

Milltown Life groups Easter 2022 Study 1

THE PASSOVER LAMB – Exodus Ch 1-12

BACKGROUND

Exodus is a continuation of the Genesis story. Approximately 400 years have passed since the death of Joseph. (equivalent in our time to events in 1620 – Mayflower lands in US and James 1 is King)



5 MINUTE SUMMARY VIDEO: <https://youtu.be/Ouf-PgW7rqE>

Read Exodus 1 v8-14. What is life like for the Israelites?

Read Exodus 2 v 23-25. What prompted God to remember the Israelites?

Approximately 40 years after God hears the Israelites call, God calls Moses at the burning bush.

Read Exodus 6 v 6-8. What promises does God make to Moses?

What is the meaning of redeem?

LET MY PEOPLE GO

Moses confronts Pharaoh under God's guidance and asks Pharaoh to release the Israelites for a 3 days journey into the desert to allow them to make a sacrifice to God. (Exodus 5v1-10). Pharaoh refuses and makes life more difficult by making the Israelites gather their own straw to make bricks.

God sends Moses back to speak to Pharaoh. Read Exodus 7 v 14-18

What does this tell us about God's response to Pharaoh?

Pharaoh refuses to let the Israelites go. (Exodus 7v22-24)

Then follows another 8 plagues.

Can you name them (without looking them up)?

What do you think would have been the worst plague?

THE FINAL PLAGUE

Read Exodus 12 v 1-13

This is a very different plague. The Israelites are given very specific instructions and have to start the preparation 4 days before the Passover event – this wasn't something that was spur of the moment.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The date of Easter is related to the Jewish calendar and the date of Passover (Ex 12v1) It is based on a lunar calendar and Passover can happen on various days of the week.
- In the Old Testament goats and sheep were interchangeable. They looked much more similar than they do today (picture above is of sheep). Sheep had a higher value than goats, and male sheep/goats had a higher value.

The year old Lamb/goat was to be without defect and the meat was to be burned (BBQ'd) rather than the normal boiling. No meat was to be kept as left overs and any remaining meat had to be burned. The blood of the animal had to be painted around the door of each household.

Bearing in mind the experience of the Israelites (10 times Pharaoh had refused to let them leave) and the timescale of their suffering, what characteristics did the Israelites show in following these instructions. (Hebrews 11 v 24-28)

Read Exodus 12 v 24-27. How can we ensure that we remember what God has done for us both as individuals and as a church?