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Last time we introduced the theme of redemption in Exodus as a drama. The principal players are Moses and JEHOVAH. Of course the Israelites are in this drama – they are the beneficiaries of redemption. The Pharaoh figures significantly into this drama as the oppressor of the LORD's people. So we have this drama set up as the following:

- JEHOVAH, the Redeemer who delivers the Israelites from Egypt with great signs and wonders
- Moses, the means through which JEHOVAH works. In many ways, as we have previously learned, Moses pre-figures Jesus Christ the man.
- Pharaoh, the oppressor is determined to keep Israel enslaved. He has become the figure of Satan in many Bible studies. He lets Israel go only when his most precious his firstborn is killed on the night of the Passover.
- The Israelites, the LORD's people. After 430 years the LORD delivers on His promise and hears the cries of His people the descendants of Abraham these people are to be the fulfillment of God's promise that out of Abraham's loins would come a might nation to great to be numbered (as the stars in the sky <u>Genesis 18:16-19; 15:5</u>). They would be the blessings of all nations (see 18:18). Know this: that this blessing would come through the plan of redemption where all the nations would come to the LORD because of the saving work of Jesus Christ the Redeemer (<u>Isa 62:2</u>).

Last time we studied that the LORD was going to bring to His people new meaning to His name: Abraham knew Him as God the Almighty – El Shaddal.<sup>1</sup> But we advance another step in the LORD's relationship with His people – that of personal relationship. True, Abraham and for that matter the other patriarchs enjoyed a personal relationship with God but the Israelites were about to be introduced to a new level in their relationship – the means to get to know the LORD on a personal basis. This is the story of redemption. Not only is the sinner delivered from sin but he is introduced to a life of intimacy with the LORD. Let's go on with this lesson.

## The Passover – an Eternal Lesson on Redemption.

Read <u>Exodus 12:1-28</u>. During the first 9 plagues of the LORD upon Egypt the Pharaoh was unmoved. He wasn't about to let the Israelites go out from under his oppressive rule. The LORD is now about to administer the final plague and judgement on Pharaoh – the killing of every firstborn in Egypt. This would include his firstborn son. The firstborn son is the heir of everything from the father. Pharaoh not only loved his son but looked to him to continue his legacy – there was much to lose should his son die.

The Passover literally means to be 'passed over.' As the historical account develops

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Shaddai comes from the root shadhadh which means to exert overwhelming power so as to destroy. It was this overwhelming force which the LORD has shown consistently on behalf of the three patriarchs as they stood firmly loyal and obedient to the might Sovereign of the universe – these comments lifted and loosely paraphrased from <u>THE COMPLETE BIBLICAL LIBRARY</u>, Exodus volume page 61.

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JEHOVAH gives Moses careful instruction so that the firstborn of the Israelites be spared the angel of death's visitation of judgement.

- All of Israel was to participate no exceptions. If a household is too small to have their own passover lamb they were to join up with another family.
- The animal must be a year-old male without blemish. It could be either a lamb or a goat.
- They are to be taken special care of after selection this carries special significance to me as during this time the animal becomes a significant part of family life and will become somewhat 'beloved.'
- The Passover lamb (we will use lamb from here on) will be slaughtered at twilight the night of Passover.
- The blood is to be splattered on the top and sides of the door frames of every household. Again, no exceptions.
- When the angel of death passes over the household with the splattered blood, he will pass over that household and thus, spare the firstborn from death.

And so the observance of the Passover comes into being. It has an eternal lesson to all of mankind. This is the final plague that



JEHOVAH is to inflict – only the firstborn of Israel is to be spared and then only the ones whose household has applied the blood of the Passover lamb on the doorframes of their homes. This points to the Passover Lamb Jesus Christ and was to be observed in remembrance of the Redemptive act of JEHOVAH in delivering Israel from Egypt. The *only* way for anyone to be delivered frm the oppression of sin is though the shed blood of the Lamb. Fro this point on Israel would remember the night as the night their nation was born.

## The Plunder of Egypt – Victory over Satan.

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. Exodus 12:36 (KJV).

Read also Ex 12:29-3:19. Finally Pharaoh was vanquished. JEHOVAH will have His way with the enemy. Many Bible students have dran a parallel between Egypt and the bondage of sin. Fact is, that Moses did lead JEHOVAH's people from Egypt's bondage – Jesus Christ will lead His people in victory from sin's bondage into a life of fellowship with Him.

## Paul's commentary on Christ's victory:

#### Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of his knowledge by us in every place. 2 Corinthians 2:14 (KJV).

The picture here is that of a Roman victory march through the streets of a Roman city. Jesus Christ is the victor over Satan. We will follow Him in this grand procession – just

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as that rag-tag body of Israelites did in victory from the bondage of sin into a new life of serving Him in faith.

#### The Passover explained (<u>Ex 12:7, 9-11;13:46</u>).

#### The Unleavened Bread (Ex 12:39, 13:7).

#### The Power of Redemption.

Just a comment before I introduce the next passage: if redemption could not plunder the riches of Satan – if redemption could not <u>deliver</u> God's people then redemption is merely an epiphany – a sudden realization of some idea that had not occurred to one. No. It is much more than an epiphany – it is the literal deliverance of an sinner from the grip and enslavement of sin into an eternal life of deliverance from sin and a life of fellowship with the LORD.

#### The Power of Redemption.

<sup>21</sup> And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: <sup>22</sup> He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people. Exodus 13:21-22 (KJV).

The glory was quite visible to the Israelites. They had taken the step of faith, however weak, and now He is leading them to freedom.

#### The Protection of Redemption.

And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them: Exodus 14:19 (KJV). Also:

<sup>13</sup> And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever. <sup>14</sup> The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace. Exodus 14:13-14 (KJV).

The enemy would not give up and neither will Satan. The sight must have been thrilling for those whose faith was resting entirely on the LORD. There they were ready for the great Exodus – the Blory of the LORD stood between them and the enemy. There JEHOVAH stood between His people and the enemy protecting them. What imagry! The LORD always stands between us and our difficulties – we need to remember that when we are in the middle of our difficulties He is there to protect us. Remember this – the battle is the LORD's. Salvation depends not on our own efforts – whether it is for the salvation of our souls or if it is the deliverance through some very difficult times – the battle is the LORD's not ours.

#### The Final Conquest of the Enemy.

<sup>29</sup> But the children of Israel walked upon dry land in the midst of the sea; and the waters were a wall unto them on their right hand, and on their left.
<sup>30</sup> Thus the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians;

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# and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the sea shore. <sup>31</sup> And Israel saw that great work which the LORD did upon the Egyptians: and the people feared the LORD, and believed the LORD, and his servant Moses. Exodus 14:29-31 (KJV).

The defeat of Pharaoh was complete. Egypt was in ruins both militarily and economically. Their might army – the army that kept Pharaoh in power was gone – the slavery of the Israelites the basis for the Egyptian economy was gone along with the plundered riches – riches of which we have no idea of the magnitude. Remember this – Israel had much gold and jewels after they had left Egypt.

Satan is similarly defeated and vanquished. The very people he had planned on to be God's enemy is now through redemption *his* enemy – the very people he had planned on being his enslaved people are now free to love and to willingly serve the LORD.