

# Session 4 – Unleavened Bread: We Celebrate Jesus' Work on the Cross by Actively Seeking to Purge Sin from our Lives

Written for our Instruction: OT Lessons on the Christian Life

NOTES:

## I. First Corinthians 5:6-8

### A. *Context (5:1-5)*

1. Paul is addressing a case of gross \_\_\_\_\_ within the church of Corinth. A man was living in an immoral relationship with his step-mother.
2. Instead of dealing with such overt sin, the Corinthians had turned a blind eye. Instead of feeling shame and sorrow, they were proud and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Paul gives them clear instructions. They are to excommunicate this man from the church assembly delivering him over to Satan in the hope that he will \_\_\_\_\_.

## II. Jesus our Passover Lamb (Ex. 12:1-13)

### A. \_\_\_\_\_ *the lamb (Ex. 12:3-5)*

1. God begins by giving instructions regarding the selection of a lamb. There are three requirements:
  - a) First, it must be a lamb or kid \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) Secondly, it must be without \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) And third, it must be a male one year old.

### B. \_\_\_\_\_ *the Lamb (Ex. 12:6)*

1. The word "kill" is not the usual word (*harag*) but a rarer word (*shahat*) meaning to slaughter usually in a \_\_\_\_\_ way.
2. **Theological Reflection:** Through the Passover instructions, God is communicating an important lesson to the children of Israel. They deserve to be recipients of God's judgment just as much as the Egyptians. Their firstborns also deserve to die. They are not \_\_\_\_\_ than the Egyptians. The only difference between the Israelites and the Egyptians is that God, in his mercy, provides the Israelites with a substitute.

### C. \_\_\_\_\_ *the lamb (Ex. 12:7-11)*

1. **Outwardly:** The blood on the doorframe is \_\_\_\_\_ that a sacrifice has taken place, blood has been shed at that home, and thus it provides protection for those within.

2. **Inwardly:** Eating the flesh provides \_\_\_\_\_ (Note the repetition of the verb “eat” five times).
3. **Summary:** The same lamb that protects their life from death also gives them strength to begin their new journey with God. The lamb not only \_\_\_\_\_ life, it \_\_\_\_\_ life.

D. \_\_\_\_\_ **for a lamb (Ex. 12:12-13)**

1. God is coming to execute judgments. Literally this reads that God is going to “\_\_\_\_\_” (Hamilton 184). To do justice is to do what is right, it is to act fairly.
2. Verse 12 and 13 are carefully structured. What separates the “I will” of judgment in verse 12 from the “I will” of mercy in verse 13? It is nothing other than the \_\_\_\_\_ of the lamb.

E. **Christological implications**

1. **Selecting the Lamb:** Jesus, God’s lamb, was without \_\_\_\_\_. He had no faults (1 Pet. 2:22; Heb. 9:14).
2. **Killing the Lamb:** Jesus came to die a sacrificial death. He came to die a substitutionary death. In other words he died in our \_\_\_\_\_ and on our behalf.
3. **Applying the Lamb:** Jesus’ death both protects us from God’s wrath and it \_\_\_\_\_ our lives. The death of Christ on the cross not only delivers us from the penalty of sin but it also delivers us from the power of sin. It enables us to walk away from our slavery to sin.
4. **Need for the Lamb:** There is a day coming, when God will go, not just through the land of \_\_\_\_\_, but through the whole \_\_\_\_\_. The Bible speaks of it as a day of judgment. It is a day when God will do justice.

### III. Passover and Leaven

A. **Feast of Unleavened Bread (Ex. 12:14-20)**

1. **Dominant Characteristic:** The absence of \_\_\_\_\_. Once a year, the Israelites were commanded to get rid of all their sourdough starters, eat unleavened bread for a week, and then begin the fermentation process again for the following year.
2. **Relationship to Passover:** The people are taught that the proper \_\_\_\_\_ to Passover is a seven day festival in which no leaven is consumed.
3. **Consequence of disobedience:** To eat leaven during this time period incurs a severe penalty. That person is to be \_\_\_\_\_

excommunicated or \_\_\_\_\_ from the people of God. This is repeated twice for emphasis.

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## B. **Application in 1 Cor. 5**

1. **Dominant Characteristic:** Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread were just a small picture of a much greater reality. Now that the ultimate Passover Lamb has been sacrificed, we are living in the days of unleavened bread. That is, the \_\_\_\_\_ of unleavened bread points to the \_\_\_\_\_ of unleavened bread.

- a) The church = the house purified of leaven (5:7)
- b) The church = the new \_\_\_\_\_ of dough free of old leaven (5:7)
- c) The church = the people who celebrate the feast by avoiding leaven (5:8)
- d) Leaven = The \_\_\_\_\_ who is living in immorality (5:7)
- e) Leaven = Every form of iniquity (malice and wickedness) (5:8)

2. **Relationship to Christ's Sacrifice:** Jesus, our Passover lamb, has delivered us from both the penalty of sin (death) and the power of sin (slavery). Through his sacrifice, we have become a new people, a new batch of bread free from sin's contamination. Therefore, let us make sure we reflect that reality. Let us \_\_\_\_\_ what we \_\_\_\_\_!

3. **Consequence of disobedience:** Because this age constitutes the Feast of Unleavened Bread, failure to remove leaven is a serious offense, one which results in \_\_\_\_\_.

## IV. **Significance and Application**

1. By means of Jesus' sacrifice, we have become a new lump of dough free from the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Because Jesus has made us into a new lump of dough, we must actively seek to \_\_\_\_\_ sin from our lives.

3. As a result, our new lives in Christ ought to be a \_\_\_\_\_ of an ongoing feast characterized by sincerity and truth.