A great deliverance Ex.12:1-13

God was ready to fulfill his promise to Abraham of freeing his people from slavery and embarking them on the journey to the Land he promised to give to them. God sent Moses to Pharaoh with the command to let his people go, but Pharaoh didn't listen. God had sent nine plagues or catastrophes to Egypt; through these plagues God showed his power humiliating the Egyptian gods. The LORD told Moses he was going to send a final plague on all the land of Egypt. The death of the firstborn male or both people and animals. Ex.11:5

Sometimes people question God, why is he doing this? However, we need to understand that God doesn't bluff; he gave Pharaoh plenty of chances to let his people go, but he didn't listen. Just like God is faithful to bless people; he is also faithful to carry out his wrath when people disobey. God was going to kill the first born son of Egypt. How could God's people escape this judgment that was about to come upon the land where they were living? God provides deliverance, he gave instructions to Moses for the people to follow and escape his judgment. Ex.12:1-13

God established the Jewish calendar right here in this last plague. This is going to be the first month of the year. (**Aviv, Abib: (**Nisan) **Ex.13:4** (the "flight" **Neh.2:1, Esther 3:7** the first month of the Jewish calendar March-April)

God's provision for deliverance.

Each family was to choose a lamb, one year-old male without defect. Either from the sheep or the goats. (v.5) this lamb will be in the family from the 10th day until the 14th day. *4 days with the family. Imagine your kids would begin to get attached to the little lamb.*

Then on the 14 day, the family was to kill the lamb, take some of the blood and stain the door posts and frames with the blood.

The people in the house were instructed to eat the lamb that night roasted on fire (v.8-11)

- -do not leave any for the next day, if there is leftovers, then they must burn it.
- -they were to eat it in a sense of urgency, ready to depart.

This is what is known as the Passover.

(v.12) God will pass through the land of Egypt that night killing the first born of man and animals. God will be executing judgment on the whole land of Egypt. But those houses stained with the blood of the lamb were exempt from this judgment.

Read verses 29-30 God executed his judgment!

That was a horrific scene the next day.

When your children ask you for the meaning of the feast. (v.26)

God executed judgment and we were spared because of the lamb. Why did we have to kill it? Because that would have been me or you, or your brother. The lamb took our place; it was a substitute. It died on our behalf.

God has been telling the world about another catastrophe, a judgment that will come upon the whole world. This judgment is due to our sin. We are sinful people who cannot meet the demands of a holy God. However God also provided a way of escape. He provided another lamb to take the place.

When Jesus came to earth, John the Baptist introduced him to his audience as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. **John 1:29, 36**.

Rev. 5:6-10 the blood of the lamb purchased people for God.

Ephe1:7 We have redemption through the blood of the lamb.

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A tourist who had visited a church in Norway said that he was surprised to see a carved figure of a lamb near the top of the church's tower. He learned that when the church was being built, a workman fell from a high scaffold. His co-workers rushed down, expecting to find him dead, but to their surprise and joy, he was alive and only slightly injured. **How did he survive?** A flock of sheep was passing beneath the tower at the time, and he landed on top of a lamb. The lamb broke his fall and was crushed to his death, but the man was saved. To remember this miraculous escape, someone carved a lamb on the tower at the exact height from which the man fell.

This story reminds me what the prophet Isaiah said about Jesus. *Isa.53:5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.*

Jesus Christ was the Lamb of God killed so that God's wrath would not fall on us. Jesus took our place on the cross. You and I are covered by his blood and therefore saved from God's wrath. We have crossed from death to life, from darkness into light.

In order for the Jews to be saved that night, they had to follow the instructions just like God directed Moses. Moses even told them don't leave the house that night (Ex.12:22). They needed to be in the house stained with the blood of the lamb.

Are you covered by the blood of Jesus today? Have you given your life to him? God gave the world a chance to escape judgment; Jesus. "He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him" (2 Cor. 5:21) Not wanting Jesus is like stepping out of the house the night the angel of death visited Egypt. We all have fallen in sin, but on the cross Jesus took the punishment for our sin upon Himself. He now offers eternal life to all who personally put their faith in Him.

He died so you can live. Thank God for his great salvation!