

“Divine Rescue & The First Passover

Intro:

- New Series/Lenten Series: “The Story of God, The Story of Us” - will be looking at key moments throughout Scripture, beginning to end, that show that it's all ONE Story with a ‘scarlet cord’ of love running throughout it.
 - Last Week: Creation (Tree)
 - Last Week: The Fall (Ladder)
 - This Week: Focusing on The First Passover/Exodus (Door with Frame)
 - Before Get there, need to fill you in on timeline and a couple little things that happened between The Fall and the need for Exodus
 - Stick up the piece of timeline - The timeline will be extended each week, but crop the timeline to match the span of time we have covered and will cover that particular Sunday - at the end of the series it will be the full image
 - Noah
 - Abraham, Isaac & Jacob [Covenant]
 - Joseph & Egypt
 - Hebrew years of slavery, crying out in anguish

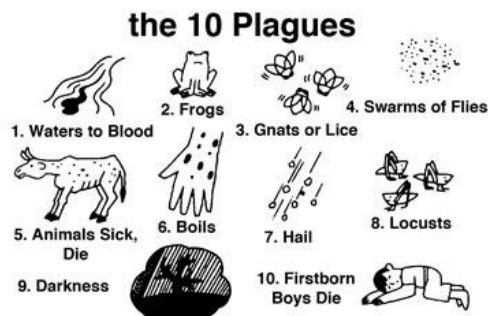
Tension: God heard the cries of His people and delivered them from oppression through an event called “Passover”; God continues to hear the cries of His people, and God continues to make a way for His people to be set free. We all need to be set free from something...

Exodus 12:1-7

- There is Life in the blood...
 - Spotless sacrifice without blemish or defect required
 - Atoning sacrifice - the lamb took the place of each of the Hebrew’s firstborn [explain ‘Hebrew’ vs. ‘Israelites’; Hebrew - terms used for God’s people under oppression]
 - Blood = Life
 - Study Bible: “Israel escapes the judgement that is about to fall on Egypt only through the mediation of a sacrifice”

Exodus 12:8-12

- God hates sin, judgement will come, God is patient but we will be held accountable
 - Romans 6:23 (NRSV)
For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- Lots of opportunities before this for Pharaoh to change his mind -



but no matter what, up until this point, he would not let God’s people go

Exodus 12:13

- BLOOD; The Lord’s Destructor will PASS OVER (literally) the house and they will be saved
- Next handful of verses 14-20 talk about how this day in their history is to be honored and celebrated as a monumental day, a pivotal moment,

Exodus 12:14-20 [symbol of the haste in which they left Egypt]

- Now move from what they shall do to commemorate to the business-at-hand - the instructions again followed by the actual Passover...

Exodus 21-23

- So Moses told the people to select the animals for their families and slaughter the Passover lamb. It was the blood of the Passover lamb, brushed onto the top and sides of the door frame that delivered them.
- Beloved, in "The story of God, the Story of Us", Jesus becomes our Passover Lamb. Those who trusted God's promise and put the sacrificial blood over their doors were spared the death of their firstborn sons. Similarly, we who have faith in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the ultimate Passover Lamb, are spared from eternal death through the blood shed on the Cross" As we place our faith in the blood of the Lamb, we are placed under the powerful blood of Jesus, and we are saved. By His wounds we are healed and free. May the Holy Spirit place the TRUTH of that statement into your heart today. Because of His great love for us, Jesus became our sacrifice; there is power in the blood
- 1 Peter 1:18-21 (NIV)

Exodus 12: 24-27

- Noteworthy: the ordinance did get passed down from generation to generation just as the Lord has commanded - Jesus was celebrating the Festival of Passover - sharing the Passover meal with His closest friend - when he took the bread and took the cup and instituted Holy Communion...[ONE STORY]

Exodus 12: 28-32

- God hears our groaning, our cries for help, He knows our pain, counts our tears, has concern for His people; God is moved by the cries of His people
- Story of God delivering his people from slavery; God heard the groans of the Israelites, and He had compassion on them

Study Bible: "The event of Israel's exodus from Egypt marked a turning point (or a new boundary line) for Israel. God's people were leaving their lives of slavery and gaining new lives of freedom. They entered into a new life markedly different from the one they had known"

This morning, we all have something from which you need to BREAK FREE...[deliverance]...something that is keeping us bound and preventing us from moving forward in writing the story God has for us...

- Maybe give them time to identify what that is, and then write it down on something and then do something with it to signify Jesus helping them to break free of it...strengthen them to break free through (our) faith, prayer and the Spirit? Instead of doing a laundry list of options, letting the Spirit direct them to what it is.
- Bring their card to the Cross, take time at the Cross and pray for the Spirit to break you free, and then rip it up...if Spirit has affirmed, rip it up, if not, rip it up in faith that God will deliver, may take more prayer and steps to do that...need hands laid on...
- **TURNING POINT!**
- Let today be a 'turning point'
- God still delivers people from slavery today, through Jesus, the Passover Lamb
- "God worked out the timing and all the details necessary for the Exodus to take place. Similarly, the all-knowing, all-powerful God lays out the path to freedom for those committed to Him." THIS MAY BE YOUR DAY, YOUR TURNING POINT, EMBRACE IT

Communion, Giving, Prayer, Worship - other Response opportunities...