

Passover

For indeed, Christ our Passover, was sacrificed for us.—I Corinthians 5:7b

Monday is the first day of spring, 2017, you may not be able to tell from the cold weather and freezing rain. To me a certain sign of spring is preparation for Easter. Even the fact that the crucifixion and resurrection were in the spring was not controlled by man. The crucifixion was associated with the Passover. I am so thankful that God gave us the image of the Passover to point to Christ.

As God was about to deliver the Hebrews from the bondage of the Egyptians, God was about to deliver us from the bondage of sin. In both instances, God provided a means to escape death. A lamb without spot or blemish was to be sacrificed for the Passover and they were delivered by applying the blood. Christ is the lamb of God without sin and we are delivered by applying His blood. Christ gave the ultimate sacrifice shedding His blood for my sin.

The Passover marked new beginnings for the Jews as they were leaving Egypt and headed to the Promised Land. The shedding of Christ's blood on the cross and the resurrection marks new beginnings for us in that the law was complete, the church age begins, and for those who accept Christ's sacrifice it means new life.

There are similarities in man's response. The Jews had to believe and trust God's provision. They had to obey His way and apply the blood. The believer has to trust God's provision in Christ's sacrifice and obey His way as the only way of salvation. It isn't sufficient to know Christ died on the cross, we must recognize our inability to save ourselves and personally appropriate Christ's *shedding of His blood for the remission of our sins*.