INTRODUCTION

The instructions have been given to Moses for the Israelites to follow and they will come out of Egypt unscathed and unharmed. Each year the people would pause to remember the day when God’s angel of death (the Destroyer) passed over their homes. And “Passover” became an Annual remembrance of how God delivered the Hebrews from Egypt. They gave thanks to God for saving them from death and bringing them out of a land of slavery and sin.

CHAPTER 12:23-28

12:23 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. Moses is still talking with all the elders of Israel telling them that the Lord will pass through to strike the Egyptians. And because of the blood upon their lintel and door posts, He will see the blood, and pass over the door, and not permit the destroyer to enter into their houses to strike them.

12:24 And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever. The Passover was to be observed as a permanent law for the Israelites and their sons forever.

12:25 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. For the day will come when all of them will come into the land the Lord promised, and they are not to look at it as just as a departure from one land to enter another land, but to keep the religious service (the celebration of the Passover) which has more meaning.

12:26 And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service?— The day will come when the Hebrew children will ask an important question: what is the meaning of this service? - The Passover. Yes, generations who are not familiar with the family’s traditions, would need to know of God’s commandment and be reminded of their family’s struggle and deliverance.

12:27 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. Moses makes it known to the elders of Israel what they are to tell their children: "This is the sacrifice of the Lord’s Passover, that is, He is the one who passed over our houses in Egypt and did not kill any of our people, but He killed the Egyptian’s" (firstborn). At this time the people began to bow their heads and worship God. They will be able to tell their children when they ask what this ceremony is about. And by observing this service, they are to begin to testify what had happened.
12:28 And the children of Israel went away, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they. The orders of the Lord were carried out as He commanded Moses and Aaron to the children of Israel.

LESSON: I. JUDGMENT ON EGYPT

EXODUS 12:29-36

12:29 And it came to pass, that at midnight the Lord smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. It was official now, that at midnight all over the land of Egypt, the Lord killed the firstborn (the oldest) starting with Pharaoh’s firstborn that sat on his throne, to the firstborn of the captive (prisoner) in the dungeon (prison), and all the firstborn of cattle. All were affected; no home or stable were immune from the wrath of a Holy God! This was the tenth and last Plague released by God upon the Egyptians (11-12).

12:30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead. The Lord’s Death Angel came to Pharaoh’s firstborn, all his servants’ firstborn, and all the Egyptians’ firstborn, causing them to rise up in the night, for a mighty cry in Egypt awakened everyone. Every house was affected by death, and they began to witness their firstborn dead by the mighty hand of God.

12:31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the Lord, as ye have said. A change of heart had come over Pharaoh which made him call Moses and Aaron by night. They were not to waste any time, just rise up and get out from among the Egyptian people. Moses and Aaron and the children of Israel are now able and are being released to go serve the Lord, as they had requested.

12:32 Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also. Now, Pharaoh understands because at first he didn’t want them to take any of the flocks and herds anywhere, but now, he’s saying take your flocks and your herds and be gone; and also don’t forget to bless him.

12:33 And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men. And all the Egyptians joined in to help the Israelites leave quickly for they expressed –”We be all dead men; or as good as dead.”

12:34 And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders. The time had come that Moses had already talked about. The dough didn’t have time to rise or ferment, which symbolized the unleavened—or the spiritual meaning purification or no sin. They snatched up the unleavened dough which was in their kneading troughs and wrapped them up in their spare clothes, placing them upon their shoulders. A "kneading trough" was a vessel made of wood, bronze, or pottery used for kneading their dough; working it in a well-mixed mass in preparation for baking. Bread was used by mixing water and flour in the trough with a small piece of leaven saved from bread dough made the day before. After the dough was mixed, the piece of leaven placed in the dough would ferment and make it rise, but they left before it was leavened. So, bread was basic to life, and it was vital for them to bring the trough along, for it was easily carried over their shoulders.
12:35 And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:— The Israelites followed the instructions of Moses. This word translated "borrowed", here, has a number of meanings. One meaning is "request"; another is "demand." Some milder words it could be translated are ask, require, obtain, and wish. You can see from all these possibilities of translations that these Egyptians, probably, knew that these were not to be returned. This was, probably, like back pay these people had not received during their years of servant toil. So, the children of Israel asked for ornaments and vessels of silver and gold and for garments and clothing.

12:36 And the Lord gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians. And it was the Lord who gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. The Egyptians were happy to give them these things to be rid of them. The Israelites took away the Egyptians' wealth. The Lord had told Moses that this would happen. (3:21-22).

II. DELIVERANCE FOR ISRAEL EXODUS 12:37-42

12:37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children. Rameses was a main city of Goshen, where the Israelites had lived, while they stayed in Egypt. So, 600,000 men of Israel on foot journeyed from Rameses to Succoth. This did not count or adjust for any of the children or women. So, there would be more than 600,000 to travel out. Succoth would be the first place of encampment the Israelites would reach after leaving Rameses in Egypt.

12:38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle. A crowd of mixed ancestry went: The Pharaoh had opened his gates to let the Hebrews leave, and in so doing, probably released other nationalities with them, in fear that he might not let all the Israelites go. At any rate, they were people who were not the children of Israel (strangers). This was undoubtedly a vast amount of humanity and animals (sheep, goats and cows) leaving Egypt.

12:39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual. Seeing they had left Egypt in a hurry, they brought unleavened cakes of the dough in which they had baked, for there was no time to prepare any other food for themselves. The unleavened bread was flat because the dough had no time to rise.

12:40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years. The period of the children of Israel's stay in Egypt was 430yrs.

12:41 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. At the end of 430yrs and to the day, that all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt. God's prediction to Abraham was that his descendants (seed) would be a stranger in a foreign land, serve the foreigners, and
be afflicted by them four hundred years (Gen.15:13).

12:42 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. This was their "Exodus" which meant "going out." The Israelite people were led out of Egypt by God using Moses as their leader. This night was selected by the Lord to bring His people out from the land of Egypt; so the same night was selected as the date of the annual celebration of God's deliverance (TLB) of His people.

**SUMMARY:**

It was official, at midnight all over the land of Egypt, the Lord killed the firstborn (the oldest) starting with Pharaoh’s firstborn that sat on his throne, to the firstborn of the captive (prisoner) in the dungeon (prison), and all the firstborn of cattle. The Lord’s Death Angel came to Pharaoh’s firstborn, all his servants’ firstborn, and all the Egyptians’ firstborn, causing them to rise up in the night, for a mighty cry in Egypt awakened everyone. Every house was affected by death, and they began to witness their firstborn dead by the mighty hand of God. A change of heart had come over Pharaoh which made him call Moses and Aaron by night. They were not to waste any time, just rise up and get out from among the Egyptian people. Now, Pharaoh understands because at first he didn’t want them to take any of the flocks and herds anywhere, but now, he’s saying take your flocks and your herds and be gone; and also don’t forget to bless him. And all the Egyptians joined in to help the Israelites to leave quickly for they expressed —"We be all dead men; or as good as dead." They snatched up the unleavened dough and their kneading troughs and wrapped them up in their spare clothes, placing them upon their shoulders. The Israelites followed the instructions of Moses, borrowing of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment. The Lord gave the Israelites favor in the sight of the Egyptians, and they were happy to give them these things, to be rid of them (12:29-36).

So, 600,000 men of Israel on foot journeyed from Rameses to Succoth. This did not count or adjust for any of the children or women; so there were more of a vast amount of humanity and animals (sheep, goats and cows) leaving Egypt. Seeing they had left Egypt in a hurry, they brought unleavened cakes of the dough in which they had baked, for there was no time to prepare any other food for themselves. The period of the children of Israel’s stay in Egypt was 430yrs. At the end of 430yrs and to the day, that all the hosts of the Lord went out from the land of Egypt. This was their "Exodus" which meant "going out." This night was selected by the Lord to bring His people out from the land of Egypt; so the same night was selected as the date of the annual celebration of God’s deliverance of His people (12:37-42).