

**PASSOVER (PESACH..FEAST OF LOVE..FEAST OF REDEMPTION),
UNLEAVENED BREAD (MATZAH),
FIRSTFRUITS (SFIRAT HOMER),
PENTECOST (WEEKS..SHAVUOT)
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF PASS-OVER**

PART 1

Threshold covenant

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The sign of Jonah



THE GREAT EXODUS...PART ONE

The term "Passover" originates from **Exod. 12:13** ".when I see the blood I will pass over you." This event commemorated the time when Yah's Death Angel **passed over** the Hebrew homes (which had blood on the sides and on the top of the door frame), and killed the firstborn in Egypt. Passover was given before the Torah, many believe that the date of this Exodus was 1447BC.

Before we can really get into everything pertaining to the spring feasts we must understand what a threshold covenant is. By having this understanding the things that follow will make much more sense. The picture will be in colour rather than black and white. Let's have a look.

THRESHOLD COVENANT

I must point out a type of covenant that was common practice for pagan's in biblical times. It's importance will be seen in the following.



Understanding this covenant idea will help us see great thematic connections to various scriptures, especially those regarding the Feast of Passover. With this insight we will receive greater revelation of why the Word of Yah is called the Living Word. When we grasp the little intricacies hidden in-between the lines of our Hebrew bible, it is like seeing a diamond from a different angle and the skek'hinah (glory) is most beautiful.

In ancient times it was common practice to use a door threshold to make a covenant

between two people or families. The people would take an animal and cut it in half. They would place the two halves on either side of the doorway with the blood flowing across the threshold. The threshold (bottom front step area) of the home, would actually have a little groove all the way across and a small basin area on one side where the blood of a sacrifice could be poured. The blood of a sacrifice was normally poured in the basin and it drained across the door threshold.

By crossing over this threshold the guest would understand that he was in agreement with whatever the covenant with that family was. They were in agreement with each other. The home owner was essentially creating a covenant with his guest. This is one of the reasons the Jews never entered into the homes of the Gentiles (goyim).

The two individuals, or groups, would state whatever their covenantal agreement was to each other and then both walk through the threshold, completing the action. Then they would speak out loud that if they broke the covenant they would be like the two halves of the sacrifice, dead, broken, and torn apart because of their actions. "May we be like the animals we just killed" if we break this covenant.



It was also common practice for those who were not in agreement with the covenantal practices of others, to trample down the sacrifice on the threshold of the door of the home.

When someone invited another person into their home, they would sometimes make and display a sacrifice at the threshold of their home in order to designate the god or goddess their tribe was in covenant with. These pagans worshipped their gods in the entranceway of their homes. So, if for example you were invited over for a meal, they may sacrifice an animal to a specific pagan deity on the threshold of the door, so the blood of the animal ran across the threshold of the door. Upon entering (crossing over) the door threshold one would be acknowledging their god and be in agreement with the covenant of this belief. In this manner the home owners thought that their god would protect them and the one entering. They would sacrifice according to the priority they gave your company. It could be a small sacrifice or a very expensive sacrifice.

Having people cross over the threshold of the home is where we got the simple greetings like; "come on in", and "welcome" from. **One of the reasons the Jewish people had no part with the goyim (gentiles) in biblical times was because of the fact that they had their idols at the threshold of their houses.** Jews would never cross over a pagan threshold and enter into the home of a gentile.

THE THRESHOLD

We see in Genesis an example of the threshold covenant as it appears in scripture. Lot had two visitors come to talk to him. He invited them into his home and the moment they stepped across the threshold of his home they were under the protection of Lot.

Gen. 19:2-3 *"And he said, "Now behold, my lords, please turn aside into your servant's house, and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise early and go on your way." They said however, "No, but we shall spend the night in the square." 3 Yet he urged them strongly, so they turned aside to him **and entered his house**; and he prepared a feast for them, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate."*

Gen. 19:8 *"Now behold, I have two daughters who have not had relations with man; please let me bring them out to you, and do to them whatever you like; only do nothing to these men, inasmuch as **they have come under the shelter of my roof.**"*

That is why the scriptures say that Lot was so concerned about protecting these two men (angels) that he offered up his two daughters to the mob so his covenant would not be broken. A man's word, covenant, in those days, was a very serious thing. These men were in agreement with Lot when they entered his home so the responsibility was on Lot to protect them at all costs. This threshold covenant was so binding that Lot, in this case, offered a very shocking alternative to satisfy the evil people outside his home.

PASSOVER CONNECTION

What happened at Passover, as far as the blood on the threshold was concerned, was nothing new to people at that time. It was a common practice.

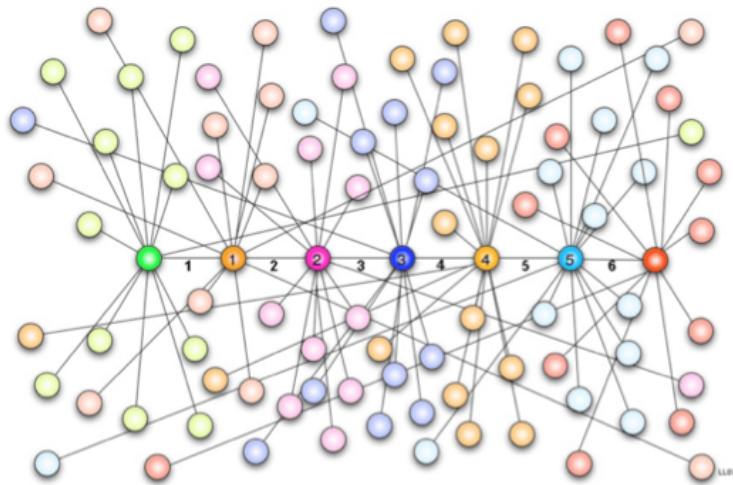
Now let's have a look at the Passover connection. We may get a better understanding of the Passover threshold covenant the people made with Yah at that time.

Exod. 12:7-13 *"Moreover, **they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.** 8 They shall eat the flesh that same night, roasted with fire, and they shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 9 Do not eat any of it raw or boiled at all with water, but rather roasted with*

fire, both its head and its legs along with its entrails. **10** And you shall not leave any of it over until morning, but whatever is left of it until morning, you shall burn with fire. **11** Now you shall eat it in this manner: with your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste—it is Adonai's Passover. **12** For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments—I am Yahveh. **13** **The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.**"

Yah promised His people that the Death angel would cross over the homes of His people who were in agreement (covenant) with Him. As it says in **Exod. 12:23** "For Adonai will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and **when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, Yahveh will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite you.**" If the household was not protected by the father, the first born of man and beast would die. The blood around the doorway was a threshold covenant Yahveh used for His people. When the Death angel went over the homes he would say; "this house is in agreement," "this house is not". This was an agreement between Yah and His people who would OBEY Him. People today claim to love Him, but as per His agreement (Torah), they do not keep His commandments (John 14:15). Those who do not obey are simply NOT covered by the blood of the threshold agreement Yeshua represented as the sacrificed "lamb of God".

THEMATIC CONNECTIONS



Let's have a look at some of the thematic connections in our Good Book regarding blood, sacrifices, and covenants. Remember when Yah made a covenant with Abraham. **Gen. 15:17-18** "It came about when the sun had set, that it was very dark, and behold, there appeared a smoking oven and a flaming torch **which passed between these pieces.** **18** On that day Yahveh made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I have given this land, From the river of Egypt as far as the great river, the river Euphrates" With that in mind it is easy to understand the context of what

was spoken in **Zech. 12:2-3** "Behold, **I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that causes reeling (trembling) to all the peoples around; and when the siege is against Jerusalem, it will also be against Judah.** **3** It will come about in that day that I will make Jerusalem a heavy stone for all the peoples; all who lift it will be severely injured. And all the nations of the earth will be gathered against it." Jerusalem was made a threshold of trembling. Jerusalem was designated as Yah's anointed place where Yeshua would reign and where Yah would place His name. Jerusalem is the threshold of His house. Those

who would dare to cross over it with bad intentions in their heart show that they despise His covenant. They would become as the cut up pieces of the animals sacrificed for the covenant.

If Jerusalem was the center of Yah's covenant then who's blood was shed at the threshold of His home, Jerusalem? Yeshua was sent as the Lamb Of Yah, who's blood was shed over the threshold of Jerusalem so that we could be renewed in His covenant and become His people again. Yeshua was sent because we have all transgressed, trampled on His law.

Now let's look at the book of Samuel where we see the Philistines carry the ark of the covenant into the temple of Dagon. Do you remember what happened next? Let's have a look. **1Sam. 5:1-5** *"Now the Philistines took the ark of Yahveh and brought it from Ebenezer to Ashdod. 2 Then the Philistines took the ark of Yahveh and brought it to the house of Dagon and set it by Dagon. 3 When the Ashdodites arose early the next morning, behold, **Dagon had fallen on his face to the ground before the ark of Adonai.** So they took Dagon and set him in his place again. 4 But when they arose early the next morning, behold, Dagon had fallen on his face to the ground before the ark of Adonai. And the head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off on **the threshold**; only the trunk of Dagon was left to him. 5 **Therefore neither the priests of Dagon nor all who enter Dagon's house tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day.**"*

Why does it say even to this day the priests of Dagon will not ever enter into Dagon's house?

It says this because even the priest's of Dagon acknowledge that that place is now holy ground for the Holy One of Israel. That place dedicated to Dagon was overcome by Yah's glory and He reclaimed it. He demonstrated that He alone was the Almighty of the Universe and that He alone has the right to anything in it. In the following examples you can see that priests were commonly identified as threshold covenant door keepers.

2Kgs. 22:4 *"Go up to Hilkiyah the high priest that he may count the money brought in to the house of Adonai which **the doorkeepers** have gathered from the people."*

Jer. 35:4 *" and I brought them into the house of Adonai, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan the son of Igdaliah, the man of Elohim, which was near the chamber of the officials, which was above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, **the doorkeeper**"*

2Kgs. 12:9 *"But Jehoiada the priest took a chest and bored a hole in its lid and put it beside the altar, on the right side as one comes into the house of Yahveh; and **the priests who guarded the threshold** put in it all the money which was brought into the house of Yahveh"*

WORSE THAN A CURSE

The way a person in those days would show that he was not at all in agreement with someones covenant offering was by trampling and stomping on the sacrifice at the doorway. This practice was considered even worse than cursing at ones neighbor in those days. Now with that in mind, prayerfully consider the following verses. **Hebr. 10:26-29** *" For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries. 28 **Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses**" 29*

*How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who **has trampled under foot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?** Isn't it interesting how the language of the covenant was used in these verses? Then we see the outcome of those who break covenant as stated in **Hebr. 10:30** "For we know Him who said, "**Vengeance is Mine, I will repay.**" And again, "Adonai will judge His people."**31** It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living Yahveh" The reality of what is spoken here is that some day Yah is coming back and He is going to clean house. He is personally going to deal with those who trampled on His covenants. He is going to dish out His vengeance.*

THE DAY OF THE LORD (Adonai)

How does "the Day Of The Lord" fit in? When we keep in mind the context of what is said in the following Hebrews passage, it all makes sense. **Hebr. 10:25** "*not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near*" The day spoken of here is "**The Day Of The Lord**". This is the judgement that will take place for believers at the beginning of the thousand year reign we know as the millennial reign. This is the one day of the Lord. Unbelievers will be judged after the thousand year period. After the thousand year reign is over, Yeshua hands His reign back over to the Father. This is the end of the seven days of man on earth as we know it. In order to appreciate this, we must keep in mind what is spoken of in scripture.

What is spoken of in Hebrews chapter three to four is our **thousand year sabbath rest**. It is the rest that we are waiting to enter into after our judgement. Keep in mind that Yeshua said He was Lord of the Sabbath. The weekly sabbath is a prophetic foreshadow of the last thousand years, the Day of the Lord that we are still waiting to enter. The promise remains of us being able to enter into His rest.

Hebr. 4:1-3 "*Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it*" For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard. **3** *For we who have believed enter that rest, just as He has said, "As I swore in My wrath, **They shall not enter My rest,**" although His works were finished from the foundation of the world."* He goes on to explain it further in Hebr. 4:4-10. We will be rewarded for our labor.

All of this is mentioned so that we can remember what the Israelites did to Yah's covenant in the wilderness. They trampled all over His covenant and they did not enter into His rest. They continued to willfully sin just as spoken of in Hebrews chapter ten. They received the same gospel as us but did not walk it out in their faith. **Hebr. 4:10-13** "*For the one who has entered His rest has himself also rested from his works, as Yahveh did from His. **11** Therefore let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of disobedience. **12** For the word of Yah is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. **13** And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do."* There are many reasons why we should never trample on the blood of the covenant once we know the truth. The key is to know this truth and depend on Yah's promises made in His Living

Word, sharper than a two edged sword. Life is in the blood.

THE LEVITE AND HIS CONCUBINE

Do you recall the story of the Levite who was travelling with his concubine from Bethlehem to a remote part of the country of Ephraim where the Benjamites lived? A man offered this Levite and his concubine his home to stay overnight in. By doing so the home owner had offered up protection to the man and his concubine when they stepped over the threshold of his door. The men of the city later raped his concubine and the other mans daughter and the concubine was found in the morning "with her hands over the threshold of the man's home". In order to understand why she died in such a way we must understand that she was trying to crawl over the threshold of the door so she could be protected by the covenant of the Levite, the old man and his family. **Jgs. 19:27** *When her master arose in the morning and opened the doors of the house and went out to go on his way, then behold, his concubine was lying at the doorway of the house, **with her hands on the threshold.***" As a result of what happened with this Levite and his concubine (him cutting up her dead body into twelves pieces and sending them out to the tribes of Israel), over 40,000 men were killed in the battles that took place between the Benjamites and the other tribes in Israel. All of this occurred because the threshold covenant established at the home of this man and his family was not respected. This established throughout the land that threshold covenants were to be taken very seriously. Precedence had been established for all the tribes of Israel.

TODAY'S TRADITION

Now you can see where the wedding tradition of a groom carrying his bride over the threshold of their home comes from. It simply meant that the bride and groom were in a covenant relationship with each other. They were in agreement with each other about the things in their lives.

How does all of this relate to today's world? Well, once we understand the origin of this custom we realize that when you invite someone over to your house, for supper for example, you are in reality forming a temporary covenant. Those you have invited over, for whatever reason, are agreeing with the God you are in covenant with. When they come through the door and passover the threshold they are symbolically in agreement with you.

Almost everyone recognizes the biblical idea of the threshold once it has been explained. We are all familiar with door ways and the idea of what happened at Passover. Those who were in agreement with Yahveh had the blood of their sacrifice to Him protect their homes and their firstborn. Those who never painted the At the the threshold of the home were simply saying that the God of Israel was not welcome in their home. In doing so, they invited the death of the firstborn into their homes. Those who were not obedient to what Yah said, were spiritual rebels. Their lack of obedience was essentially a message of disobedience and defiance, or rebellion towards the Holy one of Israel.

We see this exact same attitude in the so-called Sunday worshipping Christian church today. Their lack of obedience, following the word of Yah, is rebellion. Spiritual rebellion as such is witchcraft. Those christians say they are obedient but by their lack of obedience they clearly proclaim they are not children of the Most High God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They do this because they don't understand covenant life. They have

no idea what being in covenant with Yahveh is. Being obedient means being blessed by Yah. Being disobedient means experiencing the curses and wrath of Yah. It's everyone's choice to make. Do we want to be blessed or cursed?

Do we come to the threshold and not step through, or do we gladly step over the blood of the lamb and enter into the blood covering of His love? **Col. 1:20** *"and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, **having made peace through the blood of His stake**; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven."* Our doorway to the Father is through Yeshua His Son and the blood of that lamb on the threshold of our home.

Do you make decisions in a covenantal way? Are we basing our decisions on a material need or in a spiritual sense? Do we take the bible literally or just figuratively? Do we, like the pagans, run after things of the world, or are we running after things of Yah? We know the things of the world can be enticing, but we must be strong enough to turn from Satan's lustful desires? Satan has a way of slowly rocking us to sleep when we constantly fall for the desires of the world around us. The world offers us a covenant of water. The world offers us a covenant that means nothing whatsoever. Yah offers us a covenant of blood and love. Coming under the protection of His blood means everything. It gives us not only peace in Yah, but the perfect peace of Yah. Are you washed in the blood? Have you stepped through the blood of the lamb?

One more thought. The Hebrew word for doorpost is "mezuzah". The mezuzah should be on the threshold of our doors as part of the threshold covenant.

Could the mezuzah be considered representative of the threshold covenant?

It can indeed be the outside sign of our belief on the front of our homes. By having it I am stating to the world that: "The Messiah is King of this house".

IF WE ARE THE DOORPOST

If we were a doorpost, which parts of our body would represent what. The lintel would represent your forehead. The sides would represent our two arms/hands. This is a Hebrew word picture; His blood (life) needs to be revealed in the actions (deeds) of our hands and in the thoughts in our mind. This is exactly what Yah says in the Good Book; **Deut. 11:18** *"You shall therefore impress these words of mine on your heart and on your soul; and **you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontals on your forehead.**"* Rev 13:16 we are warned about those who take the mark of the beast. That mark replaces the mark of the threshold covenant. The mark of Yah is keeping His commandments. His sign is keeping the sabbath. Walk in My ways and it will produce life.

We should be symbolically putting our blood on our doorpost. Just as He died for us to have life, we are to die to ourselves and be born again. Our carnal nature should be sacrificed and our spiritual nature should guide our lives with the help of His instructions. We are to offer ourselves as a living sacrifice (Rom. 12:1).

Deut. 6:4-9 *"Hear, O Israel! Yahveh is our Elohim, Yahveh is one! 5 "You shall love Yahveh your Elohim with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. 6 "These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. 7 "You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up. 8 "**You shall bind them as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead. 9***

“You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

MYTHS SURROUNDING PASSOVER

Many claim the Feasts were just for the Jews, why is this?

Simply because the Jewish people are the only ones that have been keeping them for thousands of years. The bible says ***“these are My appointed Feasts”***, meaning for those who are His people. Exod. 12:11 says ***“for it is Yahveh’s Passover”***. This is a possessive statement. This is Yahveh Himself speaking. Moses wrote it down.

How many tribes was He talking to when they left Egypt?

All twelve tribes, not just the Jews. At the base of Mt. Sinai all twelve tribes were in attendance.

Many claim the Renewed Testament Believers didn’t keep Passover, is that a fact?

Paul was clearly telling the Believers in his day to keep the Feasts just like he did. **1Cor. 5:8** ***Therefore let us celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”*** **Acts 20:16** ***For Sha’ul had decided to bypass Ephesus on his voyage, in order to avoid losing time in the province of Asia, because he was hurrying to get to Yerushalayim, if possible in time to celebrate Shavu’ot.”*** Paul was in a hurry to try and get to Jerusalem in time for the Feast of Pentecost.

Many claim since Yeshua came the Passover has been fulfilled, no more need to celebrate it. Is this the truth?

It seems many would have you believe that the word “fulfill” means to destroy, done away with. If that was the case then when Yeshua said “fulfill” all righteousness, that love and righteousness are now done away with also. Does that mean that I no longer have to love or try to be righteous because He loved perfectly? **Matt. 3:15** ***But Yeshua answering said to him, “Permit it at this time; for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill (pleroo) all righteousness.” Then he *permitted Him.”***

Exodus 12:3-5 states that **the Passover lamb, or kid, was selected on the tenth of Nissan/Abib** (Exod.12:3, 23:15). The animal, either from the sheep or goats, was to be a male in its first year without defect or blemish (Exod. 12:5). **The lamb was slaughtered at dusk on the 14th day of Nissan/Abib** (Exod. 12:6) **and the blood of the lamb was smeared in a specific manner over the lintels (sides) and doorposts** of the homes (Exod. 12:7). Let’s stop right there for a moment so Yah can reveal something to us. If you look real close at verse seven you will see that it says to apply the blood on the sides and the top of the door.

Have you ever wondered why it was to be done in this exact manner?

When the blood was applied in such a manner it reveals to us the Hebrew letter (fifth letter of the alphabet) “hey”. “Hey” is an abbreviation of Yahveh, the name above all names. It looks like an upside down “U” in English. When you take and apply the blood of the lamb to the door of your home, (from right to left); from the bottom right, up the right side, over the top and back down the left side, you have formed the letter “hey”. In Hebrew pictographic meanings, dalet means door. The “Angel of Death” had to passover the homes of the Hebrew people because the “door” was covered with the blood of the lamb, forming the NAME of the Holy One of Israel. There is power in the blood and in the name!!! Hallelu-Yah!!! Following the Torah is the fence protecting all those truly “born again”. Death cannot overtake us when Yah has



protected us with His Torah.

The lamb **was roasted over fire** (Exodus 12:8). The meat was not to be eaten raw or boiled (Exod. 12:9) and its bones could not be broken (Exod. 12:46). There were to be no left-overs (Exod. 12:10). The meat was also to be eaten with bitter herbs (maror) and unleavened bread (matzah) (Exod. 12:8). Not much is said further regarding the bitter herbs. It is mentioned here in Exod. 12:8 and Num. 9:1. The bitter herbs (maror) are a symbol of the bitter lives the Israelites had when they were slaves in Egypt. The rabbis teach that each generation should experience the Exodus. You were to eat it with your belt fastened, your shoes on, your staff in your hand, and hurriedly (Exod. 12:11). The Mishnah (Oral Torah) gives further instruction regarding how to roast the meat, *"One uses a split of pomegranate wood, inserting it through the animal's mouth so that it reaches to the buttocks; the animal on the spit is hung inside the oven, above the fire. Pomegranate wood is used for the spit because this type of wood does not give off liquid when heated - for any liquid might cause part of the sacrifice to be cooked rather than roasted."* (Mishnah, Pesachim 74a).

Passover usually starts about April/May of the Gregorian calendar, depending on the moon. Passover always occurs on a full moon. Passover happens on the seventh month counting from Tishri. Sukkot happens on the seventh month counting from Passover. Abraham's son Isaac was born on Passover. Are these things coincidences? **The Fifteenth of Nissan (Nison) was the first day of Unleavened Bread proper.** Exod. 12:15-20 and Lev. 23:5-8 gives us several commands concerning the Feast of Unleavened Bread:

- This Feast is to be observed for seven days.
- All leaven is to be removed from your homes. Failure to obey this regulation meant expulsion from the community.
- **The first and last days of this Feast were recognized and observed as high Sabbaths.** These days didn't necessarily have to be on a seventh day Sabbath; they were special holiday High Sabbaths.
- These commands applied to both the native born citizen as well as the alien living among the Hebrews.

Imagine if you will, the Israelites being in bondage to the Egyptians for 430 years and then one day everything changed. Yah came in the form of Yeshua and transformed life as they knew it with the shedding of blood. Like some of us in our spiritual walk, Yah comes out of nowhere and answers our prayers to their fullest. It's not hard to imagine how excited and relieved the Israelites were when Yah led them out of bondage by the hand of His appointed servant Moses.

WHY IS PASSOVER CALLED THE FEAST OF LOVE

The word "love" originates from ancient times when the servants of a King did his commands well. Those servants were told that they loved their King. In the English language today it does not mean the same, but when you think about it, it truly is the same.

What do I mean by that statement?

Anyone who has ever been in love knows that saying "I love you" is a wonderful thing, but in itself means literally nothing. If a man loves a woman or a woman loves a man they **MUST SHOW** their love. Speaking of love is not the same as showing love.

Love is a verb, it is an action word. We show we love someone by our actions, not our words. If we are truly born again and love our King we will likewise serve Him well and keep His commandments. That takes us full circle to **John 14:15** (written in red) where Yeshua says: ***“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments”***.

We learn in Lev. 23:9-14 that **the day of First fruits will occur on a Sunday, one day after the regular weekly Sabbath during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.**

NOTE: The reason the Christian church almost always has the wrong date for Passover is because they base their goddess of Ishtar celebration, (Easter), on the vernal equinox. Christianity uses the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox as their guide. This is as per the sun, whereas Yahveh's (biblical) calendar is established by the moon (lunar). It's sad, but it's true, most of Christianity's customs at the core, are based on witchcraft (paganism).

It is sad to think that although people in the so-called christian churches proudly proclaim the blood of the lamb, they have never celebrated the Feast of Passover, which is all about the redemption in the blood of the lamb. They honestly believe they are covered by the blood, but this is NOT true. They are covered by nothing because they do not celebrate Passover. They are wishful thinkers proclaiming something they have no right to claim. We leave Egypt when we celebrate Passover, and the fact is most christians have never left Egypt (the pagan world).

Those who keep Passover are called “quatorcediman”.

The Feasts of Unleavened Bread and First Fruits represent the work of Yah in us that enables us to live this holy separate life. The Bible calls this transforming work of Yah “sanctification” (1Ths. 4:3-4, 2Ths. 2:13, 1Pet. 1:2). This is a cooperative walk with Yah whereby we allow Him to conform us into the moral image of Yeshua Hamashiach (2Cor. 3:18). That is what Sha’ul (Paul) had in mind when he wrote **Phil. 2:12-13**, *“work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is Yahveh who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure”*.

You might say the Feast of Passover is the first step in our walk with Yah. It relates to our position of justification/redemption. The Feast of Unleavened Bread and First Fruits symbolize our next two steps. They relate to our condition of sanctification. The Feast of Unleavened bread teaches us to put off the old man by appropriating the finished work of Messiah Yeshua as the true bread of Yahveh who took our sins with Him in the grave.

REDEMPTION..The work of redemption

The blood on the outside door of the homes in Egypt was for the redemption of the first born only. The rest of the people were redeemed when they went through the Red Sea. This connects with Yeshua being considered the first born first fruit. The historical event of Passover was for the first born of Israel, but the memorial event was for all of Israel.

Redeemed at its root level means "purchased out of slavery". You were a slave and now you have been purchased and granted your freedom. If we willfully sin we are worthy of death (Rom. 6:23). Yeshua came at Passover and purchased us who have sinned, and redeemed us from this death. He paid the death penalty for us with His own life so we could be set free. The greatest slavery in the world is slavery to sin. Sin, not following His instructions (law), becomes the master over us. We are subject to YHVH our Master, we obey our Master because we love Him. Yeshua came and paid the penalty under law for

sin. He died in our place and we (those who are actually born again), are now free from that death penalty. He made this choice available to all, but few are born again and redeemed. Redemption got us our freedom from bondage to the ways of the world.

It is a two step process to be redeemed and atoned. Yeshua has done both these things for us if we are born again. In spring we celebrate redemption, in the fall we celebrate atonement, two completely different things. The work of redemption is completely finished. We are still waiting on Yah for the final work of atonement in the future.

You are redeemed at Passover and you walk away (head for, towards) Shavuot for fifty days. The reason you walk towards Mt. Sinai, where Shavuot took place, is to go and receive the marriage covenant of your groom, the one who loves you. You walk away, you make Exodus from the bondage of your past, the slavery of being worldly. When you walk away you are turning your back on your old ways and becoming a new person, born again.

WHY A LAMB?



In those days when someone had a lamb born they had to decide exactly what they were going to do in regards to their flock. They needed to decide if they wanted to increase the size of their flock or maintain their flock as it was. They knew that the lamb would live off its mothers milk until weaned, and this was no problem, but as soon as the lamb was weaned an obvious problem arose. At that point the owner had to be able to provide food, space, protection, and shelter for this new lamb. This was all part of the management of the progression of the flock. This was the dilemma of the owner. Male lambs were not as necessary as female lambs because one male could look after a lot of females, so it was the common practice to eat the male

lamb immediately after it was weaned. The other most common practice of the people was to use lambs as gifts to others, be it family, friends, or clan members. Lambs were well known gift items.

Lambs are endearing, they are cute, delightful, and loveable creatures. Lambs are always depicted as cute cuddly little animals that respond to people in a funny, loving, pleasant way.

This is the reason why Yeshua was called the lamb of Yah, this is the reason why Yah chose the lamb as a symbol, rather than any other animal, to represent the Son Yeshua. Yah knew that a lamb would be a beautiful gift for mankind, because lambs were commonly associated as a type of gift in the community for many many years.

TRADITION INCORRECTLY STATES

The pastors, preachers, teachers, (proclaimed shepherds), of the mainline churches would have you believe that their Jesus was crucified in the afternoon of a GOOD Friday and rose again early in the morning, Sunday. You don't have to be a rocket scientist to see that if this was correct, it is only 36 hours. Where is the third day? According to their understanding Yeshua rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, the first day of the week.

Palm Sunday is a major event in most churches.

According to the pagan customs, Yeshua celebrated the Last Supper on Thursday night, (5th day), was betrayed and tried early Friday morning (6th day), then was crucified on Friday afternoon, was placed in a tomb late Friday, and rose from the dead early Sunday morning on the first day of the week. The simple fact is, none of this silly teaching lines up with the prophecy fulfilled in the spring Feasts, that has/had been rehearsed for thousands of years by the oracles of Yah, the Jewish people, and the Messianic Gentiles.

Many misinformed people say that each day from Friday to Sunday is considered a full day according to custom. In the first place, this is total hogwash. In the second place; if this was true you would still have an impossible problem: **“where is the third night?”**. There goes another pagan tradition, cut down to its roots.

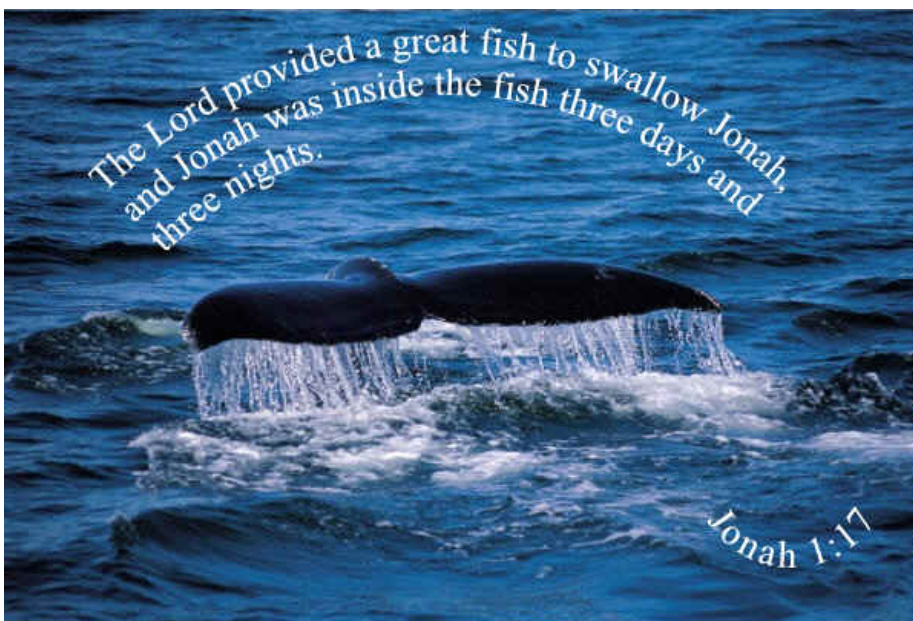
Does this chronology agree with Scripture?

The answer is NO. Let us examine the chronology of Messiah’s last week. Matthew 12:40 states that the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth (Jonah 1:17). This is the sign of Jonah. The only sign Messiah said the people would receive. I interpret this to mean a literal three days and three nights (72 hours in the grave); we have no indication the Messiah intended otherwise. If the Messiah was placed in the grave at the close of Friday, then His resurrection should have been on Monday afternoon. It is obvious that you cannot mathematically get three days and three nights between Friday and early Sunday morning. You cannot count Friday as a full 24 hour day because Messiah wasn’t in the grave all day Friday, and you cannot count Sunday as a full 24 hour day because He wasn’t there early Sunday morning according to Matt. 28:1-6. They say the day that Messiah was resurrected was the first day of the week (Sunday). According to tradition Yeshua entered Jerusalem the previous Sunday and was executed the following Friday. If this is correct, then Yeshua was crucified five days after His entrance into Jerusalem. It just doesn’t add up, no matter how much you twist it around.

THE SIGN OF JONAH (WHY CAN'T CHRISTIANS COUNT TO THREE?)

Lets have a real close look at the bible in regard to the three days so misunderstood by organized religion. Then we will examine Messiah’s last week prior to Calvary.

Yeshua was asked if there would be a sign that He was truly the Messiah, and He said the only sign that they would know of, was the sign of the prophet Jonah, which was the following: **Matt. 12:40** *“for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so shall the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”* Jonah was sent to



Ninevah (Ninevah meaning "house of Nimrod/Ninus") to warn the people of their pagan ways. It is made obvious that the three days (see Matt. 26:61/27:40, Mark 15:29) and three nights referred to were referring to the resurrection of Messiah. It clearly states **THREE DAYS and THREE NIGHTS** (72 hours) Yeshua would be gone prior to His resurrection.

The name Jonah means **Dove**. Dove is a Hebrew idiom meaning: "**Righteous and Pure.**" This is a very significant Hebraism that points to the Messiah. Now let us look more closely at Yeshua in the Jordan and maybe we can see something fresh in the Living Word of Yah. The sign of Jonah, the dove, was upon Yeshua from that day in the Garden, i.e. Jordan, when He was immersed - baptized. What we are told is that *"the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily FORM, like a DOVE upon Yeshua, and a voice - a Bat-Kol (daughters Voice) came from Heaven saying, "Thou art My Beloved Son; in Thee I am well pleased."* Anyone who was standing by would have seen this great SIGN, and heard the Voice. To some, the Voice may have sounded like thunder, yet I believe from this text in Luke 3:22, many SAW and HEARD the Voice of El Shaddai.

Jonah was a "type" of Yeshua. While Jonah's body was in the belly of the fish his spirit was in the depths of Sheol (apported) for three days. At that time Sheol was considered to be in the depths of the earth, the pit, or Abyss. Just as Yeshua's Spirit left Him for three days at Calvary so too did Jonah's. As Jonah's body was spewed out on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea and came back to life, so too did Yeshua come back to life after three full days and nights at Calvary.

They were looking for the Messiah to come, and many were blessed to see this Sign showing them that Yeshua was a Righteous person, a Dove! The sign of the "Dove" was evident to all who had eyes to see. Even Yeshua knew this sign was unmistakably His. Yeshua explains in **Matt. 12:38-41** *Then some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from You." But He answered and said to them, "An evil and adulterous generation craves for a sign; and yet no sign will be given to it **but the sign of Jonah the prophet; for just as JONAH WAS THREE DAYS AND THREE NIGHTS IN THE BELLY OF THE SEA MONSTER, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.**"* *"The men of Nineveh will stand up with this generation at the judgment, and will condemn it because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.* What we see is that Yeshua Himself speaks that no SIGN was to be given, but the SIGN of Jonah, the Dove. So a Sign was given that day at the Jordan, at the beginning of His ministry, and the Sign of Jonah would be given one more time at the end of His ministry. And **NO OTHER SIGN** would Israel be given apart from the Sign of Jonah.

We have no idea as to how many were at the river Jordan on the day of His baptism, but I dare say there were many. I believe Yah saw fit to open His Sons ministry with many in attendance. Just like Jonah, Yeshua had a MESSAGE from Yah, and that message was almost the same, "Shuvah - Repent and turn to Yahveh and His Messiah, the Sent One before judgement falls." Many did return and repent, and many did not.

Look at Yeshua in the garden of Gethsemane, before the agony of the stake, before the SINS of the world were placed on Him. He could have run like Jonah did, but praise Yah, the GREATER Jonah did not! The SIGN of Jonah is a SIGN of the Son of the Living Yah.



In Lev 23 it lists the seven annual Holy Days. Each of these Holy days was considered a "Sabbath" no-matter what day of the week it occurred on. All "High Days", or annual Sabbaths (except Pentecost, which always occurs on the first day of the week) fell on particular calendar dates rather than set days of the week. **John 19:31** *"The Jews therefore, because it was the day of preparation, so that the bodies should not remain on the stake on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high {day}), asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and {that} they might be taken away."* This tells us that the body of Messiah was removed from the stake on the preparation day, the 14th day, one day before the **ANNUAL SABBATH OR HIGH DAY**. Messiah kept the Passover, Last Supper, and possibly (Seder meal), with His disciples the night before His death. This was Tuesday, as per **Luke 22:15** *"And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer:"* The Passover Feast that year was on Tuesday and it was also the preparation day for the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Messiah died the next day, which was still the day of Passover (14th. of Abib or Nissan as per the Hebrew calendar Lev 23:5). As per Lev 23:6-7 it tells us that the next day, beginning the evening after His crucifixion, was not a **WEEKLY** Sabbath, but an ANNUAL Sabbath (high/holy day), the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. **Lev. 23:6-7** *'Then on the fifteenth day of the same month there is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to Yah; for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. 'On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not do any laborious work.'* **1Cor. 15:20** *"But now Messiah has been raised from the dead, the **first fruits** of those who are asleep."*

Messiah was crucified at 9:00 am. (**Mark 15:25** *"And it was the third hour when they crucified Him."*) and died at exactly 3:00 pm. (twilight). He was buried by Joseph (a converted Pharisee member of the council) prior to sunset, **Mark 15:34** *"And at the ninth hour Yeshua cried out with a loud voice, "ELOI, ELOI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?"* which is translated, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAST THOU FORSAKEN ME?" on Passover afternoon, which is also the Preparation day for the Annual Sabbath. It is also clear that Messiah was resurrected at the exact same time of day, in the late afternoon (twilight). Since the women found Him already gone Sunday morning, we conclude that He was resurrected the Previous afternoon, on SATURDAY. This would mean, without a doubt, that He was buried three days and three nights earlier; WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. Indeed, Passover, Nissan the 14th, that year, A.D. 31 fell on a Wednesday. Yeshua was

crucified on a **WEDNESDAY (the 14th.) at 9:00 am., at the exact same time and day that the Passover lambs were slain.** On preparation day (the day before the Passover). Yeshua was also slain like the lamb. **Yeshua died on that same day at 3:00 pm. and rose again on SATURDAY (the 17th.) at 3:00 pm. (twilight), just hours before the Feast of First Fruits began.** He arose the exact same time of day He died, 72 hours later, as stated in Matt.12:40. Yeshua was divine, He arose from the dead on the divine day of Yahveh, the seventh day of the week (Saturday). All those familiar with what numbers represent in the Bible understand the significance of the number seven. It represents the divine nature of Yah, completion, and was the appropriate seventh day of the week that Messiah was resurrected. This was a divinely appointed day, His sabbath.

What is the correct day of our Passover Lamb's execution, sacrifice?

Let's quickly go through it again from another angle. In order to figure out when Messiah was crucified, we have to establish the day of His resurrection. We must mathematically work it out backwards from the order we have in the scriptures. According to Lev. 23:10-11 Messiah, the First Fruits from among the dead, had to be resurrected on the day after the weekly Sabbath during the seven day Feast of Unleavened Bread (Passover).

What does Scripture teach?

This rehearsal of the slaughter of the lamb was a shadow of the lamb of Yah to come. Exodus 12:3 clearly states that **the selection of the lamb occurs on the tenth of the month, and Exodus 12:6 states that the lamb is to be slaughtered at twilight on the fourteenth of the same month.**

What is significant about the number four and fourteenth?

- The letter "nun" is the fourteenth letter of the Hebrew alphabet. It represents LIFE.
- There were fourteen generations of Yeshua's family listed in Matt. 1:17.
- The generations of King David are fourteen.
- The gematria value of King David's name is fourteen.
- Fourteen represents salvation.
- Four represents the four corners of the earth.
- Yeshua was watched for four days as the lamb.
- The fourth letter of the Hebrew alphabet is "dalet", which symbolizes an open door.

According to Exodus 12 there should only be four days between the selection of the lamb and its slaughter. John 12:1 indicates that **Messiah arrived in Bethany six days before Passover.** If John is correct (which I assume he is), then **Messiah would have arrived in Bethany on the ninth of Nissan.** We must keep in mind that it is 12 miles from Jericho to Jerusalem, Yeshua would not have walked this distance on a sabbath. He rode on a donkey from Jericho to Bethany, then the next day to Jerusalem (John 12:1/ Mark 11:11-20). John 12:12 states that on the next day (morning of the sabbath), the Messiah went up to Jerusalem. If Messiah was in Bethany on the ninth, then **He must have rode up into Jerusalem on the tenth. On the tenth of Nissan/Abib** the High Priest would leave the temple and go down to the sheep pens at Bethany to select a lamb for Passover. After the High Priest selected the lamb he would return back up to the temple carrying the lamb, least it should stumble and become blemished. Pilgrims who had come up to Jerusalem for the Feast lined the road to praise the lamb that the High Priest had selected for Passover. Are you beginning to see the picture? Let's look at a

type here.

Messiah the Lamb of Yah comes up from Bethany on the same day and at the same hour as the High Priest. But instead of the people praising the high priest's lamb they were shouting praises to the Messiah. The religious leaders then told Messiah to rebuke His disciples (Luke 19:39). After the High Priest returned to the temple **he would examine his lamb for the next four days to insure it was unblemished and fit for sacrifice. During the next four days Messiah too was examined by both the chief priests and the elders** (Matt. 21:23-27, 21:15-22, 21:23-33, 21:34-40), and after four days neither they, nor Pilate, could find any fault with Messiah the Lamb of Yah (Mark 12:35 and Luke 23:14). As stated in John 18:28, Yeshua went before Pilate BEFORE Passover.

Now let's dig a little deeper. Heres a nugget most will miss if it is not pointed out to them. **John 1:29-31** *The next day he saw Yeshua coming to him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of Yah who takes away the sin of the world! "This is He on behalf of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'* "And I did not recognize Him, but in order that He might be manifested to Israel, I came baptizing in water." As we just previously read, only the High Priest (or a descendent of the High Priest), could ever offer up the Passover lamb at the Temple.

Yeshua came to John at the river Jordan and what does John declare to all those who witnessed Yeshua's baptism of the Holy Spirit?

John The baptist was from the line of the High Priests of Israel. John's father was Zechariah (Luke 1:5). John had the authority to declare Yeshua as the "Lamb Of Yah" who came to take away the sins of the world. Long before Yeshua's death, John had proclaimed Him as the shadow of things to come.

Let's look at something else that's not a coincidence John The Baptist was born on Passover. The Jews had been expecting the Messiah to come, but they knew according to scripture (Malachi 4:5) that a man had to come to them with the "spirit of Elijah" first. To this very day, the Jewish people still set a plate for Eliyah at the seder table during Passover. Yeshua revealed John having the "spirit of Eliyah" in **Matt. 11:14** *"And if you care to accept it, he himself is Elijah, who was to come. "He who has ears to hear, let him hear.*

Now what day was the Lamb of Yah slaughtered?

If Messiah was resurrected early on the first day of the week using the (Roman/ Gregorian Calendar), **then we need to count back three days and three nights and we will arrive at Thursday for Messiah's execution.** This is how it would work out if the practices of the pagan churches (proclaimed Christian churches) of the world were correct. Even looking through their eyes, it doesn't work out to a Friday for Calvary.

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