

## **THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON**

**DATE:** November 9, 2014

**SUBJECT: THE TRAVELS OF THE CHOSEN CHILDREN OF ISRAEL: The Passover**

**SCRIPTURE:** Exodus 11:1-10; 12:1-51; Deuteronomy 6:20-25

**AIM:** To see that our trustworthy and all-sufficient God desires to carry out His promises to us and to deliver us, however; we need to learn to obey Him and follow His instructions carefully.

**MEMORY VERSES TO CHOOSE FROM:** Exodus 12:28 (And the children of Israel went and did so; just as Jehovah had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.); Psalm 119:105 (Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path.); John 1:29 (The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!)

**SUGGESTED SONGS:** #136 Thou Will Show Me the Path of Life; #153 Obey His Call; #7604 (Bible Story Songs - Moses 1 - We Will Go); #6729 (Bible Story Songs - Moses 1 - Time for Departure); #6415 (Bible Story Songs - Moses 1 - Strike the Blood); #6702 (Bible Story Songs - Moses 1 - The All Sufficient God); #3443 (Bible Story Songs - Moses 1 - It Was at Midnight); #8308 (Bible Story Songs – Moses 2 - Do All Things Without Murmuring); #8322 (Bible Story Songs – Moses 1-God Doesn't Wait for Those Who Stay in Bed)

**BACKGROUND/REVIEW:** In the past two lessons, we have seen nine plagues brought upon Pharaoh and the land of Egypt by Jehovah. [Teachers can ask the children if they remember what the nine plagues are.] Even though the plagues were so severe, Pharaoh still would not let the children of Israel go. In this week's lesson, we will see the tenth plague brought upon Pharaoh and the land of Egypt.

**CONTENT:** Jehovah told Moses that He would bring one more plague upon Pharaoh and upon Egypt. And Moses told Pharaoh about this plague. At midnight Jehovah would go out into the midst of Egypt. All the firstborn in the land of Egypt would die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh to the firstborn of the female slave and all the firstborn of cattle. There would be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt. Then all the servants of Pharaoh would come to Moses and tell him to get out—him and all the people who follow him—after that Moses would go out. After talking to Pharaoh, Moses went out from him in hot anger. Jehovah then told Moses that Pharaoh would not listen to him, in order that Jehovah's wonders would be multiplied in the land of Egypt.

Then Jehovah spoke to Moses and Aaron. They should tell all the assembly of Israel that on the tenth of the month each man should take a lamb, a lamb for a household. The lamb should be without blemish, a year-old male. They should keep it until the fourteenth day of the month. Then the whole congregation should kill it at twilight. They should take some of the blood of the lamb and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses in which they ate it. They should eat the flesh in that night, roasted with fire and they should eat it with unleavened bread with bitter herbs. They should eat it with loins girded, sandals on their feet, staffs in their hands and they should eat it in haste. This was Jehovah's passover. Jehovah would pass through the land of Egypt on that night and would strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast. But the blood would be a sign upon the houses of the children of Israel. When Jehovah saw the blood, He would pass over them.

Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and told them to take lambs according to their families, and slaughter the passover. They should apply some of the blood to the lintel and to the two doorposts. None of them should go outside of his house until the morning. Jehovah would pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when He saw the blood upon the lintel and on the two doorposts, He would pass over the entrance and would not allow the destroyer to come into their houses to smite them. The people bowed and worshipped. **And the children of Israel went and did so; just as Jehovah had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.** At midnight Jehovah struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh to the firstborn of

the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of cattle. And Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was no house where there was not someone dead. Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in the night and told them to go out from the midst of his people. They should take their children and their flocks and their herds and go and serve Jehovah. The Egyptians urged the people on. They wanted them to leave quickly, for they said, “All of us will be dead.”

The children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides children. And a mixed multitude went up also with them, as well as flocks and herds, a very large number of livestock. And they baked the dough which they brought out of Egypt into unleavened cakes, for it had not been leavened because they were driven out of Egypt and could not delay; nor had they prepared for themselves any provision. The children of Israel had stayed in Egypt four hundred thirty years. And at the end of four hundred thirty years, on that very day, all the armies of Jehovah went out from the land of Egypt.

#### **APPLICATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM:**

- Our God is trustworthy. The All-Sufficient God appeared to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and promised to give the promised land to His people (Deuteronomy 6:23). He kept his covenant with His people by delivering them from their burdens and bondage. He is constantly watching over us (Exodus 12:42). We may feel like we are having a hard time, but we can be assured that God hears our prayers and is trustworthy.
- God gave the children of Israel specific instructions concerning what they should do (i.e. stay in the house, put blood on the post, feast on the roasted lamb, put shoes on their feet, hold a staff in their hands, be ready to leave at His command, without delay). All those who obeyed Him and followed His instructions carefully were brought through safely by Him (Deuteronomy 6:24). The night of the Passover was a “night of watching” to Jehovah for all the children of Israel who cooperated (Exodus 12:42). In contrast, all those (including Pharaoh), who refused to listen to God, were touched by the tenth plague.
- Our God is persistent. Neither God nor Moses gave up. God sent Moses to Pharaoh multiple times requesting that the children of Israel be freed to hold a feast unto God. Eventually, God prevailed.
- If a household was small, the children of Israel were instructed to share a lamb with their neighbors (Exodus 12:4). We can share the Lord not only with our family members but also with our neighbors.
- Our God is merciful. He gives us many new beginnings (Exodus 12:2).
- **For older children:** The story of the Passover is a picture from God’s word that shows us God’s judgment upon all who sin. But more importantly, it also shows us that God has established a way of salvation or escape from this judgment. Every household that put the blood of the lamb on their doorposts was saved. When the Lord saw the blood, He passed over that household. The lamb in this story is also a picture, a symbol of the Lord Jesus. In the New Testament, the Lord Jesus is referred to as the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29). He was the Lamb without blemish, without spot—sinless and perfect. He was killed on the cross where His blood was shed. Now today, all of us can believe in the Lord Jesus!

Adapted from *Bringing Children from Adam to Christ in God’s Economy*—Vol. 4, *The Travels of the Chosen Children of Israel*, Lesson 2, and from the Church in New York City’s Children’s meeting lessons: 6/5/88; 10/29/95; 11/2/03, 11/08/09