

"For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to battle?" 1 Corinthians 14:8

KJV

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"Thus saith the Lord, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls..." Jeremiah 6:16

Sounding Out The Faith

July 2021

-The Lord's Supper-

Whose is it? To whom was it given? What is it?
Why was it given? How is it observed? Who can take it?

Whose is it?

The name should make it very clear, "the Lord's supper". However, today many have tried to make the Lord's supper into what they "think" it means. The Lord has a house, each local, New Testament church is His house.

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth." 1 Timothy 3:15

He owns the house; each local, New Testament church was purchased with His blood.

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Acts 20:28 15

In His house is His table where He invites those who are qualified to come and dine.

To whom was it given?

It is the Lord's supper. He instituted it and He is the One who decides who can partake. We see clearly in the Scriptures that the Lord's supper was given to His local, New Testament church.

"Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover? And he said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I

will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples. And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover. Now when the even was come, he sat down with the twelve. And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I? And he answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me. The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born. Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said. And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom. And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives." Matthew 26:17-30

Notice in these Scriptures that Jesus and the twelve first observed the Passover supper. Judas Iscariot leaves immediately after the Passover and Jesus then instituted the Lord's supper to the eleven.

"When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me. Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake. Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved. Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake. He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, Lord, who is it? Jesus answered, He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when he had dipped the sop, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon. And after the sop Satan entered into him. Then said Jesus unto him, That thou doest, do quickly. Now no man at the table knew for what intent he spake this unto him. For some of them thought, because Judas had the bag, that Jesus had said unto him, Buy those things that we have need of against the feast; or, that he should give something to the poor. He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night." John 13:21-30

Psalms 22:22 was prophecy concerning Jesus singing. **"I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee." Psalm 22:22** The only recorded place in the Scriptures of Jesus singing was here at the institution of the Lord's supper when they sang a hymn. Hebrews 2:12 clearly states the fulfillment **"Saying, I will declare thy name unto my brethren, in the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee." Hebrews 2:12**

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421 South 40th Street
Springfield, Oregon 97478

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Contact Springfield FLMBBC by mail, or phone 541-747-3549.

- Published by:
- Albany Missionary Baptist Church, Albany, OR
www.albanymissionarybaptist.org
 - Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Creswell, OR
www.creswellmbchurch.com
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So by these Scriptures it is clear that Jesus gave the Lord's supper to His local church. Each local church is made up of saved, Scripturally, baptized believers that have covenanted together in that local body. **"Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Acts 2:41-47**

Each local church has a responsibility to carry out the Lord's supper at His table in His house as He has instructed.

What is it?

The Lord's supper is a memorial ordinance.

"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19

Just as the Passover was given to Israel as a memorial, so the Lord's supper is given to His local, New Testament churches as a memorial.

"And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt. It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations." Exodus 12:41-42

The Passover was given as a memorial of God's deliverance of Israel from Egypt. The Lord's supper is a memorial of Jesus' sacrifice for our deliverance from the bondage of sin.

"And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." I Corinthians 11:24-25

"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." I Corinthians 5:7-8

Why was it given?

As a memorial, yes, but it was also one of the two pictorial ordinances given to the Lord's New Testament churches. The Lord's supper was to picture the death of Jesus and baptism was to picture His burial and resurrection. Thus, we have the true Gospel of Jesus Christ pictured in the two ordinances of the Lord's churches. This was to ensure that the true Gospel would not be perverted by giving detailed instructions for the ordinances for the Lord's churches to come in the future.

"Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto

you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:" I Corinthians 15:1-4

In the institution of the Lord's supper, Jesus told His local, New Testament church gathered with Him that day why He gave them the supper. Notice His detailed description of what the elements represented.

"And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:26-28

The unleavened bread representing Jesus' sinless body being sacrificed, broken and torn, for our sins.

"For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." II Corinthians 5:21

The cup, fruit of the vine, representing Jesus' sinless blood shed for our sins.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." John 1:1-4, 10-14

Jesus' blood came directly from His Heavenly Father, not from man. Jesus was very clear that the fruit of the vine came directly from the vine showing that there was no sin in His blood as it came directly from God the Father. Fruit of the vine must be that which the vine directly produces making it clear that it is the juice from the vine. To change this is to portray that Jesus' blood had "impurities" or sin, thus, perverting the Gospel. Therefore, the Lord's supper was given to show a true picture of Jesus Christ through the elements used in His supper. To pervert or change these elements would be to pervert the Gospel. Truly, Jesus has given a "fool proof" teaching in the ordinances left to His local, New Testament churches if we will examine the Scriptures and follow the teachings. Unleavened bread and fruit of the vine in the Lord's supper must be maintained to portray His perfection and sacrifice for our sins.

How is it observed?

To examine how the Lord's supper is observed, one must also consider the pattern of the Old Testament Passover observance as an example of Jesus being the sacrificed Passover Lamb for our sins. First of all, the Passover was given only to those who were of Israel or had become circumcised to become an Israelite.

"And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof: But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof. A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof." Exodus 12:43-45

Each local house was to partake of the Passover. It was not a universal gathering. The local house observed the Passover together in one place.

"In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof." Exodus 12:46

They had to have one law governing them. A stranger could not participate in the Passover because the stranger could not be judged by their law when they had not covenanted together under the same law.

"And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof. One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you." Exodus 12:48-49

Previously, we considered to whom the Lord's supper was given. As we saw in the Scriptures, it was given to His local, New Testament churches. Jesus instituted it and delivered it to the first church, which later was called the Jerusalem church. Remember Jesus instructed the eleven, the ones He had delivered the Lord's supper to as His church assembled in the upper room, to teach others to observe the things He had commanded them.

"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshipped him: but some doubted. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus also instructed Paul to teach and instruct the church at Corinth so that the Lord's supper would be perpetuated down through the ages in His local, New Testament churches.

"For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." I Corinthians 11:23-26

Just as Israel was instructed that no "strangers" could partake of the Passover supper, so it is an example to us that no one outside of the local body can observe the Lord's supper either. After all, how can a church judge someone who is not in their membership? They cannot. That person has not come under the "law" of that local body which is Christ through His Word governing her membership.

"It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed, In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ,

To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. Your glorying *is not good*. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth. I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within? But them that are without God judgeth. Therefore put away from among yourselves that wicked person.” I Corinthians 5:1-13

As the Passover example was to be eaten inside a local assembling, so also was the Lord’s supper eaten in the local assembling. We know by the Scriptures there were more church members than just the eleven that observed the Lord’s supper. However, the supper was only given to those who had “assembled” in the local, appointed place and time. “And when it was day, he called *unto him* his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;” Luke 6:13

You can’t have a choice if you only have twelve disciples. There had to be more than twelve for Him to have a choice of the twelve.

“And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty,)” Acts 1:15

Here we see before Pentecost, forty days after Jesus had risen, there is a specific number given to those that are assembled, 120. Therefore, regardless of how many church members are on the rolls of a local congregation, the Lord’s supper is only limited and given to those who are present in the local, appointed place and time. Therefore, any

church members that are assembled in another location away from the local church’s appointed place and time **CANNOT** Scripturally observe the Lord’s supper.

Notice the Lord’s rebuke to the Corinthian church when they were perverting the Lord’s supper. They understood and the Lord’s instructions through Paul were clear that the supper was observed in the coming together into one place.

“For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you. When ye come together therefore into one place, *this is not to eat the Lord's supper.*” I Corinthians 11:18-20

Each member of that local, New Testament church is to examine themselves to see that they are in a condition to observe the Lord’s supper. Some say you must be “worthy” to observe the Lord’s supper. However, the Scriptures say it must be observed “worthily”. There is a big difference between the two. We, as sinful humans, could never be worthy to observe the Lord’s supper. However, we can do it “worthily”. This simply means that the manner in which we do observe the Lord’s supper must be done worthily by preparing and following the Lord’s instructions to us as individual members and as a local body.

“Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.” I Corinthians 11:27-29

The local church is to be in a condition to observe the Lord’s supper. Remember the admonition to the Corinth church about the leaven in the body of the church. The known leaven had to be taken care of before the church could observe the Lord’s supper worthily. This was accomplished through church discipline by excluding the guilty member because they were not willing to repent.

“Your glorying *is not good*. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.” I Corinthians 5:6-8

Who can take it?

All of these Scriptures do seem to be very restrictive concerning the Lord’s supper, and yes, it is. However, the Lord’s supper is only restricted in that the Lord asks us to come to His table His way. If you are lost, you can take the Lord’s supper, but you must be willing to come His way. After all, it is His table, His supper, and His house. If you are lost, He only asks that you be willing to come to Him for salvation with a humble heart and by faith trust Him as your Savior.

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*” Ephesians 2:8-9

Then He asks that you submit to Scriptural baptism and let Him add you to a local, New Testament church.

“The like figure whereunto *even* baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:” I Peter 3:21

“Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” Acts 2:47

Then He asks that we be faithful stewards, striving to be obedient in the local, New Testament church where He has placed us.

“Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. And if a man also strive for masteries, *yet* is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully.” II Timothy 2:1-5

Four Suppers

The Supper of Grace:

“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.” Isaiah 55:1

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.” John 6:47-51

“The LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou *art* with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.” Psalm 23:1-6

The Supper of Remembrance:

“For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.” I Corinthians 11:26

“And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake *it*, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup *is* the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.” Luke 22:19-20

The Supper of Joy:

“Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed *are* they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.” Revelation 19:7-9

The Supper of the Wrath of God:

“And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all *men*, both free and bond, both small and great. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which *sword* proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.” Revelation 19:17-21

~Will you partake in any of these suppers? If so, where will you be? The choice is up to you!~

Seven Reasons For Observing the Lord's Supper

*It is an act of obedience.

"For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me." I Corinthians 11:23-25

*It is an act of remembrance of the Lord's death.
"And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me." Luke 22:19

*It is an act of testimony to His death.
"Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." I Corinthians 5:7-8

*It is an act of confession that salvation is through His blood.
"For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:28

*It is an act of fellowship.
"The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread." I Corinthians 10:16-17

"Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein. We have an altar, whereof they have no right to eat which serve the tabernacle." Hebrews 13:9-10

*It is an act of praise and thanksgiving.
"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup." I Corinthians 11:24

"But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." I Corinthians 15:57

*It is an act, silently, but powerfully proclaiming the Lord's second coming.
"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." I Corinthians 11:26

"But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." Matthew 26:29

The Passover and God's Deliverance

The Passover has many lessons to teach us. We can see in the example of the Passover God's deliverance for His children, Israel.

"For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt." Exodus 12:12-13

Notice to whom God said His judgement was coming upon. His judgement was coming upon Egypt, their idolatry, and their rejection of the true God of Heaven. Israel, God's people in the flesh, had sinned against Him and He had punished them. However, His judgement upon His children is not to be confused with His judgement upon those that reject Him.

"For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you." Exodus 12:23

"And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD. And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein? That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" Genesis 18:22-25

God's character and patterns show us that He does punish His children, but His punishment for those that are rejecting Him is not used upon His children.

"And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby." Hebrews 12:5-11

Notice how that God's judgement for Egypt was not put upon Israel. They were spared from the plagues because God's judgment on the wicked is not for His children. His judgement for His children will be carried out upon them but not with the judgement of the wicked. The death angel passed over Israel because of the blood.

"For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you. That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped." Exodus 12:23, 27

The word "delivered" in the Hebrew is "to snatch

away". Interesting that God chose that word to show Israel's freeing from the bondage of Egypt.

Consider if you will, Hebrews 11:5.

"By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God."

That Greek word "translated" means to transfer, to transport. God delivered, snatched away, His people from the judgement of wicked Egypt. God's character is that His judgement for His children is separate from the wicked. We know that the saved and lost will be judged separately in the end times as well.

"Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;" II Thessalonians 1:8-10

God's wrath will be poured out on the wicked during the time of tribulation. It is "Jacob's" Trouble, Israel. It is a time to turn Israel back to God and then for God to pour out His wrath on all those that reject Him.

"Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it." Jeremiah 30:7

When Israel turns back to God in the middle of the tribulation, they will be delivered from the wrath of God poured out on the wicked. God's children who were saved before the tribulation period will not see the wrath of God poured out on the wicked because we have not been appointed to that wrath. Just as pictured in the Passover when God put His wrath on Egypt but delivered, transported, translated Israel out of it because of the blood.

Just as God delivered Israel from the death angel and "passed over" them because of the blood, He will also not punish His children with the judgement of the wicked during the tribulation time.

"For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also ye do." I Thessalonians 5:9-11

The Passover shows us God's mercy because of the blood of Jesus. Those who are born again are not sinless, but we do have an Advocate and a way to get our sins forgiven. If we choose to remain in our sin, our Heavenly Father will be displeased with us, but He will still be our Father. We will be punished for our disobedience, but we will not be forsaken as those that are lost. Over and over again throughout the Scriptures God's character of righteous judgement is portrayed in His behavior. *Noah and the righteous were delivered seven days before His wrath was delivered on those that rejected Him. *Lot was not living righteously or justly, but yet, God would not pour His wrath out on Sodom until the righteous were delivered.

"Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord." I Corinthians 15:51-58