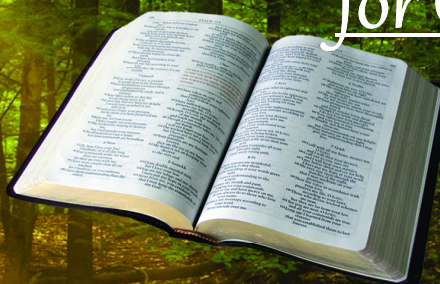


Christian MONTHLY

DEDICATED TO THE PROCLAMATION
OF THE WORD OF GOD



for Children

Psalm 119:105
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.

Spring 2017

The Passover

Exodus 11-12

The children of Israel were finally leaving Egypt, and their years of slavery were coming to an end. The LORD had chosen Moses to lead His people out of Egypt. He sent Moses to tell the pharaoh: "Thus saith the LORD: 'Let my people go, that they may serve me!'" Nine terrible plagues had come, but after each plague the king had refused to let God's people go.

The LORD spoke to Moses, telling him about the final plague. About midnight, the LORD would go through Egypt and every firstborn in the land would die, from the firstborn of the pharaoh to the firstborn of the slave girl in the mill, and even the firstborn of all the cattle. There would be a great cry in the land of Egypt, like there never had been before and never would be again. But the firstborn of the people of Israel would not be harmed.

The LORD told Moses to prepare for the journey out of Egypt. The people must be ready to leave at a moment's notice!

ON THE TENTH DAY OF THE FIRST MONTH, each family chose a lamb, a perfect lamb without any blemishes. On the fourteenth day, they killed the lamb in the evening. They caught the lamb's blood in a basin, and dipped hyssop branches in the blood. They struck the hyssop on the top and side frames of the house door, and the blood marked the door frame. Then they went inside the house and did not go out until morning.

They roasted the lamb and ate the meat that same night, with unleavened bread (flat bread that didn't need to rise) and bitter herbs. None of the meat was saved until the next day, and if there were leftovers, they were burned.

The children of Israel ate the Passover with their belts fastened and their shoes on, and with their walking staffs in their hands. They ate in a hurry, ready to travel.

It was the LORD's Passover, and the LORD passed through Egypt at midnight. He struck all the firstborn, both man and beast, and He delivered judgment on all the false gods of Egypt.

The blood on the houses was a sign for the children of Israel. When the LORD passed through to strike the Egyptians, He saw the blood. The LORD would "pass over" the door of that house, and no one in it would die. He did not allow the angel of death to enter the houses marked with the blood of the lamb.

When the king and the Egyptians realized that all their firstborn were dead, a great cry arose in Egypt. The pharaoh called Moses in the night and said, "Rise up! Take your people and your animals and get out of Egypt! Go and serve the LORD as you have said, and bless me also."



The LORD told Moses that the Passover feast was to be a memorial for the people of Israel forever. They were to keep the Passover every year. When their children asked what the Passover meant, they were to say, "It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when He struck the Egyptians and spared our houses."



Jesus Loves Children

Jesus loves you if you are a boy.
He loves you if you are a girl.

He loves you if you have brothers and sisters.
He loves you if you have none.

Jesus loves you if you are tall.
He loves you if you are short.

He loves you if you are rich.
He loves you if you are poor.

Jesus loves you if you are black.
Jesus loves you if you are white.
He loves you if you are red, brown or yellow.

Do you know this song?

**Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Red, brown, yellow, black and white—
They are precious in His sight.
Jesus loves the little children of the world.**

The children of Israel ate the Passover meal with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Bitter herbs, like horseradish or curly parsley, reminded the children of Israel of their bitter years of slavery in Egypt. Unleavened bread is made without any yeast to help it rise.

Tots
Four-Six Years

The people made the Passover bread with no yeast, as God commanded. Yeast bread has to rise for a long time before it can bake. The Lord told Moses that they were to eat the Passover in a hurry, with unleavened bread, because they needed to be ready to leave Egypt quickly.

Unleavened Bread and Bitter Herbs

Here is a recipe for unleavened bread from allrecipes.com. Have an adult help you make this bread.

1 cup all-purpose flour
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1/8 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup water

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C). Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Mix flour, oil, and salt together in a bowl; add water and mix using a pastry cutter until dough is soft. Form dough into 6 balls and press into disks onto the prepared baking sheet using your hands.

Bake in the preheated oven until bread is cooked, 8 to 10 minutes. Allow to cool before enjoying. You might also try some bitter herbs!



The Bible says that the Lamb of God who would take away our sin was chosen (ordained or set aside) before the foundation of the world.

Before the Foundation of the World

Before sin had entered the world, and before God had even created the world, the plan for salvation was in place. God knew before it happened that Adam and Eve would fall into sin. He knew that the world He was going to create would not be sinless and perfect forever. And He loved the world He hadn't made yet. He loved the world so much that He planned ahead to save it.

And so God prepared a perfect Lamb, His own Son Jesus, who would enter into our world. He would leave the timeless glories of heaven and live in our time. He would be born as a baby in Bethlehem and He would grow up in Nazareth. When He became a grown man, He would preach and teach and do miracles. And through all His life on earth, Jesus would never, NEVER sin.

Then Jesus, the spotless Lamb of God, would die and shed His blood, as the sacrificed lambs shed their blood in the Old Testament. This happened in time and on Earth, but it was planned in heaven long before time began. The Bible says:

[You were redeemed] with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world...

Tykes
Ages Seven-Ten



1 Peter 1:19-20

The Hebrew people have celebrated the Passover many times since it was first kept by the children of Israel in Egypt. The lamb was sacrificed, the blood was shed, and the people remembered their deliverance from the plague of the firstborn, when the LORD “passed over” their homes.

Tweens

Eleven-Twelve Years

Christ, Our Passover

The animal blood sacrifices in the Old Testament looked forward to the day when the blood of an innocent Lamb would truly forgive the sin of the world. The Bible says that the blood of animals cannot take away sin, but the priests were commanded to offer those lambs day after day, and year after year. Jesus, the true Lamb of God, had not yet come to offer Himself as a sacrifice for sin.

Jesus ate the Passover meal with His disciples on the night He was betrayed. Jesus ate the Passover, but He is also our Passover Lamb.

- * The Prophet Isaiah wrote of the suffering of the Christ, like a Lamb brought to the slaughter.
- * John the Baptist pointed to Jesus and said, “Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”
- * The Apostle Peter said that we are not redeemed with things that can rust or perish, like silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a perfect Lamb without any blemish or spot.
- * In the Revelation, the Apostle John wrote about the Lamb who was sacrificed from the foundation of the world. He saw the Lamb in the throne room of heaven, as the elders and saints all fell down to worship Him. They shouted loudly:

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Revelation 5:12



A little yeast mixed into bread dough causes the whole lump of dough to rise, and in the same way, a little sin can spread through the whole congregation, drawing us away from the truth of God’s Word, leading us into more sin, and causing hurt in relationships.

A New Unleavened Lump

The Apostle Paul wrote to the Corinthian congregation about some serious sinful behavior. It was common knowledge that some of them were committing fornication—having sex outside of marriage—and the congregation was proud and arrogant about it. The Apostle wrote to correct this uncleanness, along with other wickedness.

The Apostle came down hard on the Corinthians. He told them not to associate with sexually immoral people within the congregation, and also to stay away from Christians who were greedy, who worshiped idols, and abusers, drunkards, and blackmailers. Was the Apostle being too extreme? Did he have unreasonable expectations of how Christians should live with one another?

No! Paul told them to get rid of the old, sinful ways of evil and wickedness and to live all new, pure lives of sincerity and truth. In the Bible “leaven” is often associated with sin. They were to clean out the old leaven so they would be a new lump of dough, for they really were unleavened (without sin) because Christ, the Passover Lamb, had been sacrificed for them. Through faith in Christ’s sacrifice, they were cleansed from sin and sanctified, and the Holy Spirit was living within them. They were new creatures, and they were to live purely in their new life.

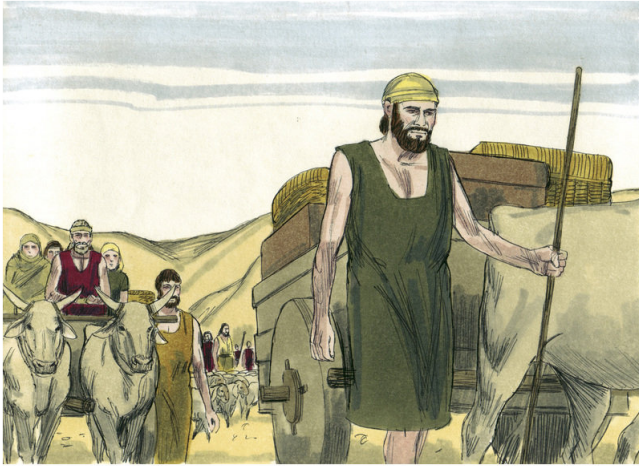
Through faith, we, too, are a new lump of dough, and a new creation with a new life. Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed. We are washed by the blood of the Lamb and sanctified (made pure) and justified (made right with God), and the Holy Spirit lives within us. Therefore, we are to purge the old sinful ways from within our congregation and live together without sin. We are to celebrate the Passover, not with the old leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. We are to live clean and honest lives, loving one another from pure hearts.

Teens



How They Came

Jacob's son Joseph was in Egypt, serving the pharaoh and preparing the country to survive a fierce famine. He was second in command and had great power in the land. When there was no food left in Israel, Jacob and his family—seventy people in all—came to Egypt at the invitation of the pharaoh. The people of Israel settled in the land of Goshen, some of the best land in Egypt. They increased in strength and numbers, and the land was filled with them.



Israel enters Egypt: 70 souls
By Distant Shores Media/Sweet Publishing
Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

Years passed, and Jacob died. His son Joseph died. Joseph's brothers died, and all the people of that generation. The pharaoh died, the one who knew Joseph and how he had saved Egypt from the terrible famine.

The new king who did not know Joseph worried as he looked over his land. What if the people of Israel turned against him? What if they joined his enemies? He needed a plan to keep Israel under his authority.

The new pharaoh made the children of Israel into his slaves. He set taskmasters over them, to build great cities for his treasure storage. But the more the Hebrew people were oppressed, the more they grew. They were forced to work hard and long, and their lives were bitter, but still they became stronger.

The king ordered the midwives to kill all the baby boys as soon as they were born, but the midwives feared God and didn't obey the cruel command. When Moses was born, his mother hid him in a basket boat in the river. He was rescued by the pharaoh's daughter and grew up in the king's house.

Years passed, and the new pharaoh died, and the children of Israel had been in Egypt for hundreds of years. They groaned because of their slavery, and they cried for help. God heard their cry, and He remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. God saw, and God noticed, and God delivered His people...

How They Went

Moses was grown, and he lived in the land of Midian with his family. God spoke to Moses from a burning bush. God sent him to tell the pharaoh that God said to let His people go.

Moses went to the pharaoh with the message from the LORD, but the king refused to let Israel go. Each time he refused, a plague would follow, severe and terrible. Water turned to blood; frogs, lice and flies infested; disease and boils spread; hail and locusts destroyed; darkness overwhelmed. When the tenth and final plague came, all the firstborn in the land of Egypt died, even the firstborn of the cattle.

That very night the children of Israel were celebrating the first Passover. As God had commanded, each family sacrificed a lamb and put the blood on the lintel and doorposts of their home. When the Lord passed through to strike the firstborn of the Egyptians, He "passed over" the houses that were protected by the blood of the lamb.

The pharaoh saw the destruction of his land, his family, and his life, and finally, he sent the people of Israel out of Egypt. They quickly packed their belongings and took their animals, and began their long journey to the Promised Land.



Israel leaves Egypt: over 2 million souls
By Distant Shores Media/Sweet Publishing
Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

In the 430 years that Israel spent in Egypt, the seventy people who entered had multiplied incredibly. Six hundred thousand able-bodied men of Israel, plus women and children, left Egypt in the Exodus. Including the mixed multitude who joined them, the number of people is estimated to be between two and three million people!

Imagine the excitement of over two million people, with all of their belongings and animals, as they marched out of Egypt. There were no trucks, moving vans, or airplanes. They walked if they were young and strong enough; those who couldn't walk, rode on a donkey or camel. Think of the chaos and busyness! Think of the noise! Think of the smell!

Cryptogram

What message did Moses have for the pharaoh? Exodus 8:1

Each number in the puzzle below stands for a letter. Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below the blanks to solve the phrase. T is filled in for you.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
																			8						

T 8 15 21 24 24 20 3 8 15 8 15 12 18 26 10 22 : 18 12 8 19 7

6 12 26 6 18 12 2 26 , 8 15 20 8 8 15 12 7 19 20 7 24 12 10 25 12 19 12



THESE
PASS
OVER

Who Said It...?

How can a man be born when he is old?

John 3:4

Am I my brother's keeper?

Genesis 4:9

Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.

Acts 2:38

Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone?

Luke 10:40

Lord, save us: we perish.

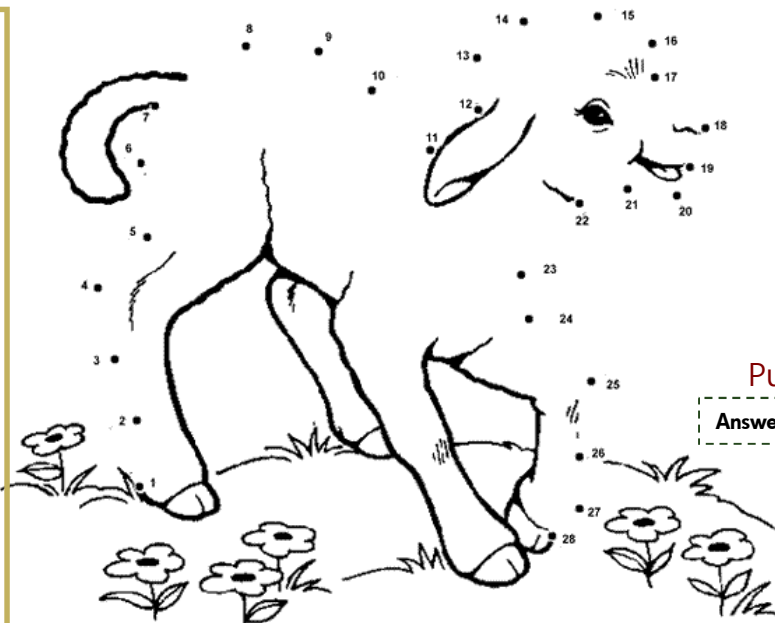
Matthew 8:25

See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

Genesis 41:41

I laughed not.

Genesis 18:15



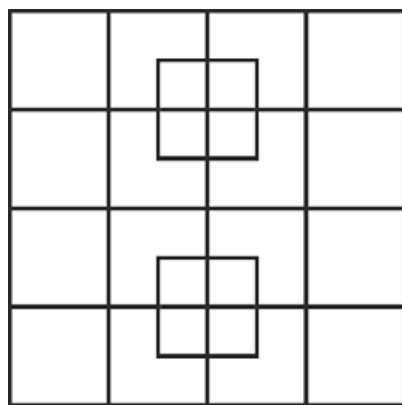
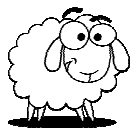
Puzzle Fun

Answer Key: page 7

How many

SQUARES

can you count in the image to the right?



CAN YOU TELL ME?



What occurs twice in a week, once in a year but never in a day?



UN-Scramble

What were the ten plagues?

ODOLB Ex 7:17

SGROF Ex 8:2

LEIC Ex 8:16

FSEIL Ex 8:21

RMIRNUA Ex 9:3

LBISO Ex 9:9

HLIA Ex 9:22

TSUOSLC Ex 10:4

ENDRASKS Ex 10:21

RORSNBIF Ex 11:5



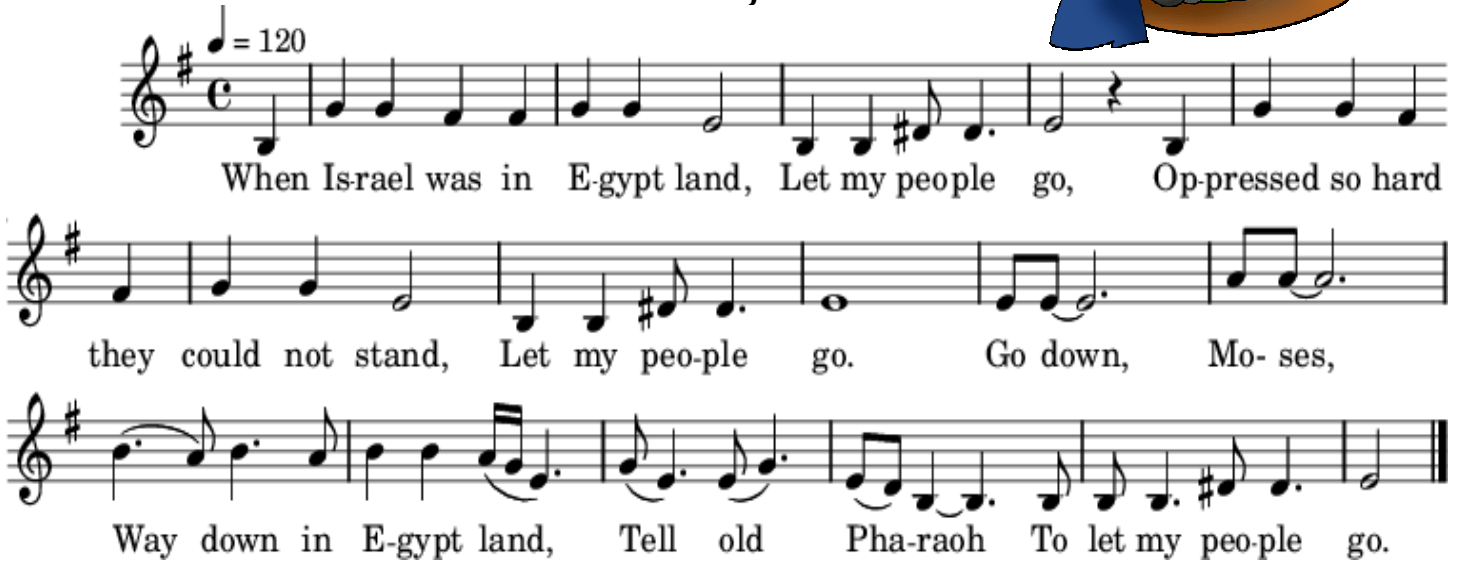
THE FIRST PASSOVER

A Picture to Color

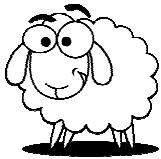
The LORD spoke unto Moses, saying: Go unto Pharaoh and say to him...
 Thus saith the Lord, Let my people go, that they may serve me. Exodus 8:1



Go Down, Moses



Puzzle Answer Key



Can You Tell Me?

The letter E.

UN-Scramble

blood

frogs

lice

flies

murray

boils

hail

locusts

darkness

firstborn

Cryptogram

Thus saith the Lord: Let my people go, that they may serve me.

Who Said It?

Nicodemus

Cain

Peter

Martha

Jesus' disciples

Pharaoh

Sarah

Dot-to-Dot

The dot to dot is a lamb.

How many

SQUARES?

There are 40 squares in the image.

O LORD God of Israel,

Thank You for delivering Your children from slavery in Egypt, and for saving the firstborn in the houses marked with the blood of the lamb. You have delivered us from the slavery of sin, and saved us by the blood of Your Son, the perfect Lamb who takes away the sin of the world. Thank You for Jesus! Thank You for making a way for our salvation even before the foundation of the world.

Thank You, Father, for Your Word. Help us to live pure and holy lives according to Your will. Let us put away all sin and evil, and always feast on the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

Thank You for our preachers and teachers. Thank You for our parents, our homes, our food and clothing. You care for us, and every good gift we have comes from Your hand.

Give us loving hearts, that we may serve one another graciously, and not grudgingly. Make us humble, that we would decrease and You would increase.

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

For Jesus' name's sake, Amen.

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For Parents:

A perfect lamb. That's what was required for the Passover meal.

Sometimes people call a child a "lamb" in the sense that a tiny baby is sweet, or when a child does some endearing thing. If a baby falls down when learning to walk, someone may say, "Oh, the poor lamb!"

But make no mistake: your child is not a "perfect" lamb. Every human descended from Adam is a fallen, sinful creature, even the sweet, tiny ones, before they've grown into the "terrible twos" and before they've ever thrown a tantrum or told a lie. Before they've gone through puberty or become teenagers.

But all is not lost! Jesus came to save sweet, tiny babies. And terrible-two, tantrum-throwing liars. And awkward, angst-ridden adolescents, and sullen, rebellious teenagers. Jesus came to save parents who have been made more aware of their own sinful, selfish nature. All of those.

Teach your children both the Law and the Gospel. They must know of their need for a Savior. They must know that the original sin nature (which they inherited from you, so be gracious in the telling!) makes them personally indebted to God's holy Law. God's requirement is absolute perfection, and they have not fulfilled that requirement.

They also must know that their entire sin debt is paid by the sacrifice of the only Perfect Lamb of God. The most loving Father sent His only Son to shed His holy blood on the cross. Through faith, the blood of the Perfect Lamb Jesus washes them clean, as white as snow, whiter than snow, whiter than the wool of a snow-white lamb. Thanks be to God!

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

Isaiah 1:18

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psalms 51:7

One of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them.

Revelation 7:13-15

