



Homes of H.O.P.E. Prayer and Study Guide #15
Based on sermon: “Marked by the Blood”
Preached April 11, 2009

1. Read Exodus 12:1-13. Discuss the statement: “There could be no deliverance from Egypt until blood had been spilled.” What are the spiritual implications of this statement?
2. What was God specifically looking for the night of Israel’s deliverance? (See Exodus 12:13.)
3. Would it have mattered if the lamb had been slain and eaten without the blood being applied to the door posts? Would God have “passed over” homes that were unmarked with blood? Why or why not? (See Hebrews 9:21, 22.)
4. The Hebrews were never to forget that the meal that brought deliverance was provided at the cost of a life, and that to be marked by blood meant to be marked for mercy, chosen for deliverance. Discuss what this means for you today.

1,500 years later, the final Passover of Jesus’ life fell on what we call “Good Friday.” John the Baptist had identified Jesus three and a half years earlier as “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29)

5. Jesus’ triumphant ride into Jerusalem occurred on the 9th of Nissan. He cleansed the temple the next day (Monday), the 10th. Look at Mark 11:18. What is the significance of Jesus’ actions and the timing of them?
6. What was Jesus doing during the next four days? What parallels are there between the Passover lamb after the 10th and Jesus?
7. Jesus could have fled Jerusalem at any time, yet he stayed. Why?
8. Then on Nissan 14, the Passover, Jesus was crucified. Read Isa. 53:7. Why is this important?

After the Passover lamb had spilled its blood, it was skinned and cleaned and skewered on a shaft of pomegranate wood—long enough to protrude from both ends. Then a shorter stick was used laterally to force its rib cage open so that the flame might penetrate inside. Y-shaped branches were driven into the ground at each end of the fire pit and on this cross-shaped spit the carcass was slowly rotated.

9. Discuss the similarities between Jesus’ crucifixion and the above description.
10. Crucifixion was designed to keep the victim alive as long as possible as a kind of grotesque billboard advertising the might of Rome. One look and you got the message—don’t underestimate the power of Rome. What message did the cross that held the Savior proclaim?

11. Reach Matt. 27:50-53. In what way did death “pass over” these saints?

12. Is it possible to celebrate the resurrection out of ritual, tradition, and custom *without being marked by the blood*? Explain. What are the eternal implications of this? How can one be a long-time church member, volunteer, give offerings, and hold church office without being marked by the blood?

13. Recall Exodus 12:9, 10. **The Lamb had to be consumed**—it had to become part of you. What does this mean for Christians today? How do we “consume” Christ? Discuss first, then see John 6:47-63.

The blood had to be over your house signifying that your life and all that is precious to you is covered (under the blood!) God’s not looking at your denomination or even an annual church attendance on Easter weekend. He’s looking for the blood of His dear Son.

Is it [the blood] in you? Is Jesus not just on the periphery of your life—a casual acquaintance—but a part of you and everything that is precious to you?

Pray about this question. If there is anyone who is unsure where they stand with God, ask them if they want to choose Jesus as their lamb and lead them in a prayer of repentance and acceptance of His salvation.