

Love Is For Ever -- Rediscovering Abba's Fantastic Truths
Please read Exodus 12:1-27
Passover Today.

Caution: In this study you will be required to think as you will be challenged to see with new eyes. If you can refute what we are sharing, or can answer these challenges, please share this information with us.

Friends, we all can agree that the covenant is perpetual and we have said for some time that the feasts are part of the covenant. If you have never attempted to prove this, please do so now. Read the prelude to the giving of the covenant in **Exodus 19**. When you have completed this assignment, you will be prepared to understand the width, depth and magnitude of the covenant itself, which is listed from **Exodus 20:1** to **Exodus 23:33** and is then ratified in **Exodus 24:1-8**. This covenant is repeated (in miniature) after Moses broke the first tablets of stone. Please notice the inclusion of the feasts in this second account of the giving of the covenant (**Exodus 34:10-28**).

As mentioned before, a covenant is like a last will and testament. It can reward certain persons by complying with the wishes of the testator. The testator must sign the will or covenant before it is valid and YHVH wrote His Name 14 times on the original document. If we have any inkling of receiving any blessing whatsoever from this covenant agreement with the Father, we must comply with His wishes. Not only do both accounts of the covenant include the feasts (first and second witnesses), Scripture actually names the Passover as part of the perpetual covenant (third witness): **II Kings 23:21**. **Challenge #1**—prove that Passover/Unleavened Bread is not part of the perpetual covenant, for everything therein is forever binding upon all believers.

The Passover lamb was memorial for all generations. It was to remind them how YHVH delivered them from bondage. Passover, (the first step in our personal redemption as played out in the festival cycle) represents our acceptance of His deliverance (and our obedience) so that the “death angel” will pass over come the day of the judgment of the righteous. Remember, judgment starts in the house of YHVH, those who profess to believe in Him, two witnesses: **Ezekiel 9:4-6** and **1 Peter 4:17**. Our first (not final) judgment is when the King checks to see if those invited to the feast are wearing the provided wedding garment, the robe of His righteousness, as prophesied in the many parables of the great supper/wedding feast and foretold in the Exodus account—when the Death Angel checked if the Israel of YHVH had obediently applied the blood of lamb.

Are we required to observe Passover any longer? Yes. Because the observance of Passover was commanded as part of the perpetual covenant as given from Sinai. What does the Torah say about Passover? *And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to YHVH throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever.* **Exodus 12:14**. Forever is a long time. **Deuteronomy 4:2** says to neither add nor diminish aught from the word YHVH commanded us.

Here are several witnesses to the day, the 14th day of the month of Abib: **Exodus 23:15**, **Leviticus 23:4-8**, and **Deuteronomy 16:1**. And here are many referring to the lamb: **Deuteronomy 16:2**, **II Chronicles 35:13**, **Exodus 12:11**, **Exodus 12:43-47**, **Matthew 26:17**, **Mark 14:12-14**, **Luke 22:7, 15** These all refer to ordinances of an eaten Passover, not a period of time. Did Jesus' death somehow do away with the appointed times, the Passover or the Sabbath? **Challenge #2**—prove that Jesus' death changed the perpetual covenant, which is part of the Torah, by eliminating the need to observe the feasts. Please remember that Jesus, a faithful Torah observant feast keeper, said that he did not come to change the law (Torah) **Matthew 5:17-18**, and anyone found teaching contrary to the Law (Torah) and testimony (of the Prophets) was not to be followed because there was no light in them, **Isaiah 8:20**.

If folks are still bound in sin (Egypt), if they still need to find their Redeemer, then Passover is binding today. And we are commanded to teach these things to our children, two witnesses: **Deuteronomy 4:1-9**, and **6:1-9**. (See also **Deuteronomy 11:1** and **7:9-12**). If you do not, you will be held in negligence.

“These statutes [given to Moses] were explicitly given to guard the ten commandments. They were not shadowy types to pass away with the death of Christ. They were to be binding upon man in every age as long as time should last.” *SDA Bible Commentary, Vol.1, p. 1104.*

Every one of the feasts is a statute which guards and amplifies the Sabbath of the fourth commandment. They are annual Sabbath days or rest days. Our time in the kingdom is called “entering His rest”. The annual festivals display the entire plan of salvation for all to see, hear, smell, taste and touch. The annual festivals are a dress rehearsal for the plan of redemption. The five wise virgins were prepared for the wedding feast. The five foolish virgins were not. One group had made the effort to prepare themselves for the event, the others had not. In which group are you?

Man says that Passover was fulfilled, that all the types were met and that the Last Supper (or communion) was instituted in its place. **Challenge #3**—prove the above, find this in Scripture. Paul did use the term “L-rd’s Supper once, but we require 2-3 witnesses to show that something is established by YHVH. Communion is a Catholic term and cannot be defended by Scripture. In our English translations, Paul, in **I Corinthians 10:16**, seems to say that partaking of the bread and wine is indeed “communion”. However this is not the word he used. If he used Greek as implied by Strong’s Concordance, he said Koinonia (G#2842), which is better translated as “fellowship” as used later in the same passage (verse 20). That word “fellowship” (G#2844—Koinonos) is from the same Greek root.

If you do not agree with the above paragraph, please look up the word “communion” in a dictionary and encyclopedia. It is a Latin word first used by Rome. Since the Protestant churches are all daughters of Rome, most share in Rome’s sacred Easter Sunday, therefore they use common terminology. We are asking that you divorce yourself from Roman terminology and return to the truth as it is in Scripture. Jesus did not change the time appointed or the name of this feast. Remember, he said that he did not come to change the law (Torah) or the prophets, and that until heaven and earth pass away, not one jot or tittle would change from the law until all be fulfilled. Go outside. Look up. Look down. If heaven and earth is still there, then the law stands. Jesus called it Passover. And it was called Passover for centuries afterward, a feast kept by Paul as he taught its observance to all his converts (**1 Corinthians 5:7-8** [AD 59] and **Acts 20:6** [AD 60]. And it is STILL Passover today.

“At Philippi Paul tarried to keep the Passover. Only Luke remained with him, the other members of the company passing on to Troas to await him there. The Philippians were the most loving and true hearted of the Apostles converts, and during the eight days of the feast he enjoyed peaceful and happy communion (fellowship) with them.” *Acts of the Apostles, p. 390-391.*

My margin says this event took place 29 years after the crucifixion. **Challenge #4**—prove that Paul only wanted to attend the feast in order to convert the attending Jews rather than simple obedience to the Torah. The above Passover was kept in Philippi with Philippians. There was not then and is not now a synagogue in Philippi. The Jews were not a great presence during this feast which Paul shared with his gentile converts who kept this feast only because Paul had taught them to observe it.

Well after the New Testament era, modern authors continue to call this feast, Passover. It is also called the feast of good news and very clearly connects this feast with the great supper or wedding feast that will take place in the future. We have more than ten pages of quotes making this connection over and over again. **Challenge #5**—do your own independent study on this. What you will find will astound and amaze you.

Challenge #6—At what feast did YHVH deliver the Children of Israel from Egyptian slavery? (Hint: it wasn’t Easter.) Passover is a memorial of Israel’s deliverance (**Exodus 12:1-27**). And when will He once again join us for this feast? (Hint: this one will be in the Kingdom.) And how often did He expect His believers to assemble to observe this memorial? (Hint: it wasn’t every week or every 3 months.) The answer to all these is Passover!

Challenge #7—Be a Berean!