



CHURCH PRIMER

COVID PASSOVER

“BEST OF TIMES”

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Many Christians are learning the Hebrew roots of the faith. They are finding intrigue and joy from studying and celebrating the biblical festivals. The fall is the season of tabernacles. We like to have thanksgiving that time of year, but let's not get ahead of ourselves. Covid was identified in the spring of 2020—this is the season where Protestants and Catholics have their Easter celebrations. It just so happens, that the Jewish Passover is the root of these faiths. Basically, Easter *is* historically the Semitic Passover. To the Jews (Semites), Passover commemorates the ancient saga of when their ancestors were miraculously set free from slavery in Egypt—when they established the Promised Land. Christians understand that the Passover foreshadowed their salvation in Jesus Christ (the Passover lamb). But this shouldn't eliminate the subject matter of national freedom. How can we appreciate the “Jewishness” of the Passover, if we don't celebrate that part too? Maybe the roots of our faith, have nothing to do with celebrations, until we have left the land of slavery. Maybe a proper festival will follow our obedience to leave Egypt—the organization that isn't working.

Exodus 5:1 - Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.’”

Never before in history, had economies and churches been shut down. And globally. In 2020, it did not matter if you were pagan, Catholic or Orthodox Jew—Easter arrived without your fanfare. The Passover brought death and plagues. But the Christian establishment now hated their biblical roots—they did not wish to be suddenly be thrust into this orthodoxy. They did not want to confront corrupt leaders. They did not want to leave public schools, or their church. As usual, studying the biblical text was more popular than living it out. They liked the Luke warmness of Bunnies, chocolate baskets and foyer photography. Turn cheek Christianity did what it always does on Passover—nothing serious. And the Israeli military was forcing vaccinations the way wasps (white Anglo Saxon Protestants) forced their kids to smile for Easter photos.

Millions of saints around the world never expected the Passover (Easter) to become what it originally was: *a political revolution which would divide God's people from absolute governments*. An abrupt departure from comfortable places. A series of plaques. A season of political turbulence. A chance to get the hell out of dodge. We wanted the religious experience, candy and children's choir. We love seminary, and how it appeals to our carnal desire to think and be somebody special. Instead, we got a raw, Old Testament reproduction of what made Israel, Israel—a free nation. From 2020 to now, how many saints attended a school board meeting? How many had the courage to ask the superintendent to “let their children alone”? When we ignore history, we abandon our faith. When we neglect our calling to leave Egypt, we will suffer the plagues: Marxism. Masks. Critical Race Theory. Social Emotional Learning. Common Core Math. The jab. Unemployment. Intimidation. Imprisonment. When we trust in Seminary or divinity school, we stagnate. If the churches, colleges and the public schools are not the modern day Pyramid schemes, with pastors, deans and superintendents at the top, then Pharaoh is a fine gentlemen and you can return to your Netflix. For those who have faith as big as a jelly bean, or the IQ double of Anthony Fauci, then keep reading.

THE TEMPLATE

Who cares if masks or vaccines work—here is the question you should ask: *What was the Passover of Exodus?* The grandest bible story after the flood? A go to power sermon? A biblical object lesson? False on all accounts. The concrete material evidence, in any court of law, would allow one answer; never hearing anyone

preach or teach the Exodus as it literally was, we missed the point—it was *the first great revolution*. Sure, to ascribe political value only to the biblical account would be error. Likewise, the American Revolution, by that title, is grossly diminutive of its character. *Revolution implies a return, not a beginning. Revolution often involves violence, but not every party is the aggressor. It asks questions to clarify. It works to help everyone. It labors to legitimize, not disorganize. It rises to give birth, not kill. It rebels not to destroy, but to regenerate—to bring us back to square one.* The ancient Passover was the perfect solution to the troubles on earth, and the 2020 Covid reproduction was allowed by God, to get us back to our biblical roots. (I have 60 pages of biblical exposition, explaining how the Passover was the model for the American Revolution and the establishment of the United States).

The Exodus is the universal, undefiled template; the standard bearer for all revolutions to follow. Let us examine all the elements: An illegitimate government (1 Samuel 12:17). An oppressive regime (Exodus 1:11-14). Ethnic cleansing and abortion (Exodus 1:16). Prejudice and fear of people groups; the lingering threat of insurrections or mass migrations (Exodus 1:8-10). A long history of unchallenged power (Genesis 15:13, 400 years). Finally, crimes that impassion good people into action (Exodus 3, 2:11). You see competent insiders who can get the ball rolling (Exodus 2:10, Acts 7:22). Initial meetings which led to escalating tensions. A show of force to keep control over the workers (Exodus 5:6). A steady shift in the balance of power, causing the oppressors to slacken their grip, and agree to transfer resources back to the people (Exodus 12:36); and, the same oppressors going back on their word (Exodus 14:5). The progress of defiant people, not wanting to use any violence (Numbers 33:3). Finally, a miraculous victory (Exodus 14:26-29). The Exodus was, and is, definitively, a masterful political revolution, empowered by an immutable God. In 1400BC, walls of water would drown the oppressor. In 1776, the Monarchy fell to similar fate, and in 1989, the Berlin wall was breached as the Soviet Union dismantled. The people danced, sang and celebrated in the velvet revolution (Czechoslovakia); it was quite orthodox—non aggressive and non-violent, led by a playwright named Vaclav Havel. Instead of a Sinai desert, a half million Czech's walked hand in hand through gently falling snow.

The template is thorough in every regard: emerging party agitators who attempt to squash the movement (Numbers 14). Splits, factions and counter-revolutions (Numbers 16). A final clash with the regime (Exodus 14). Opportunistic guerilla attacks (Exodus 17, Amalekites). Last, but not least, the most important element—the greatest reason for any revolution—a new government of common people (Exodus 18), built on religious liberty. Religious liberty equals religious expression, and the word worship occurs a whopping twenty one times in the following passages: Exodus 3:12, 4:23, 4:31, 7:16, 8:20, 9:1, 9:13, 10:3, 10:7, 10:8, 10:24, 10:26, 12:27, 12:31, 20:5, 23:24, 23:33, 24:1, 33:10, 34:8, 34:14. *“Let my people go, so that they may worship me”*. There really is no difference between Jew and Gentile, or between a protestant and Catholic. The American church was born from reformed thinking and biblical truth. Every denomination was brought together through a non-violent “protest”, a regeneration of natural laws which guarantee every single saint a voice at the table. Every believer in Christ must understand and cling to this. Luther brought salvation through grace alone, and the printing press was no small thing in his theology—so why is the 1st amendment receiving such scorn by the clergy today? Why is Christian constitutional rigor met with apathy or downright allegations of apostasy? The template lays out the biblical commandment to protest, leave and build something better.

THE COMMANDMENT TO GOVERN

What the creator offered to ancient Israel, our founders brought to near perfection. America was a regeneration of the Promised Land, and a second shot at freedom. For every colonial ‘Israelite’ trudging through a wilderness of political oppression, a new government was about to be placed on His shoulders. It was a new beginning for generations to come. A place to “sit underneath their own vine, and not be afraid”. A place where men rule themselves and judge themselves (jury of one’s peers). Specifically? A constitution and a government. The Exodus was the saga of freedom, and the template has not changed—the explicit prescription of how to do it the Godly way. Jesus is always the reason for the season, so celebrate with mirth and thanksgiving.

Be thankful lest ye forget: the greatest gift to mankind, other than the incarnate Christ, was constitutional representative government. It is remarkably explicit in the canon: **Representative (Exodus 18), constitutional (Exodus 24 & 34), three branch (Isaiah 33:22) government.** A proper protestant will always protest and build on these principles. A real Catholic will never allow imposters into places of influence. We see American ideas all throughout the text—rulers must hate bribes (“dishonest gain”, Exodus 18:21). High leadership must memorize the founding texts, stay humble, faithful to their spouse, and never exalt themselves over common citizens (Deuteronomy 17:17-20). It is all there, hidden only by our apathy and theological dispositions.

The Promised Land: global missions, generational businesses are hanging in the balance; everyone you love, everything you’ve known is dependent on a proper response to these truths. In fact, life on Earth before these institutions, was dreary and cruel. Of the 100 billion who lived on earth, only 4.5% have ever experienced a free society. God cares about national freedom. What story did you read in Nehemiah (revival), Esther (hardball politics) or Haggai (counter communist movement)? Have you ever studied the early Church? Are you hoping we end up like them? Why have we made this history lesson so religious and pathetic? Easter Bunnies and cute dresses? This is not a pandemic, but a powerful Passover—a complete national restoration. Law and order. Religious Liberty. Church revival. Brotherhood. Leaving the old and entering the new. The thrills and hazards of a wilderness season. The sacrifices of today, which lead to better tomorrows.

The Exodus story is the go-to story. It’s been a timeless source of inspiration in pulpits, Christian literature and even Hollywood. Nevertheless, we fail to comprehend it. We are living in a global Exodus this very moment. People are leaving states, churches, schools and unstable countries. Patriots are leaving their jobs (as they did in 1776) to re-establish the principles of government. Just look at the thousands on the Texas border. What do they want? A good government. Freedom. Prosperity. Food. This is the Passover. This is Christ’s heart—the reason for the season. Be thankful that the Pilgrims were willing to suffer in frigid temperatures, so we can have warm thanksgiving feasts. Be thankful the founders forged a government, biblically aligned, so we won’t return to Egypt.

CLOSE

It was God's intent that the Roman would appeal to the righteous (Matthew 8:5), not that the righteous would have to grovel to and appeal to Caesar (Acts 26:29). Appealing to ungodly rulers brings bondage (Acts 26:32). When the righteous rule, the people rejoice (proverbs 29:2), and the righteous are as bold as lions (Proverbs 28). Romans 13 declares that government’s role is to punish evil and praise good—so take that with all of scripture. When the law is read from the pulpits, revival ensues (Nehemiah 8). When the religious leaders, priests and citizens work as one people (Haggai 1:12-13), God comes to our aid. When Hadassah plays tough politics, wicked rulers hang. Yet when the scriptures are proclaimed during the rule of the wicked, they are persecuted unnecessarily (Acts 17:5-9). *Reject any pastor or spiritual guide who teaches opposite to this.* Don't ever believe the "I'm a Christian and therefore I must be persecuted" false kingdom theology. The idea that we don't have to run for office because “God’s kingdom is not of this world”, is a lie from Satan. You were made to rule this earth and make it a better place (Genesis 1:28, Deuteronomy 16:20, Isaiah 1:17). Government is inherently a good thing, and commanded by God. Christ made us holy, and Easter is our resurrection hope. Without question, the Passover is also hallowed—like a sacred rebellion. Like the American Revolution, it required the repurposing of peoples and resources. Legitimate purposes will miraculously rise (law, liberty and representation), while the illegitimate are exposed and wiped away (monarchy and monopoly).

Passover is a revolution; the holiday, like the word, does not suggest, but demands a return. To offer ourselves as living sacrifices, so no heads will roll. Thanksgiving should be a good time—a great time, when we embrace our religious differences, and discuss our political callings. It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity... it was, like the good book said, a “festival in the wilderness”.