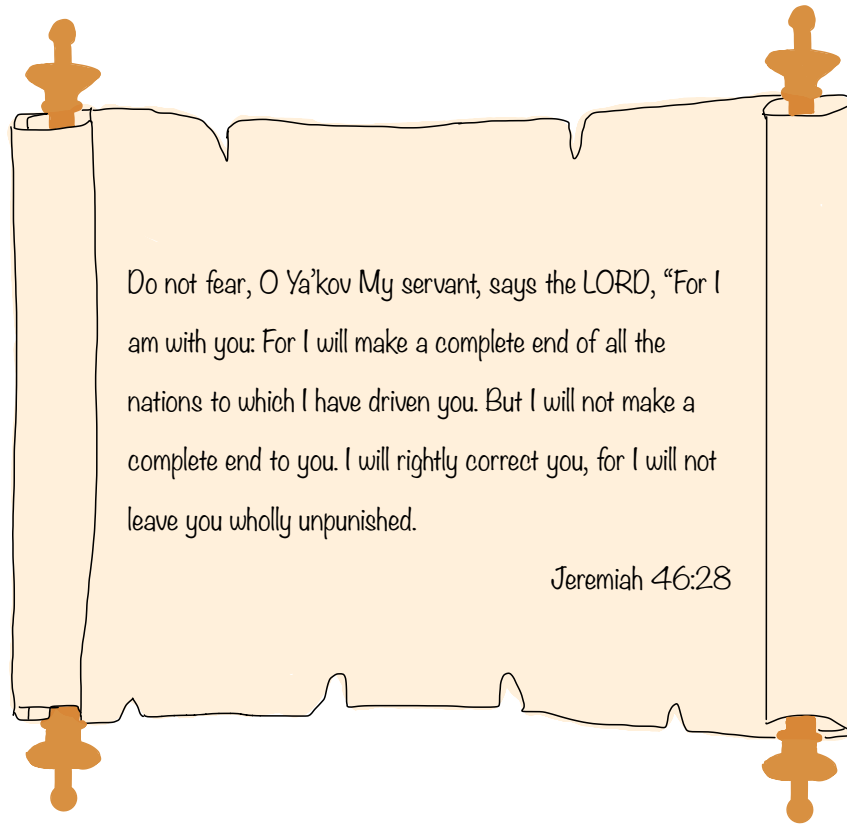
In Yeshua's name we pray. Amen.

Read Next

1 Corinthians 11:20-34



~ Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28 ~



In this week's Haftarah we learn through the Prophet of God, Jeremiah, that God deals differently with Yisra'el than with any other nation. In today's Torah portion the children of Yisra'el had been in exile from the land of promise for 430 years. This exile began due to their failure to submit to God's authority. When Yosef's (Joseph) brothers sold him into slavery, they were acting pridefully. God had revealed His plan for Yosef to lead the family, and they opposed God's plan. This sin resulted in God's discipline or affliction. The descendants of Yisra'el went into exile in Egypt, remained there 430 years and became slaves, who were greatly persecuted by the Egyptians. Despite their affliction from God and their persecution from Egypt, God was with them.

God afflicts or disciplines the descendants of Yisra'el when they sin against Him, but He utterly destroys all who persecute them. Anyone who opposes the nation of Yisra'el is in opposition to God. This pattern began with God's covenantal promises to Avraham (Abraham), Yosef's great-grandfather. Because God is perfect and does not change, this pattern has been followed all through history and remains in place today.

Likewise, in this week's Haftarah we learn that the Yisra'elites had sinned against God by idolatry. God raised up the evil Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, as His means to afflict the Yisra'elites and destroy Egypt. God will always save a remnant of Yisra'el because Yisra'el is His firstborn son. As His firstborn son, it is God's will for Yisra'el to serve Him. One way Yisra'el will serve Him is to be a blessing to all nations. Nothing can stop the will of God.