

Sermon – Steps to Freedom – A New Day (Exodus 12)

Preached at Cloverdale Baptist Church 7/17/22

Leviticus 23: 1-5

And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, ² Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, Concerning the feasts of the LORD, which ye shall proclaim to be holy convocations, even these are my feasts. ³ Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, an holy convocation; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the LORD in all your dwellings. ⁴ These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons. ⁵ In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD's passover.

Background: God has a plan for bringing His people out from one season into the next or better season. From bondage to freedom, from a desert place to milk and honey, from your worst time to your best time, from planting seeds to enjoying a harvest.

We as a church are in a season and it is not our best season. But God has a plan. As an individual, you may not be enjoying your best season, but God has a plan for you and I to prosper, which means your best season is still in front of you....when you follow God's plan.

Leviticus outlines the plan and sequence in order for us to follow.

Our goal today is to declare our independence as a church from the current season and make the first steps into moving into a new season. Today we will learn what the first steps of the process are. Let's look at an example in the Word of how God works.

Exodus 12

And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt saying, ² This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you. ³ Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house: ⁴ And if the household be too little for the lamb, let him and his neighbour next unto his house take it according to the number of the souls; every man according to his eating shall make your count for the lamb.

God speaking to Moses is telling him that this is the first step and a new season by changing the calendar. What used to be the 7th month is now the 1st month. They get a do over.

They are in a bad place, but God speaks to them there, gives them hope there. We are there in Egypt...not logistically but spiritually. But God says He heard their cries in that place and He is ready to move. Gives them an exit date and moving instructions. I know it may look bad, but we just got good news...we are on the move and it's the beginning of a new season.

This is the plan God has for the Children of Israel but I know what you may be thinking....how do we know for sure that this is God's plan for us?

- Because when the lamb is brought in on the 10th day of the month, Jesus the Lamb of God comes into Jerusalem and the House of God on the 10th (Palm Sunday).
- I know this is our plan, because it is the same plan for Christ, and I'm following Him.
 - Following Him out of bondage, bad times, unfruitful seasons, heartbreak, disappointment, loss, defeat, bad decisions.
 - Check your watch and your calendar, this season is just about over.

⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats: ⁶ And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening. ⁷ And they shall take of the blood, and strike it on the two side posts and on the upper door post of the houses, wherein they shall eat it.

The first steps to freedom after you get to know the Lamb, spend time with the Lamb, they are supposed to kill the Lamb. These are the first steps for God's people, so somebody needs to go out and rustle up a few lambs for us.

Spiritually, not logistically, we need to find us a good lamb and apply the blood before we can leave. It all starts with the blood of the lamb applied.

How do we know for sure that this is God's plan for us?

- Because they examined Jesus the Lamb of God and they found no fault or blemish
- Because the same day/time they killed the lamb is the same day/time that Jesus died on the cross.
- I remember the day that I went to Jesus and cried out for help, I accepted Him into my life when somebody told me that He died for me. I didn't have real blood or a house, but I applied His blood through my faith and belief that He could save me and applied it to the doorposts of my heart. When I did it I got new life.....and the life I now live....Gal 2:20.

Describe the chet

You can't make this stuff, God is good!

⁸ And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. ¹¹ And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the LORD's passover.



God's plan for His people is they remember the bitterness of the past. Bitter herbs reminds them that it wasn't so great in Egypt, oh, they were rolling in Egypt for a while. Things were good for a season, but the season changed and it got bad over time.

Can I talk to CBC for a minute. I wasn't here but I heard some stories of how it was good for a while. It was a good place to be. But the season changed and the good old days are over. Instead of being stuck in our past mistakes, we are about to move. That's not my plan.....it is His plan.

¹² 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. ¹³ 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.

I know this is sounding all good. Good news. It is the Gospel. Look at what God's plan entails:

- He will deal with your problems....that's in the plan.
- Judgment is part of the plan and it will not go well for some folks.
- The blood is important component of the plan.
- The plan is that the plan is not just intellectual accent but requires application. Important note, if you know about the plan but don't implement the plan....you are done.
- Passing over blood washed folks is part of the plan. Salvation from judgment part of the plan.

Can I talk to CBC? If we don't follow the plan, we are going nowhere. We will die right here in Egypt. Did you hear me? If we don't follow these steps, we will never become what God wants us to become. If we don't obey, we don't get blessed. If we don't do this correctly He will work against us on purpose.

If we follow the plan.....His plan, we get blessed on purpose. He promises in His plan that we will be saved.

How do I know, because He did it for them and brought them out into a new season? Because He did it for them....if we follow the plan, He will do it for us, do it for CBC, do it for you.

¹⁴ And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

²¹ Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. ²² And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. ²³ 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. ²⁴ And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. ²⁵ And



it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service. ²⁶ And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service? ²⁷ 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.

²⁸ And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

If He did it for them, He is able and wants to do it for you. We should be telling the next generation about His plan and what He has done for us. Carry on the legacy of faith.

⁴³ And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof: ⁴⁴ But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof. ⁴⁵ A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof. ⁶ 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. ⁴⁷ All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

So, what does that first step look like today, for us. How do I know this is our plan and how do I apply the blood today?

Luke 9:23

²³ And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

So, every day I do what? What is this cross I need to carry? Follow Him where?

The cross is not a burden. It is not a thing or pain you have to bear. It is not picking up something, but instead, it is laying down something.....You!

You don't have to carry it, because Jesus already did. You don't have to physically die, because Jesus already did. You don't have to make your way to Golgotha because He already went there for you.

It is simply coming unto Him, not trying to work it out on your own. Follow Him to the place, not logistically but spiritually where you lay down your life, and you give Him your life.

How? Just open the door to your heart, and let Him in. Accept what He did for you. It is just that easy.

Most of you here are probably saying, I already did that when I was first saved. I got it; I get it. But Luke 9:23 says do it daily. So every day, every morning, at the sign of difficulty, even when things are going good, I pick up the cross....I run to Him, I make Him first. I start my day and relationship with Him first.



Every day and every moment....taking that first step again and remembering what He did for me and denying my wants and desires so that He is first. He is the center of my joy. He is the start and finish of this journey.

It also means to truly trust in God. I know some CBC members who demonstrate this. Back to Passover. If you tell me, bad stuff is about to happen in my neighborhood, I am leaving the hood. I'm gone. I'm not staying because I'm going to try and escape on my own rather than trusting in His promises.

There is too much quit in the church today.

But there are a few in CBC who are still here, waiting by faith, and standing on the promises. By doing so they put their trust in God that He will deliver again.