

Week 5: We've been passed over

Exodus 11-12

Getting Started:

Share something of your background that influences who you are today

Pray for understanding as we read God's word.

What is God saying?

Read Exodus 11:1-10

What does the LORD promise will happen now to Pharaoh and Egypt?

V1 1 more plague, then Pharaoh will let you go, will drive you away

V4 Strike down firstborn son – none among the Egyptians spared no matter how powerful or impoverished, including the cattle and it will be grief in Egypt like never before or again.

V9 Pharaoh will refuse to listen, God's wonders multiplied among them

And to Israel?

V7 But it won't be the same for Israel, the LORD will make a distinction

Read Exodus 12:1-16, 24-30

What preparations are the Israelite's to make?

V3-11 Ask the Egyptians for their valuable stuff to 'plunder the Egyptians'. Set aside a one year old lamb without defect of either sheep or goat on 10th day and look after it till 14th and slaughter at twilight.

*Take some of the blood and put on doorframes of their houses
Eat the roasted lamb, along with bitter herbs, bread without yeast, in
haste, ready to run*

How should these be remembered in the future?

*V1 Start of their calendar marking start of the nation
V14- 27 Commemorate it at the same time of the year for the years to
come,
2 parts – first called Feast of unleavened bread, 7 days and he gives
the details; second is repeating the sacrifice of the lamb and
associated meal*

How is the LORD's promise kept?

*V29-30 The plague and deaths happen as promised. And the sending
them away and plundering the Egyptians occurs in the verses that
follow*

Why is God saying this?

How does Israel's enslavement foreshadow our own? (Read also
Ephesians 2:1-3)

*Israel's enslavement to Pharoah, Egypt, and their Gods points to our
enslavement to the flesh (sinful nature), humanity's pull toward sin
collectively, and the lies of the devil. We walked in the kingdom of the
dead.*

How does the way of salvation from slavery to worshipping the LORD
foreshadow our own in Christ? (Recall the last supper from Luke 22
we read last term)

Jesus at the last supper dies on the Passover weekend, after sharing it with his disciples, but he takes the Passover and links it to himself, showing it foreshadows his work and he fulfills it.

Language of slavery - and the means of being freed from slavery – redemption; as well as that of turning aside God's anger – atonement and propitiation; and also substitution – become mainstream in God's unfolding plans through the sacrificial system and then in the New Testament referring to sin, and death, and Jesus' work on the cross

How important is remembering our discipleship roots, and how do they shape how we live now?

By discipleship roots I mean the gospel, but also what precedes it in the OT (like here Exodus) which lay the foundation on which it is built and may be understood. It also highlights the character of God acting in grace to save, and the appropriate response of faith (dependance and trust)

I'd argue remembering and being reminded, whether here or on other occasions in the bible is a crucial part of being human (I even wonder whether before sin entered the world it was already an intentional part of how God created us – but like everything when sin came, it exploits opportunity!)

Remembering the lengths the LORD was willing to go to free us from sin, death and judgement, and how it's not merely mechanical or procedural but personal (God's characteristics which mean personal relating starts with and flows from him, Jesus – God himself come as a human – dying so we need not)

This should shape our everyday, as we walk in remembrance, in obedience, and in joy.

Prayer Starters

- Thank God for his grace to us given through judgement
- Praise God for the Lord Jesus, our substitute, whose blood was shed for us
- Ask God's Spirit may shape our lives in the way of humble obedience

Growing Growth Group Suggestion

Discuss – who could you share something you have learnt or been reminded of tonight – for their encouragement – and do that during the week

Are there any people I should follow up this week?