

# God Rescues His People

Date: 8.02.2026 | The Final Plague: The Passover  
Scripture: Exodus 11-12:36

## CENTRAL TRUTHS



### PRESCHOOL:

God kept His people safe and rescued them.

### YOUNGER KIDS (K5-2ND GRADE):

God told His people to trust and obey Him, and He rescued them through the Passover lamb.

### OLDER KIDS (3RD-5TH GRADE):

God rescued His people from judgment and slavery through the blood of the Passover lamb when they trusted and obeyed Him.

### STUDENTS:

God demonstrated His justice and mercy by sparing those covered by the blood of the lamb and delivering His people from slavery, pointing forward to His greater plan of redemption.

### ADULTS:

God reveals both His righteous judgment against sin and His merciful provision of salvation through a substitute sacrifice. By the blood of the lamb, God redeemed His covenant people from slavery, foreshadowing the ultimate redemption accomplished through Jesus Christ, the true Passover Lamb.

## MEMORY VERSE

*And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew. Exodus 2:24-25*



## DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

*Why must Jesus be sinless? Jesus was God's true sacrifice for sin. Upon seeing Jesus, John the Baptist used the words of the sin-offering and Passover sacrifice when he said "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" Jesus' perfect obedience to the law and the will of God qualified him to be the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for all human sin. - Robert D. Culver, Systematic Theology, 521.*



## BACKGROUND INFO FOR LEADERS

In *Exodus 5–10*, we saw Pharaoh repeatedly refuse to obey God's command to let the Israelites go free. Even after witnessing nine devastating plagues, Pharaoh continued hardening his heart against the Lord. Through the plagues, God demonstrated His complete power over Pharaoh, Egypt, and all of Egypt's false gods. The Israelites learned that Yahweh is the true Deliverer and Savior, while Egypt learned that God is the righteous Judge over all the earth.

Up to this point, Pharaoh had continually responded to Moses with pride and defiance, just as God said he would. It took a series of terrible plagues to bring Egypt to its knees, yet Pharaoh still refused to release the Israelites from slavery. Because Pharaoh continued rejecting God's warnings and hardening his heart, one final plague would come upon Egypt as God's judgment. This tenth plague would bring death to every firstborn male in the land and would finally convince Pharaoh to let Israel go.

In *Exodus 11:1*, God told Moses that He would bring "one more plague" upon Pharaoh and Egypt. After this final judgment, Pharaoh would not only let the Israelites leave—he would drive them out completely. Moses warned that at midnight the Lord would pass through Egypt, and every firstborn male would die, from the firstborn son of Pharaoh to the firstborn of servants and even livestock (*Exodus 11:4-6*). There would be great mourning throughout Egypt, unlike anything the nation had ever experienced. But God also promised to make a distinction between Egypt and Israel and to protect His people.

Before this final plague came, God gave the Israelites very specific instructions. In *Exodus 12:1-11*, God told every household to take a lamb without blemish, a one-year-old male with no defects. If a family was too small, they could share a lamb with another household. The lamb was to be killed on the fourteenth day of the month. Then the

Israelites were to spread the lamb's blood on the doorposts and lintel of their homes.

God also instructed the people to prepare and eat a special meal that night. They were to eat the roasted lamb with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. They were to eat quickly, dress, and be ready to leave, with their sandals on and staffs in hand. God was preparing His people for their rescue from Egypt.

God declared that He would pass through Egypt that night and strike down every firstborn male and animal in the land. But the blood on the doorframes would serve as a sign. Wherever God saw the blood, He would "pass over" that home, and those inside would be spared from judgment (*Exodus 12:12-13*). God did not save people simply because they were Israelites, nor did He judge people simply because they were Egyptians. Anyone under the covering of the blood would be spared.

The Passover was all about substitution and sacrifice. A lamb died so that the firstborn inside the home could live. The blood of the lamb became the sign of rescue and protection from judgment. Because of the importance of this event, God commanded Israel to celebrate the Passover every year as a lasting reminder of His salvation and deliverance (*Exodus 12:24*).

God also established the Feast of Unleavened Bread alongside the Passover celebration. For seven days each year, the Israelites would eat unleavened bread to remember how quickly God brought them out of Egypt. These celebrations would help future generations remember the Lord's faithfulness and rescue.

Moses obeyed God and gathered the elders of Israel to explain everything the Lord had commanded. He instructed them to choose a Passover lamb for each household and use hyssop branches to spread the blood on their doorframes. Moses explained that when future generations asked about the meaning of the Passover, they were to tell their children how the Lord passed over the homes of Israel while striking Egypt in judgment. The people worshipped the Lord and obeyed His instructions.

At midnight, exactly as God had promised, the Lord passed through Egypt. Every Egyptian household experienced death, from Pharaoh's palace to the homes of prisoners and servants. There was loud weeping and mourning throughout the entire land because every

home had lost someone. But among the Israelites, every house covered by the blood of the lamb was protected.

This final plague completely broke Pharaoh's resistance. Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron during the night and commanded the Israelites to leave Egypt immediately (*Exodus 12:31-32*). The Egyptians, desperate for the Israelites to leave, gave them silver, gold, and clothing. Instead of leaving Egypt as defeated slaves, the Israelites departed with riches like a victorious nation, exactly as God had promised. Many other people also left Egypt with Israel.

Through these events, Israel came to know God as Deliverer and Redeemer, while Egypt came to know Him as Judge. There was no middle ground. God proved that He alone is the true God who saves His people and judges sin. Moses also continued to grow in his role as Israel's leader, learning to trust God's promises even when he did not fully understand God's timing or plans.

The Passover points directly to Jesus Christ and the salvation He brings. Just as the blood of the lamb protected the Israelites from judgment and brought them out of slavery, Jesus—the perfect Lamb of God—shed His blood on the cross to rescue sinners from slavery to sin and death. The Israelites were saved by faith through the blood of a substitute, and we are saved through faith in Jesus Christ, our perfect substitute and Savior. God's rescue in Exodus points forward to the even greater rescue accomplished through Jesus' death and resurrection.

## TELL THE STORY

### *Exodus 11-12:36*



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After nine terrible plagues, Pharaoh still refused to let the Israelites leave Egypt. Again and again, God showed His power over Egypt, Pharaoh, and all of Egypt's false gods, but Pharaoh continued to harden his heart. Even though Egypt was suffering greatly, Pharaoh stubbornly refused to obey God's command to let His people go free.

Then God told Moses that one final plague was coming. After this plague, Pharaoh would finally force the Israelites to leave Egypt.

Moses warned Pharaoh about what would happen. God said that at midnight, every firstborn son in Egypt would die—from Pharaoh's family all the way to the servants and prisoners. There would be crying and sadness throughout all of Egypt, unlike anything they had ever experienced before.

But God also promised to protect His people.

Before the plague came, God gave Moses and Aaron special instructions for the Israelites. Every family was to choose a lamb. The lamb had to be one year old and without any defects. If a family was too small, they could share a lamb with another family.

God told the people to kill the lamb and spread its blood on the tops and sides of their doorframes. Then they were to roast and eat the lamb with bitter herbs and bread made without yeast.

The Israelites were not supposed to relax and take their time eating. God told them to eat dressed and ready to travel—with sandals on their feet, belts fastened, and staffs in their hands. God was about to rescue them from Egypt.

Then God explained why the blood was so important. That night, the Lord would pass through Egypt in judgment. Every house without the blood on the doorposts would experience death. But when God saw the blood on the doorframe, He would “pass over” that house, and everyone inside would be safe.

The blood of the lamb became the sign of rescue.

God also told the Israelites to celebrate this event every year from then on. The celebration would be called Passover because the Lord passed over the homes covered by the blood. They would also celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread to remember how quickly God brought them out of Egypt.

Moses gathered the leaders of Israel and explained everything God had commanded. The people obeyed and worshipped the Lord.

Then the night finally came.

At midnight, God passed through Egypt just as He had promised. Every Egyptian home experienced death. From Pharaoh's palace to the homes of servants and prisoners, there was crying and mourning

throughout the land because every family had lost someone.

But every home covered by the blood of the lamb was protected.

That same night, Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and finally said, “Go!” Pharaoh told the Israelites to leave Egypt immediately.

The Egyptians were so desperate for the Israelites to leave that they gave them silver, gold, clothing, and many valuable things. Instead of escaping like defeated slaves, the Israelites marched out of Egypt like a victorious people. Many other people left Egypt with them.

God had kept every promise He made. He rescued His people from slavery and showed that He alone is the one true God.

The Passover points us to Jesus. Just as the blood of the lamb protected the Israelites from judgment, Jesus shed His blood on the cross to save us from sin and death. Jesus is the perfect Lamb of God who rescues everyone who trusts in Him.

## REBUILD THE STORY

1. After the first nine plagues, how did Pharaoh continue to respond to God’s command to let the Israelites go? (*Exodus 10:27-29*)
2. What did God say would happen during the final plague in Egypt? (*Exodus 11:4-6*)
3. How did God promise to protect the Israelites from the final plague? (*Exodus 12:1-13*)
4. What instructions did God give the Israelites for preparing and eating the Passover meal? (*Exodus 12:8-11*)
5. What did the blood on the doorposts mean, and what would happen when the Lord saw the blood? (*Exodus 12:12-13*)
6. What special celebration did God establish for Israel to remember His rescue from Egypt? (*Exodus 12:14-20, 24-27*)



7. What happened throughout Egypt at midnight during the final plague? (*Exodus 12:29-30*)
8. How did Pharaoh respond after the death of the firstborn, and what happened when the Israelites left Egypt? (*Exodus 12:31-36*)
9. Why do you think Pharaoh was so stubborn about letting Israel go, even after seeing God's power through the plagues?
10. The Israelites had to trust God's instructions about the blood on the doorposts to be saved. What does this teach us about faith and obedience to God?
11. God wanted Israel to remember the Passover every year. Why is it important for God's people to remember what He has done for them? How can we remember God's faithfulness today?
12. The Passover lamb died so the people inside the house could be saved from death. How is Jesus like the Passover lamb, and how does His death on the cross rescue us from sin and give us eternal life?

### **GOSPEL EMPHASIS**

God often teaches us through pictures and foreshadowing in His Word. Earlier in Genesis, we saw how Abraham's offering of Isaac pointed forward to God's sacrifice of His own Son, Jesus, on our behalf. In Exodus, we see another powerful picture of salvation through the Passover and the rescue from Egypt. The blood of the Passover lamb protected God's people from judgment and delivered them from slavery, pointing forward to Jesus Christ, the perfect Lamb of God, whose blood alone provides salvation from sin and death. The Exodus becomes the great Old Testament picture of redemption—a dramatic foreshadowing of the greater rescue Jesus would accomplish through His death and resurrection.



In *Exodus 1–15*, God steps directly into human history to continue fulfilling the covenant He made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

God saw His people suffering under brutal slavery in Egypt, and He moved in power to judge Egypt and rescue Israel. But God did not simply deliver His people out of slavery; He also called them into something greater. He called them to belong to Him as His covenant people and to journey toward the promised land. Along the way, God transformed Abraham's family into the nation of Israel.

In the same way, Jesus does not only rescue us from sin—He calls us into a new life as God's people. Through Christ, we are forgiven, rescued from slavery to sin, brought into God's family, and called to live for His glory. What has God delivered you from? What has God called you to?

### **WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE TEACH US ABOUT GOD?**

Use your Attributes of God poster as a guide.

### **PRAYER PROMPTS**

God, thank You for being our Deliverer and for rescuing Your people from slavery in Egypt through the blood of the Passover lamb. Thank You for sending Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God, whose blood rescues us from sin and gives us eternal life. Help us trust You, remember Your faithfulness, and live as Your people who are called to follow and worship You.



### **THIS WEEK'S BIBLE READING**

*Exodus 13-14*