

When the body of Christ commemorates Passover which is an everlasting ordinance based on Exodus 12:14, we are acknowledging before the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit that Jesus Christ (Yeshua) is our Passover Lamb and we have been made “righteous,” and we are “justified” by His precious blood.

And, for those who keep this day (Passover) which is to be commemorated as a “memorial” to honor the great sacrifice of our Passover Lamb—Jesus Christ, God writes (records) their name in His Book of Remembrance which shall be opened up on Judgment Day along with the Lamb’s Book of Life and other books (plural) as well. We are told in Revelation 20:12, the dead will be judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

Easter has nothing whatsoever to do with the death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord and Savior who is our Passover Lamb who shed His blood for us on Passover. And, Jesus told us to do this (commemorate Passover) in “remembrance” of Him based on what He did at Calvary when He shed His precious blood to establish the New Covenant (Luke 22:19 and 1 Corinthians 11:24–25). And, the apostle Paul tells us to keep this feast in First Corinthians 5:8 which is in the New Testament under the New Covenant.

In this teaching, we will discover why, for the most part, the body of Christ celebrates Easter instead of Passover and why we must return to keeping the commandments of our heavenly Father and our Lord Jesus Christ who being perfected by His obedience became the author of eternal salvation to those who “obey” Him (Hebrews 5:9).

Now let’s begin our journey to discover why we are to commemorate Passover instead of Easter.

## CHAPTER 59

### PASSOVER AND THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

**T**he very *first* holy convocation out of seven is the *seventh* day Sabbath which I already covered in-depth in the last chapter. Therefore, we will begin where we left off. In Leviticus 23:4, Moses is reiterating all seven of these holy convocations which are the feasts of the Lord for all His “covenant” people that we shall proclaim and keep at their “appointed” times. This is based on Leviticus 23:4, which says the following:

“These are the **FEASTS** <sup>(1)</sup> [H4150: *mō'éd*: (syn. congregation or seasons): an appointment, that is, a fixed time or season; specifically a *festival*; conventionally a *year*; by

implication, an *assembly* (as convened for a definite purpose); signal; appointed time or sign; solemn assembly; appointed season at a set (appointed) time] *of the LORD, HOLY* <sup>(2)</sup> [H6944: *qôdesh*: a *sacred* place or thing; consecrated (thing), dedicated (thing), hallowed (thing)] **CONVOICATIONS** <sup>(3)</sup> [H4744: *miqrâ*?: called out, that is, a public meeting or assembly for the purpose of a rehearsal, calling or reading] *which you shall PROCLAIM at their APPOINTED TIMES* <sup>(1)</sup> [H4150: *mô'éd*].” (Lev. 23:4, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Next, in Leviticus 23:5–8, Moses is talking about our heavenly Father’s *second* holy convocation of Passover, which is called the Feast of Unleavened Bread. This is based on Luke 22:1, which says, “*Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover.*” (NKJV)

## GOD’S SECOND HOLY CONVOCATION: PASSOVER AND THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD

When we commemorate Passover which is an *everlasting* ordinance based on Exodus 12:14, we are acknowledging before the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit that Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb and we have been made “righteous,” and we are “justified” by His precious blood.

This is based on Exodus 12:14, which says the following:

*“So this DAY [Passover] shall be to you a MEMORIAL; and you shall KEEP it as a FEAST TO THE LORD THROUGHOUT YOUR GENERATIONS. You shall KEEP it as a FEAST by an EVERLASTING ORDINANCE.”* (Exod. 12:14, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Our heavenly Father commands us to keep Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread in Leviticus 23:5–8, which says the following:

*“On the FOURTEENTH day of the FIRST MONTH at TWILIGHT is the LORD’S PASSOVER. And on the FIFTEENTH day of the SAME MONTH is the FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD to the LORD; SEVEN DAYS you must eat UNLEAVENED BREAD. On the FIRST DAY you shall have a HOLY* <sup>(2)</sup> [H6944: *qôdesh*: a *sacred* place or thing; consecrated (thing), dedicated (thing), hallowed (thing)] **CONVOICATION** <sup>(3)</sup> [H4744: *miqrâ*?: called out, that is, a public meeting or assembly for the purpose of a rehearsal, calling or reading]; *you shall do NO CUSTOMARY WORK ON IT. But you shall OFFER AN OFFERING MADE BY FIRE to the LORD for SEVEN DAYS. The SEVENTH DAY shall be a HOLY* <sup>(2)</sup> **CONVOICATION**; <sup>(3)</sup> *you shall do NO CUSTOMARY WORK ON IT.”* (Lev. 23:5–8, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Based on Leviticus 23:5–8, we are told Passover shall be commemorated on the fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) *day* of the *first* month at twilight, which is the beginning of the biblical New Year of *months*. This is based on Exodus 12:2, which says, “*This MONTH shall be your BEGINNING of MONTHS; it shall be the FIRST MONTH of THE YEAR to you.*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

Then on the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day of the *same* month, the Feast of Unleavened Bread commences for seven days. This is based on the following Scriptures:

*“You shall keep the FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD (you shall eat unleavened bread SEVEN DAYS, as I commanded you, at the TIME APPOINTED in the MONTH of ABIB, for in it you came out of Egypt; none shall appear before Me empty)...”* (Exod. 23:15, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*“The FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD you shall keep. SEVEN DAYS you shall eat unleavened bread, as I commanded you, in the APPOINTED TIME of the MONTH of ABIB; for in the MONTH of ABIB you came out from Egypt.”* (Exod. 34:18, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*“And on the FIFTEENTH DAY of the SAME MONTH is the FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD to the Lord; SEVEN DAYS you must eat unleavened bread.”* (Lev. 23:6, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Passover is when Jesus Christ, “our” perfect Passover Lamb who is without spot or blemish was sacrificed on the cross at Calvary. Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed His precious blood for the redemption of sins for all mankind and to seek and to save that *which* was lost from the first Adam’s transgression—referred to as “the fall” (Luke 19:10). Jesus died to bring us back into walking in a covenant relationship with our heavenly Father, *Yehôvâh*, (Yahweh [YHWH]) who is God, our Creator—*’Elohîym*. He is the Creator of the heavens and the earth, including us, His created.

Moreover, the Feast of Unleavened Bread represents Jesus, who is the *Bread of Life*, who was without sin. Yet He was willing to pay the bride-price set forth by His and our heavenly Father for our sins on the cross at Calvary. Thus, He did away with the “curse” of the law we would have received for not keeping the *letter of the law*.

It was during the Feast of Unleavened Bread Jesus was buried in the tomb, and He was resurrected three “days” and three “nights” later from the heart of the earth based on Matthew 12:38–42.

This was the “sign” Jesus said He would give to an evil and adulterous generation who seeks after a sign, and no “sign” would be given to it except the “sign” of the prophet Jonah which would prove He is indeed our Messiah. Yet Christendom “erroneously” proclaims Jesus died on Good Friday and was resurrected two days later on Sunday the *first* day of the week. This is impossible based on the fact we are specifically told Jesus would be in the heart of the earth for a full three “days” and three “nights” which proves this is a false teaching.

Moreover, the mere fact Jesus was without sin and took all of our sins upon Himself when He died on the cross, and He was resurrected three “days” and three “nights” later from the grave is what gives believers in Him our “blessed hope” of eternal life.

Therefore, both Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread are extremely relevant to believers under the New Covenant.

In addition, the apostle Paul tells us in the New Testament to keep Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread which is our heavenly Father’s *second* holy convocation based on Leviticus Chapter 23. Later on, in this chapter, I will convey this fact in-depth.

In fact, Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread was observed and kept by Jesus and His early disciples in the New Testament based on the following Scriptures:

Matthew 26:2; Matthew 26:17–19; Mark 14:12–16; Luke 2:41–42; Luke 22:1–6; Luke 22:7–20; John 2:13; John 2:23; John 6:4–14; John 13:1–30; 1 Corinthians 5:6–8; 1 Corinthians 11:23–29; Acts 18:21, and Acts 20:6.

Therefore, if Jesus and His early disciples, including the apostle Paul, kept Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread and they told us to do so as well, then we need to find out why believers in the body of Christ celebrate Easter instead.

## **EASTER WAS ESTABLISHED BY CONSTANTINE AND THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Unfortunately, for the most part, we either do not understand what Jesus and His early disciples, including the apostle Paul, is talking about because we disregard the front of the Bible due to what we have been taught by our early church fathers or spiritual leaders. Or, we justify why we would prefer to celebrate Easter which was instituted long ago by the Roman Catholic Church which began under Constantine. They established this holiday called Easter due to the following two reasons:

### **1. Anti-Semitism.**

2. They compromised the Word of God in order to appease and win over Gentile converts to Christianity who were used to celebrating pagan “customs” and “traditions” that are based on the “doctrines” of men.

In other words, our early church fathers had no problem compromising the Word of God by mixing the holy things of God with the unholy things of this world based on the “traditions,” “customs,” and “doctrines” of men that are rooted in the occult.

In fact, this practice continues to this *very* day because the majority of believers in the body of Christ are celebrating Easter instead of Passover based on our heavenly Father’s commandments.

Easter is not in our Bible because an egg-laying rabbit has nothing to do with the death, resurrection, or ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Nor, does worshipping Ishtar—the goddess of love, war, and sex. Easter was a day that commemorated the resurrection of one of their gods—Tammuz who was believed to be the only begotten son of the moon-goddess and the sun-god. Read Ezekiel Chapter 8 to understand about the abominations which were practiced in God’s Temple. Two of these abominations are as follows:

1. Women were weeping for Tammuz, which is where the forty days of Lent comes from leading up to Easter (Ezekiel 8:13–14).
2. Men had their backs toward the Temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east, and they were worshiping the sun toward the east (Ezekiel 8:15–16).

When we celebrate Easter which was a day that commemorated the resurrection of one of their gods—Tammuz who was believed to be the only begotten son of the moon-goddess and the sun-god, and we practice Lent which is a time of fasting and weeping for Tammuz and we say we are doing it for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, it is an abomination to the Lord.

Again, Easter has nothing whatsoever to do with the death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord and Savior who is our Passover Lamb who shed His blood for us on Passover. And, He told us to do this (commemorate Passover) in “remembrance” of Him based on what He did at Calvary when He shed His precious blood to establish the New Covenant (Luke 22:19 and 1 Corinthians 11:24–25).

Let me ask you a question. When was Jesus crucified, resurrected, and ascended into heaven where He is now seated at the right hand of our heavenly Father?

The answer is over two thousand years ago at Passover is when Jesus was crucified. On that particular Passover, Jesus died on a Wednesday. He did not die on Friday, especially not on “Good Friday.” He was in the heart of the earth for three “days” and three “nights” during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. He was resurrected on the third day at twilight on the weekly *seventh* day Sabbath. And, He was the *firstfruits*

of the dead when He ascended into heaven on Sunday, the first day of the week. He ascended up to heaven the day *after* the weekly *seventh* day Sabbath during the Feast of Firstfruits. He was offered to God, the Father, as a *firstfruits* wave offering of all the *firstfruits* of the dead of those who are Christ's at His second coming (1 Corinthians 15:23). Then fifty days later He poured out His Spirit during the Feast of Weeks (*Shavuot* or *Pentecost*).

All these holy convocations I just listed are our heavenly Father's *spring/early summer* feasts which are detailed in Leviticus Chapter 23. Yet you will not find Easter in the Bible.

Again, Constantine and the Roman Catholic Church had a hidden agenda to worship a "counterfeit" Jesus and to deceive the entire world into following doctrine which has its roots in occultism rather than based on the doctrine of Christ.

Thus, when we celebrate Easter, we are being "deceived" into actually *worshipping* the false god "Ishtar" who is the son of the moon-goddess and the sun-god instead of honoring our Passover Lamb—Jesus Christ who shed His precious blood for us like we are instructed to do based on the whole counsel of God's Word. And, as I have said before, but it bears repeating, the doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church is based on "sun" god worship. It is not based on worshipping the Son of God at all.

## THE APOSTLE PAUL TELLS US TO KEEP PASSOVER AND THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The apostle Paul tells us to keep Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread in First Corinthians 5:7–8, when he says the following:

*"Therefore purge out the old LEAVEN [symbolic of sin], that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed CHRIST, our PASSOVER [Lamb], was SACRIFICED for us. THEREFORE LET US KEEP the FEAST [of Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread], NOT with OLD LEAVEN, nor with the LEAVEN of MALICE and WICKEDNESS, but with the UNLEAVENED BREAD of SINCERITY and TRUTH." (1 Cor. 5:7–8, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

Listen carefully concerning what God's Word says about Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread the apostle Paul is talking about us keeping in First Corinthians 5:7–8. This is especially for those who believe under the New Covenant we no longer have to commemorate Passover. I am not sure how we can have this mindset based on this indisputable fact: Jesus Christ is our perfect Passover Lamb who shed His precious blood for us so our sins could be forgiven and we could be "restored" and "reconciled" back into a "covenant" relationship with our heavenly Father, *Yehováh*, who is God, our Creator—*'Elohíym*.

In the Book of Exodus, beginning in Chapter 12, *Yehováh* talks about Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread being instituted. However, for the sake of time, I shall get right to the point which is this: Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread is an *everlasting* “ordinance” which *Yehováh* confirmed to Jacob as an *everlasting* “covenant” for all Israel.

Again, as I clearly establish in Book 1 of *Who is Israel? Discovering Our True Identity in Jesus Christ and Why it Matters! The Foundation*, Israel refers to the land God promised to Abraham’s descendants. And, Israel refers to His “covenant” people. His “covenant” people are both the Jews from the House of Judah and those of us who were formerly Gentiles from the House of Israel (Jacob/Joseph/Ephraim) our heavenly Father established a New Covenant with. See Jeremiah 31:31–33 and Hebrews 8:7–13.

This New Covenant is only made possible with the shedding of the precious blood of Jesus—our Passover Lamb. Hence, our heavenly Father only has one “custom” and one “law” for all His covenant people. This is substantiated in Exodus 12:49, Leviticus 24:22, and Numbers 15:15–16. Thus, God does not have one set of instructions for the Jews from the House of Judah and another set of instructions for those of us who are from the House of Israel.

## PASSOVER IS AN EVERLASTING “ORDINANCE” AND IS A DAY WHICH SHALL BE A “MEMORIAL” FOR ALL GENERATIONS

*Elohým*, God our Creator, says to us in Exodus 12:14, we “shall” keep *this* day (Passover) as a “memorial” and we shall keep it as a feast. He is specifically referring to Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread which is an *everlasting* “ordinance” for all generations throughout the *synergy of the ages*. Our heavenly Father says to us in Exodus 12:14, the following:

*“So this DAY shall be to you a **MEMORIAL** <sup>(4)</sup> [H2146: *zikrôn*: a memento (or memorable thing, day or writing); record]; and you shall KEEP it as a **FEAST** <sup>(5)</sup> [H2282: *chág*: a festival, (solemn) feast (day); sacrifice, solemnity] to THE LORD THROUGHOUT YOUR GENERATIONS. You shall KEEP IT as a **FEAST** <sup>(6)</sup> [H2287: *chágag*: to observe a festival; by implication to be giddy: celebrate, dance, (keep, hold) a (solemn) feast (holiday)] by an **EVERLASTING** <sup>(7)</sup> [H5769: *’ólám*: perpetual; beginning of the world and is without end; eternity;] **ORDINANCE** <sup>(8)</sup> [H2708: *chuqqáh*: appointed custom or statute].” (Exod. 12:14, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

Do not dismiss the significance of the Hebrew meaning of the word “memorial” as used in Exodus 12:14, which is the Hebrew word “zikrôn” (pronounced “zik-rone”), which means the following: A *memento* (or memorable thing, day or writing); record.

Passover is a “memorial” which also is an *everlasting* “ordinance” throughout all our generations.

As such, do we realize our heavenly Father is “recording” in His Book of Remembrance those who keep Passover? He records those who reverentially fear Him and meditate on His name in this Book of Remembrance.

This Book of Remembrance will be opened up on Judgment Day along with the Lamb’s Book of Life where we shall all have to give an account to the only One who will render His final judgment. His final judgment He will render will determine if we spend eternity with Him or we will perish in hell because we have rejected His “eternal” Word and did not “obey” His commandments once we became saved by grace through faith.

The word “memorial” as used in Exodus 12:14, has the same exact meaning for the word “remembrance” as used in Malachi 3:16, concerning the Book of Remembrance. Malachi 3:16, says the following:

*“Then those who FEARED THE LORD spoke to one another, And the Lord LISTENED and HEARD them; So a BOOK of **REMEMBRANCE** <sup>(4)</sup> [H2146: *zīkrôn*: a memento (or memorable thing, day or writing); record] was **WRITTEN** <sup>(9)</sup> [H3789: *kâthab*: to grave; by implication to write (describe, inscribe, prescribe, subscribe); record or write] before Him FOR THOSE WHO FEAR THE LORD And WHO MEDITATE ON HIS NAME.” (Mal. 3:16, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

The Hebrew word and meaning for the word “written” as used in Malachi 3:16, is the same Hebrew word and has the same meaning concerning those who will receive the *spiritual* Mark of God versus those who will receive the *spiritual* Mark of the Beast “written” on their foreheads. I will cover this fact in-depth in Chapter 66.

As such, *if* we fear God, which is the beginning of wisdom and the knowledge of the Holy One of Israel, who is also our Supreme Court Judge in the Courtroom of Heaven, who will render His final verdict concerning where we will spend all “eternity” based on what is written (recorded) in the books (plural) that will be opened up on Judgment Day, then you might want to keep all His holy convocations, but especially Passover which Jesus told us to do in “remembrance” of Him.

When God’s “covenant” people commemorate and keep Passover in remembrance of what Jesus our “Passover Lamb” did for us at Calvary, we are proclaiming to God and to the great cloud of witnesses (the angels) we are “redeemed” by our “Passover Lamb” who was willing to shed His blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

In fact, this “act of worship” of honoring our “Passover Lamb” who was slain from the foundation of the world, is recorded in God’s Book of Remembrance, because Passover is to be an *everlasting* “memorial” for all eternity.

## JESUS TELLS US TO KEEP AND COMMEMORATE PASSOVER IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS GREAT SACRIFICE

Concerning us keeping *this* day of Passover as a “memorial” based on our heavenly Father’s *everlasting* “ordinance,” the significance for disciples of Jesus Christ under the New Covenant of obeying this commandment in Exodus 12:14, is directly related to what Jesus told us to “do” as a “memorial” to Him. Jesus explicitly tells us, His disciples, to “...*DO this in REMEMBRANCE of Me.*”

Listen to the words of our perfect “Passover Lamb” who was willing to shed His precious blood for us at Calvary on Passover. Jesus says to us in Luke 22:19–20, the following:

*“And He took BREAD, gave THANKS and BROKE it, and GAVE it to them [His disciples], saying, ‘This is My BODY which is GIVEN for you; DO THIS in REMEMBRANCE<sup>(10) (11)</sup> [G364: *anamnēsis*: recollection; G363: *anamimnēskō*: to remind; reflexively to recollect: call to mind] of ME.’ Likewise He also took the CUP<sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: *potērion*: a drinking vessel; lot or fate] after supper, saying, ‘This CUP<sup>(12)</sup> is the NEW COVENANT in My BLOOD, which is SHED for YOU.’” (Luke 22:19–20, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

As such, when our heavenly Father tells us in Exodus 12:14, *this* day, which is Passover, shall be a “memorial” and we shall keep it as a “feast” to the Lord throughout our generations it is for this reason: The definition of the word “memorial” is for the purpose of us focusing our memory on something or someone—usually a person who has died, or on an event which took place in history that is very significant to us and near and dear to our hearts.

Therefore, I must ask you all a very serious question which is this: Did Jesus Christ die for us all under the New Covenant and did He ask us to remember what He did for us on Passover as a “memorial” to Him? Yes, He did! And, our heavenly Father made it an *everlasting* “ordinance” from the beginning of the world which is without end because Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb who was slain from the foundation of the world.

This is based on Revelation 13:8, which says, “*All who dwell on the earth will worship him [the dragon (Satan) who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast], whose names have NOT been WRITTEN in the BOOK of LIFE of the LAMB SLAIN from the FOUNDATION of the WORLD.*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

Based on Revelation 13:8, worth mentioning at this time is this fact: Why will all who dwell on the earth worship the dragon (Satan) who gave his authority to the beast, so they will worship the beast, with the exception of those names that are written in the Book of Life of the Lamb from the foundation of the world?

Satan and his minions will use mass “deception” to cause those who truly believe they are worshipping the *one* and *only* true God into following the “doctrine” of the Roman Catholic Church which is rooted in the occult rather than walking according to the doctrine of Christ, which is based on our heavenly Father’s commandments (John 7:16). Hence, many shall *inadvertently* worship the beast due to a lack of knowledge.

Deception was the very thing Jesus warned us about in Mark 13:4–6 and Matthew 24:4 when He says to us, concerning what will be the “sign” of His coming and the end of the age when all these things will be fulfilled. Jesus said, “*Take heed that no one DECEIVES you.*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

One of the many things God’s people are deceived about and will perish for due to a lack of knowledge is concerning keeping our heavenly Father’s holy convocations detailed in Leviticus Chapter 23.

Now let’s refocus our attention on our heavenly Father’s *second* holy convocation—Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread that Jesus said to keep in remembrance of Him.

The apostle Paul reinforces what Jesus said to us in Luke 22:19–20. This is based on the following Scriptures:

*“For I RECEIVED FROM THE LORD That which I ALSO DELIVERED TO YOU: that the LORD JESUS on the same night in which He [Jesus] was betrayed TOOK BREAD; and when He [Jesus] had GIVEN THANKS, He [Jesus] BROKE IT [the bread] and said, ‘Take, EAT; this is MY BODY which is BROKEN for you; DO this in **REMEMBRANCE** <sup>(10)</sup> <sup>(11)</sup> [G364: *anamnēsis*: recollection; G363: *anaminnēskō*: to remind; reflexively to recollect: call to mind] of ME.’ In the same manner He [Jesus] also took the **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: *potērion*: a drinking vessel; lot or fate] after supper, saying, ‘This **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> is the NEW COVENANT in My BLOOD. This DO, as often as you DRINK IT, in **REMEMBRANCE** <sup>(10)</sup> <sup>(11)</sup> of ME.’” (1 Cor. 11:23–25, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

*“For AS OFTEN as you EAT this BREAD [His Word] and DRINK this **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: *potērion*: a drinking vessel; lot or fate], YOU PROCLAIM the LORD’S DEATH till HE COMES.” (1 Cor. 11:26, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

*“Therefore whoever EATS this BREAD [His Word] or DRINKS this **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: *potērion*: a drinking vessel; lot or fate] of THE LORD in an UNWORTHY MANNER will*

*BE GUILTY of the BODY and BLOOD of the LORD. But let a man EXAMINE HIMSELF, and so let him EAT of the BREAD [His Word] and DRINK of the CUP. <sup>(12)</sup> For he who EATS and DRINKS in an UNWORTHY MANNER EATS and DRINKS JUDGMENT to HIMSELF, not DISCERNING the LORD'S BODY.”* (1 Cor. 11:27–29, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Do not dismiss the significance of what the apostle Paul is saying concerning what Jesus says to us in Luke 22:19–20, concerning keeping Passover in remembrance of Him. This is not talking about us taking communion which is a *symbolic* public practice, like baptism, where we *symbolically* declare we have died to our sins, our wants, our needs, our desires, and the things of this world. When we are baptized with water, we are publically declaring before the whole assembly of believers and God that we promise we will no longer live according to the fallen nature of Adam and Satan, like we did before we received Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior and became “born again,” *spiritually* speaking.

As the apostle Paul says to us in First Corinthians 11:26, as often as we eat our daily bread (the Word) and we are willing to drink from His “cup of suffering” we are not only proclaiming the Lord’s death until He comes. We are also proclaiming our death to ourselves, our wants, our needs, and to the things of this world. We are crucified with Christ.

When we receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, we enter into the New Covenant Jesus Christ established with His precious blood. Thus, we are no longer our own—we were bought with an extremely high price Jesus paid in full as He sacrificed His own blood and body for us. Moreover, by Jesus’ precious blood we would be set free from the *wages of sin* which is death.

Therefore, when we *symbolically* partake in the practice of communion, we remember the great sacrifice Jesus paid for all of us for the forgiveness of our sins so our “covenant” relationship could be “restored” and “reconciled” to our heavenly Father. This happened at Passover when Jesus Christ died on the cross at Calvary to redeem us from our sins by His precious blood.

As such, this practice we have made into commemorating communion is not what Jesus had in mind when He told us to “do” this in remembrance of Him. Jesus was talking about us keeping Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread based on His heavenly Father’s commandments found in the Torah which are *everlasting* ordinances.

We are to celebrate Passover which is called the Feast of Unleavened Bread as Jesus, and His early disciples did because our heavenly Father, *Yehováh*, commands us to do so as an *everlasting* ordinance.

## THE LAST SUPPER IS A PROPHETIC ENACTMENT OF KEEPING PASSOVER UNDER THE NEW COVENANT WHERE THE ONLY TWO ELEMENTS NEEDED ARE BREAD AND WINE

The very last meal Jesus Christ ate with His disciples before He became “the” Passover Lamb on *this* particular Passover was exactly what Jesus told us to “do” in “remembrance” of what He was about to do at Calvary.

And, this prophetic re-enactment of Jesus instituting Passover under the New Covenant was also for the purpose of “reconfirming” the *everlasting* covenant He established with Abraham as Melchizedek, *King of Salem*. We are told in Genesis 14:18–19, Melchizedek, *king of Salem*—the priest of God the Most High, brought out “bread” and “wine” when He met with Abraham. I covered in-depth in Book 2 of this series concerning the Abrahamic covenant this fact: The *Word* before He was sent to the earth as the Son of Man in the Person of Jesus Christ was Melchizedek, *King of Salem*.

Thus, on the cross at Calvary Jesus shed His precious blood and fulfilled (consummated, executed, ratified [confirmed]) the *everlasting* covenant God established with Abraham and his descendants. In fact, Jesus fulfilled all of God’s *everlasting* covenants (plural) He established with mankind and all creation throughout the *synergy of the ages*. All of God’s *everlasting* covenants (plural) are in effect from the beginning of the world, and they are without end. And, they were all “confirmed” (ratified) by the blood of the Lamb.

Yet Christendom calls the observance of Passover the “last supper” or “communion” because of what we inherited from the Roman Catholic Church who wanted to distance themselves from the “customs” of the Jews which were actually based on the commandments of God. Unfortunately, most believers in the body of Christ are still walking according to the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church rather than the doctrine of Christ.

Now let’s refocus our attention on the fact that Jesus instituted the Passover under the New Covenant with His disciples. This would be different from the Passover Seder that was established in the Old Testament under the *first* covenant (Old Covenant) just before the Hebrew children made their exodus out of Egypt in this regard: Under the New Covenant the only elements Jesus used for *this* particular Passover was “bread” (symbolic of His Word) and “wine” (symbolic for the Holy Spirit) in order to commemorate, honor, and keep His heavenly Father’s *second* holy convocation—Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread with His disciples. In fact, it was on *this* particular Passover Jesus would become “the” Passover Lamb.

As a result, of Jesus becoming “the” Passover Lamb, then He would become “the” mediator between our heavenly Father and all mankind under the New Covenant. Therefore, there is no longer a need to

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slaughter a lamb in order to keep Passover or to even hold a Passover *Seder* for this reason: The only elements needed to “do” this in remembrance of Jesus’ great sacrifice under the New Covenant are “bread” (symbolic of His Word) and “wine” (symbolic for the Holy Spirit) because Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb forevermore.

Now let’s substantiate according to the whole counsel of God’s Word that this last meal Jesus commemorated with His disciples is when Jesus was instituting Passover, not Easter, under the New Covenant which is based on the following Scriptures:

*[Jesus Celebrates Passover with His Disciples]* “Now on the *first* day of the FEAST of UNLEAVENED BREAD the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, ‘Where do You want us to PREPARE for You to EAT the PASSOVER?’ And He [Jesus] said, “Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, ‘The Teacher says, “MY TIME is at hand; I will KEEP the PASSOVER at your house with My DISCIPLES.’” So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they PREPARED the PASSOVER.” (Matt. 26:17–19, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*[The Plot to Kill Jesus]* “After TWO DAYS it was the PASSOVER and the FEAST of UNLEAVENED BREAD. And the CHIEF PRIESTS and the SCRIBES sought how they might TAKE HIM BY TRICKERY and PUT HIM TO DEATH.” (Mark 14:1, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*[Jesus Celebrates the Passover with His Disciples]* “Now on the *first* DAY of UNLEAVENED BREAD, WHEN they KILLED the PASSOVER LAMB, His disciples said to Him, ‘Where do You want us to GO and PREPARE, that You may EAT the PASSOVER?’” (Mark 14:12, NKJV) (emphasis added).

“Wherever he goes in, say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says, “Where is the guest room in which I may EAT the PASSOVER with My DISCIPLES.”’ (Mark 14:14, NKJV) (emphasis added).

“So His disciples went out, and came into the city, and found it just as He had said to them; and they PREPARED the PASSOVER.” (Mark 14:16, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*[The Plot to Kill Jesus]* “Now the FEAST of UNLEAVENED BREAD *drew near*, which is called PASSOVER.” (Luke 22:1, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*[Jesus and His Disciples Prepare the Passover]* “Then came the DAY of UNLEAVENED BREAD, *when* the PASSOVER must be KILLED.” (Luke 22:7, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*“And He sent Peter and John, saying, ‘Go and PREPARE the PASSOVER for us, that WE MAYEAT.’”* (Luke 22:8, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*“Then you shall say to the master of the house, ‘The Teacher says to you, “Where is the guest room where I may EAT the PASSOVER with My DISCIPLES?”’* (Luke 22:11, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*“So they went and found it just as He had said to them, and they PREPARED the PASSOVER.”* (Luke 22:13, NKJV) (emphasis added).

*“Then He said to them, ‘With fervent desire I have desired to EAT this PASSOVER with you before I SUFFER; for I say to you, I will NO LONGER EAT OF IT until IT IS FULFILLED IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.’”* (Luke 22:15–16, NKJV) (emphasis added).

## WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP OF WINE?

First, concerning Luke 22:15–16, we are told Jesus *fervently* desired, to eat this Passover with His disciples before He would suffer on the cross at Calvary. However, He specifically tells His disciples He will no longer eat of the Passover until it is fulfilled in the *kingdom of God*. This will be fulfilled during the “marriage supper of the Lamb.”

When Jesus blessed the bread, gave thanks for it, broke the bread, and He gave it to His disciples, do not dismiss this fact: Jesus did not eat of the bread. Rather, He gave it to His disciples and said, *“Take, eat; this is MYBODY.”* (NKJV) (emphasis added).

Nor, did He drink from the cup of wine. Rather, He gave the cup of wine to His disciples and said, *“Drink from it, all of you. For this is MYBLOOD of the NEWCOVENANT, which is SHED for many for the REMISSION of SINS.”* (NKJV) (emphasis added).

Then once again, Jesus reiterates He will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when He drinks it new with us in His Father’s kingdom. Again, this will take place during the “marriage supper of the Lamb, which will be held in the *kingdom of heaven* in the *heavenly Jerusalem*.

Now let’s closely examine what Jesus said to His disciples in Matthew 26:26–29, Mark 14:22–26, and Luke 22:14–23 concerning the “bread” and the “cup” which is symbolic of His *fate* or *lot* (His blood which would be shed at *this* particular Passover for the forgiveness of our sins at Calvary). Pay special attention

to this fact: Jesus gave the “bread” and the “wine” to His disciples but did not partake of this Himself. This is based on the following Scriptures:

*“And as they were eating, Jesus took BREAD, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the DISCIPLES and said, ‘Take, eat; this is MY BODY.’ Then He took the **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: **potēriōn**: a drinking vessel; lot or fate], and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, ‘Drink from it, all of you. For this is MY BLOOD of the NEW COVENANT, which is SHED for many for the REMISSION of SINS. But I say to you, I WILL NOT DRINK OF THIS FRUIT OF THE VINE FROM NOW ON UNTIL THAT DAY WHEN I DRINK IT NEW WITH YOU IN MY FATHER’S KINGDOM.’” (Matt. 26:26–29, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

*“And as they were eating, Jesus took BREAD, blessed and broke it, and gave it TO THEM and said, ‘Take, eat; this is My BODY.’ Then He took the **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: **potēriōn**: a drinking vessel; lot or fate], and when He had given thanks He gave it TO THEM, and THEY ALL drank from it. And He said to them, ‘This is My BLOOD of the NEW COVENANT, which is shed for many. ASSUREDLY, I SAY TO YOU, I WILL NO LONGER DRINK OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE UNTIL THAT DAY WHEN I DRINK IT NEW IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.’ And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.” (Mark 14:22–26, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

*“When THE HOUR had COME, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. Then He said to them, ‘WITH FERVENT DESIRE I HAVE DESIRED TO EAT THIS PASSOVER WITH YOU BEFORE I SUFFER; FOR I SAY TO YOU, I WILL NO LONGER EAT OF IT UNTIL IT IS FULFILLED IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD.’ Then He took the **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: **potēriōn**: a drinking vessel; lot or fate], and gave thanks, and said, ‘TAKE THIS and DIVIDE IT AMONG YOURSELVES; for I say to you, I WILL NOT DRINK OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE UNTIL THE KINGDOM OF GOD COMES.’ And He took BREAD, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it TO THEM, saying, ‘This is My body which is given for you; DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.’ Likewise He also took the **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> after supper, saying, ‘THIS **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> IS THE NEW COVENANT IN MY BLOOD, WHICH IS SHED FOR YOU. But behold, the hand of My betrayer is with Me on the table. And truly the Son of Man goes as it has been determined, but woe to that man by whom He is betrayed!’ Then they began to question among themselves, which of them it was who would do this thing.” (Luke 22:14–23, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

The bread Jesus is telling us to eat is not His *literal* body, or the symbolic wafer, cracker, or piece of bread representing His body we use when we practice communion.

Rather, the bread we are to eat as often as possible is His “eternal” Word—the Bible, including our heavenly Father’s instructions He has given us in the Torah. These are the terms and conditions of walking in a “covenant” relationship with our heavenly Father under the New Covenant that Jesus fulfilled (consummated, executed, ratified [confirmed]) with His own blood. This New Covenant we made a vow before God to walk according to after we received His only *begotten* Son, Jesus Christ, as our Lord and our Savior. Jesus tells us He is the bread of life in John 6:35, when He says, “*I am the BREAD of LIFE. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

Therefore, we are to eat often from our “daily bread” which is God’s Word for Jesus is *the Word* whom our heavenly Father sent to the earth as the Son of Man in the flesh in the Person of Jesus Christ.

As a matter of fact, when we say the Lord’s Prayer in accordance to the manner Jesus told us “how” to pray to our heavenly Father, in Luke 11:3, we are specifically told to say, “*Give us day by day our daily bread.*” (NKJV)

The “cup” Jesus is talking about us drinking from is not His *literal* blood or the symbolic wine or grape juice we use when we practice communion. Rather, Jesus is telling His disciples we must also be willing to drink from the same “cup of suffering” He did before He went to the cross, and also when He was crucified on the cross. We must be willing to walk according to the WAY—which is the narrow path that leads to life—but very few are willing to traverse it and very few find it.

Moreover, Jesus tells us that our “greatness” in His Kingdom will be realized when we serve one another. And, we shall love and serve one another when we love God first and foremost, and then each other. We must be willing to love God and one another which may very well require us to lay down our own lives for His name’s sake and for each other.

This is substantiated in John 15:13, which proclaims, “*Greater LOVE has no one than this, than to lay down ONE’S LIFE for his friends.*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

Concerning Jesus telling His disciples, we must also be willing to drink from the same “cup of suffering” He did, this truth is substantiated in Matthew 20:20–28, when the mother of the *sons of Zebedee* asked Jesus that He grant where her two sons may sit in His kingdom. Listen carefully to what Jesus’ response was to her request when He says the following:

*“Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him. And He said to her, ‘What do you wish?’ She said to Him, ‘Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your RIGHT HAND and the other on the LEFT, in YOUR KINGDOM.’ But Jesus answered and said, ‘You do not know what you*

ask. ARE YOU ABLE to DRINK the **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: *potērion*: lot or fate] that I AM ABOUT TO DRINK, and BE BAPTIZED with THE BAPTISM THAT I AM BAPTIZED WITH? They said to Him, ‘We are able.’” (Matt. 20:20–22, NKJV) (emphasis added).

“So He said to them, ‘YOU WILL INDEED DRINK MY **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: *potērion*: lot or fate], and BE BAPTIZED WITH THE BAPTISM THAT I AM BAPTIZED WITH; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for WHOM IT IS PREPARED by MY FATHER.’” (Matt. 20:23, NKJV) (emphasis added).

“And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers. But Jesus called them to Himself and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. YET IT SHALL NOT BE SO AMONG YOU; but WHOEVER DESIRES TO BECOME GREAT AMONG YOU, LET HIM BE YOUR SERVANT. And whoever DESIRES TO BE FIRST AMONG YOU, let him be YOUR SLAVE—just as the SON of MAN DID NOT COME TO BE SERVED, BUT TO SERVE, and TO GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM FOR MANY.’” (Matt. 20:24–28, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Jesus tells us specifically in Matthew 20:22, those who want to follow Him must be willing to drink from His cup and experience the same *lot or fate* He did when He says to us, “...You do not know what you ask. Are you ABLE to DRINK THE **CUP** <sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: *potērion*: lot or fate] THAT I AM ABOUT TO DRINK, and BE BAPTIZED WITH THE BAPTISM THAT I AM BAPTIZED WITH...?” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

What “cup” is Jesus saying He is about to drink from? He tells us the answer in Matthew 20:28 when He says to us, “...Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but TO SERVE, and to GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM FOR MANY.” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

This is why during the last meal Jesus’ disciples ate with Him before He would go to the cross at Calvary Jesus washed the feet of His disciples. This is detailed in John Chapter 13.

Jesus was teaching His twelve disciples that the Son of Man did not come the first time to be served. Rather, Jesus came to the earth the first time to serve and give His life for a ransom for many. And, when Peter asked Jesus why He was washing his feet, Jesus told him that what He was doing, he would not understand until later. To which Peter replied to Jesus, “You shall never wash my feet.” Listen to what Jesus said to Peter when He said, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.” (John 13:8, NKJV)

Jesus is telling us all that unless we allow *the Word*, which is our daily bread (symbolic of the bread), to wash us and cleanse us from all *unrighteousness* as we submit to the *sanctification* process of His Holy Spirit (symbolic of the wine) who lives in us then we shall have no part of Him.

This is one of the reasons why before we celebrate Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread we are to examine ourselves closely and get all the sin out of “our” houses (our bodies and our lives) *before* we commemorate Passover in “remembrance” of what Jesus did for us on the cross at Calvary. This is what the apostle Paul is talking about in First Corinthians 11:27–29, when he says the following:

*“Therefore whoever EATS this BREAD [His Word] or DRINKS this CUP<sup>(12)</sup> [G4221: potēriōn: a drinking vessel; lot or fate] of THE LORD in an UNWORTHY MANNER will BE GUILTY of the BODY and BLOOD of the LORD. But let a man EXAMINE HIMSELF, and so let him EAT of the BREAD [His Word] and DRINK of the CUP.<sup>(12)</sup> For he who EATS and DRINKS in an UNWORTHY MANNER<sup>f</sup> EATS and DRINKS JUDGMENT to HIMSELF, not DISCERNING the LORD’S BODY.”* (1 Cor. 11:27–29, NKJV) (emphasis added).

## WE MUST GET THE “LEAVEN” OUT OF OUR HOUSE BEFORE PASSOVER COMMENCES

When we are about to commemorate the Feast of Unleavened Bread which is called Passover, we must get the sin out of “our” houses. Under the New Covenant, our bodies are the Temple of the Living God. We must cleanse ourselves so we may “Pass over” to our Promised Land while we are still living on the earth. And, so we can “Pass over” into the Promised Land in the *kingdom of heaven* when we die a *physical* death after the resurrection takes place.

This is why prior to Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread we should fast and pray. During this time we should closely examine ourselves and be willing to submit ourselves and our lives before our holy God so He can purge from us any sins we may have so we may become purified before we commemorate Passover. This is substantiated in John 11:55, which says, *“And the PASSOVER of the Jews WAS NEAR, and many went from the country UP TO JERUSALEM before THE PASSOVER, to PURIFY themselves.”* (NKJV) (emphasis added).

In fact, this is why when Passover was at hand just before Jesus would become our Passover Lamb; He chose to cleanse His Father’s Temple from those who had made His Father’s house a *den of thieves* instead of a *House of Prayer* for all nations.

This is based on what Jesus decided to do in order to clean out the sin from His Father’s house (the *physical* Temple at that time).

Take notice as you read this passage of Scripture, Jesus premediated what He was going to do because we are told He took the time to make Himself a *whip of cords* He would use to unleash His *righteous*

indignation concerning those who were defiling His Father's house by selling their merchandise in His Temple.

John 2:13–22, says the following:

*“Now the PASSOVER of the Jews was AT HAND, and JESUS WENT UP TO JERUSALEM. And He found in THE TEMPLE those who SOLD oxen and sheep and doves, and the MONEY CHANGERS DOING BUSINESS. When He [Jesus] had MADE a WHIP OF CORDS, HE DROVE THEM ALL OUT OF THE TEMPLE, with the sheep and the oxen, and Poured OUT THE CHANGERS' MONEY and OVERTURNED THE TABLES. And He said to those who SOLD doves [representing the Holy Spirit and the giftings thereof], ‘TAKE THESE THINGS AWAY! DO NOT MAKE MY FATHER'S HOUSE A HOUSE OF MERCHANDISE!’ Then His disciples remembered that it was written, ‘Zeal for Your house has eaten Me up.’ So the Jews answered and said to Him, ‘What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?’ Jesus answered and said to them, ‘DESTROY THIS TEMPLE, and IN THREE DAYS I WILL RAISE IT UP.’ Then the Jews said, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?’ BUT HE WAS SPEAKING OF THE TEMPLE OF HIS BODY. Therefore, when HE HAD RISEN FROM THE DEAD, His disciples REMEMBERED THAT HE HAD SAID THIS TO THEM; and THEY BELIEVED THE SCRIPTURE and THE WORD WHICH JESUS HAD SAID.” (John 2:13–22, NKJV) (emphasis added).*

## PASSOVER AND THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD IS AN EVERLASTING ORDINANCE FOR ALL GENERATIONS

Each year we must prepare ourselves for Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread by getting the sin out of “our” houses. What this means for all of us is this: We must die to ourselves on a daily basis as we pick up our cross and follow in the footsteps of Jesus until we finish the race which is set before us.

And, it is for this very reason; Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread is an *everlasting* “ordinance” for all generations throughout the *synergy of the ages*. This is based on the following Scriptures:

*“So this DAY [Passover] shall be to you a **MEMORIAL** <sup>(4)</sup> [H2146: **zīkrôn**: a memento (or memorable thing, day or writing); record]; and you shall **KEEP** it as a **FEAST** <sup>(5)</sup> [H2282: **châg**: a festival, (solemn) feast (day); sacrifice, solemnity] to THE LORD THROUGHOUT YOUR GENERATIONS. You shall **KEEP IT** as a **FEAST** <sup>(6)</sup> [H2287: **châgag**: to observe a festival; by implication to be giddy: celebrate, dance, (keep, hold) a (solemn) feast (holiday)] by an **EVERLASTING** <sup>(7)</sup> [H5769: **’ôlâm**: perpetual; beginning of the world and*

is without end; eternity;] **ORDINANCE** <sup>(8)</sup> [H2708: *chúqqāh*: appointed *custom* or *statute*].” (Exod. 12:14, NKJV) (emphasis added).

“So you shall **OBSERVE** <sup>(14)</sup> [H8104: *shāmar*: *guard*; generally to *protect, attend to; take heed; keep*] the FEAST of UNLEAVENED BREAD, for on this same DAY I will have BROUGHT YOUR ARMIES OUT OF THE LAND OF EGYPT. Therefore you shall **OBSERVE** <sup>(14)</sup> this DAY THROUGHOUT YOUR GENERATIONS AS AN **EVERLASTING** <sup>(7)</sup> [H5769: *‘olām*: perpetual; beginning of the world and is without end; eternity] **ORDINANCE** <sup>(8)</sup> [H2708: *chúqqāh*: appointed *custom* or *statute*].” (Exod. 12:17, NKJV) (emphasis added).

In addition, in this passage of Scripture in Exodus 12:17, notice the Lord specifically tells us we are to observe this *everlasting* ordinance which has to do with getting the sin out of our house, throughout our generations. But we will only choose to observe this commandment *if* we have a fear of the Lord and we want to leave the land of Egypt which is symbolic of the world and “Pass over” into our final Promised Land which is the *kingdom of heaven* after the resurrection of the dead takes place.

We must be “purified” and “cleansed” as we get all the leaven (sin) out of our house in order to be His bride and to commemorate Passover. In fact, this is exactly what the apostle Paul is talking about in First Corinthians 5:8. And, he specifically says to us in First Corinthians 11:27–29, concerning anyone who eats this “bread,” or drinks this “cup” of the Lord in an unworthy manner—they will be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. Thus, we will bring judgment to ourselves!

And, this goes right in line with what the apostle Paul tells us in Hebrews 10:29, when he says to us, “*Of how much WORSE PUNISHMENT, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has TRAMPLED the Son of God underfoot, COUNTED THE BLOOD OF THE COVENANT by which HE WAS SANCTIFIED a COMMON THING, and INSULTED the SPIRIT OF GRACE?*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

Yet we have made Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread just another “religious” ritual or man-made “tradition” of us taking communion. Or, we commemorate it by us participating in a Passover Seder as a religious “tradition.” Again, the only two elements we need to “do” this in remembrance of His great sacrifice under the New Covenant is “bread” and “wine” which is to be done at Passover when God’s *Ekklesia* (Church—body of Christ) is commanded to have a **HOLY** <sup>(2)</sup> [H6944: *qôdesh*: a *sacred* place or thing; consecrated (thing), dedicated (thing), hallowed (thing)] **CONVOCAATION** <sup>(3)</sup> [H4744: *miqrâ*: called out, that is, a public meeting or assembly for the purpose of a rehearsal, calling or reading] during this “appointed” time.

## WE HAVE BEEN DECEIVED INTO KEEPING EASTER INSTEAD OF PASSOVER

Tragically, for the most part, the body of Christ has “profaned” this priceless sacrifice made by God’s only *begotten* Son, Jesus Christ, who died on the cross at Passover as a “common thing” when God’s people in the body of Christ are indeed mixing the *holy* things of God with the “profane” things of this world.

This is specifically concerning, the *unholy*, pagan holiday of Easter which has its roots in the occult and it is not listed in the Bible because God did not establish or tell us to celebrate this holiday. And, then we have the audacity to bring this holiday into the body of Christ and call it “Easter Sunday” or “Resurrection Sunday.”

Again, Jesus died on a Wednesday on that particular Passover over two thousand years ago. Thus, Jesus did not die on “Good Friday.” Nor, was He “resurrected” on Sunday based on Matthew 12:40. Rather, He was “resurrected” on the *seventh* day Sabbath at twilight—which was the third day. And, He ascended to heaven on the day *after* the weekly Sabbath, on Sunday during the Feast of Firstfruits.

Celebrating Easter rather than Passover is an abomination to the Lord because Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb who died for us at Passover, not Easter. In fact, one of the reasons why the Roman Catholic Church changed God’s *seventh* day Sabbath to Sunday is so they could justify celebrating Easter on Sunday.

God commands us to “remember” and to “keep” His *seventh* day Sabbath holy. This commandment is not only the *fourth* (4<sup>th</sup>) commandment of the Ten Commandments, which “qualifies” which God we serve and worship. It is also our heavenly Father’s *first* holy convocation out of seven listed in Leviticus Chapter 23.

We are told God’s *seventh* day Sabbath is a “perpetual” (from the beginning of the world and is without end for all eternity) “covenant” for all His people. His Sabbaths (plural) is also a “sign” He is our God, and we are His “covenant” people. God’s Sabbath day is on the *seventh* day of the week—it is not on Sunday the *first* day of the week. Again, one of the reasons why the Roman Catholic Church changed God’s *seventh* day Sabbath to Sunday, the *first* day of the week, was so they could replace celebrating Passover with Easter.

## IS KEEPING GOD’S SABBATHS AND FEASTS A SALVATION ISSUE ONCE WE BECOME SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH?

Easter, is a holiday the majority of the people around the world celebrate—even those who say Jesus Christ is not the Son of God who shed His precious blood at Passover on the cross at Calvary. This fact

alone ought to be a huge “sign” that many people in the body of Christ have left the narrow path which leads to life and we are walking down the wide, easy path which leads to our destruction on Judgment Day.

In fact, recently I have heard some teachers in the body of Christ proclaim that keeping God’s feasts and the *seventh* day Sabbath is not a salvation issue. To which I reply based on the whole counsel of God’s Word, God’s Sabbaths (plural) are a “sign” (mark or evidence) of which God we serve and who His “covenant” people are.

God’s “eternal” Word, which does not change, says that whoever does not keep His Sabbaths (plural) will be “cut off” from being His covenant people. In Exodus 31:14, God tells us, “*You shall KEEP the SABBATH, therefore, for it is holy to you. Everyone who PROFANES it shall SURELY BE PUT TO DEATH; for whoever does any work on it, that person shall be CUT OFF from among his people.*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

While Exodus 31:14 is specifically talking about the *seventh* day Sabbath, all of God’s holy convocations based on Leviticus Chapter 23 begin with a High Sabbath and end with a High Sabbath.

The word “cut off” as used in Exodus 31:14, and other Scriptures concerning “breaking” covenant with God, is the Hebrew word “kârath” (pronounced “kaw-rath”), which means the following: To “destroy” or “consume” specifically to covenant; perish.

Based on what the apostle Paul tells us in Second Thessalonians 1:7–9, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire He will take vengeance on those who do not “know” God, and on those who do not “obey” the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus’ doctrine came from His heavenly Father (John 7:16). These shall be punished with *everlasting* “destruction” from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power.

Therefore, if our heavenly Father commands us to keep His feasts and His Sabbaths (plural) and we refuse to once we become saved by grace in His only *begotten Son*—Jesus Christ, we are not doing the “will” of our heavenly Father. Thus, based on Matthew 7:21–23, for those who do not do the “will” of our heavenly Father, Jesus will say to them on Judgment Day, the following:

*“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but HE WHO DOES THE WILL OF MY FATHER IN HEAVEN. Many will say to Me in that day [Judgment Day], ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I*

*never KNEW you; DEPART from Me, you who practice LAWLESSNESS!* (Matt. 7:21–23, NKJV) (emphasis added).

The word “lawlessness” Jesus uses in Matthew 7:21–23, is synonymous with the word “iniquity.” According to *Strong’s Greek Lexicon* #G458, the word “lawlessness” is the Greek word “anomia” (pronounced “ä-no-mē-ä”), which means the following: Without law (God’s law) because of being ignorant of it or because of violating it due to contempt of it which results in our *wickedness* or *iniquity* against God and His Word.

Furthermore, the Greek word “anomia” is derived from *Strong’s Greek Lexicon* #G459, and is the Greek word “anomos” (pronounced “ä’-no-mos”), which is referring to the Gentiles, who are pagan, heathen people who are destitute of the Mosaic Law. Thereby, they are out of covenant with God.

However, it can also be referring to those of us who were formerly Gentiles from the House of Israel that have now been grafted into the *commonwealth of Israel* by our faith in our Jewish Messiah—Jesus Christ. Yet we have departed from God’s law written by Moses because of our “contempt” of it or being “ignorant” of it, even though under the New Covenant God has now put His law in our mind and written them on our hearts with His Spirit if we have not grieved the Holy Spirit by **practicing** LAWLESSNESS. Our Lawgiver now lives in us by His Spirit.

Based on what Jesus says to us **in** Matthew 7:21–23, do not dismiss this critical truth: The very ones Jesus will say to depart from Him when it is too late for all eternity to repent and make a course correction because He never “knew” them is for this reason: They “practiced” lawlessness, and did not do the “will” of His heavenly Father because they did not “obey” His heavenly Father’s instructions written in the Torah. Thus, they are using His name in VAIN. They are prophesying in His name, casting out demons in His name, doing many wonders in His name—but they are practicing “lawlessness” and not doing the “will” of His heavenly Father.

Hence, Jesus will “blot out” their name from the Lamb’s Book of Life and it will be as though they have never been born or “reborn” again, *spiritually* speaking.

So if Jesus tells us to “depart” from Him on Judgment Day and He says He never “knew” us because we practice “lawlessness” and did not do the “will” of our heavenly Father, is this salvation issue? Yes, it is.

In fact, we are told what will happen to those to whom Jesus will tell to depart from Him on Judgment Day—they will be thrust out of His Kingdom because they will be “cut off” from being His people. This is substantiated in Luke 13:27–29, which says the following:

*“But He will say, ‘I tell you I DO NOT KNOW YOU, where you are from. DEPART FROM ME, ALL YOU WORKERS OF INIQUITY.’ There will be WEEPING and GNASHING of TEETH, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the KINGDOM of GOD, and YOURSELVES THRUST OUT. They will come from the east and the west, from the north and the south, and SIT DOWN in the KINGDOM of GOD.”* (Luke 13:27–29, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Hence, if Jesus tells them to “depart” from Him because they are workers of iniquity, and they are not in the *kingdom of God* because they are “thrust” out, then where are they? They will be thrown into the *lake of fire*. God does not condemn anyone to hell until Judgment Day commences. This is another lie the body of Christ has been taught. He would not be a *righteous*, just Judge if He condemned anyone to hell without the books (plural) being opened up on Judgment Day. There is a DAY of Judgment which shall take place at the end of the ages on the Day of the Lord.

And, it is for this very reason, why God “records” those who keep His Sabbaths (plural) which are in all of His feasts in the Book of Remembrance, because they have the *reverential* fear of the Lord and will “obey” Him.

God is a just *righteous* Judge and what is written in the books (plural) that are opened up on Judgment Day will either vindicate us or condemn us. This is substantiated in Revelation 20:12, which says, *“And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and BOOKS [plural] WERE OPENED. And ANOTHER BOOK was opened, which is the BOOK OF LIFE. And the DEAD WERE JUDGED ACCORDING TO THEIR WORKS, by the THINGS WHICH WERE WRITTEN IN THE BOOKS [plural].”* (NKJV) (emphasis added).

We sing the song *Worthy is the Lamb* in churches all across the world, and yet obviously most people in the body of Christ do not believe Jesus Christ is worthy enough for us to keep Passover in “remembrance” of what He did for all of us on the cross at Calvary.

And, the reason for this being the case is due to “deception” because we have placed our trust in our church fathers and follow the doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church instead of God’s “eternal” Word.

Speaking of God’s “eternal” Word, didn’t Jesus tell us we would drink from the same “cup” and experience the same *lot* or *fate* that He did if we follow Him as His disciples? Yes, He did!

As such, there is an extremely high cost of being a true disciple of Jesus Christ, and it will cost us everything. Again, we all want to share in His glory, BUT not many believers are willing to drink from His “cup of suffering.” This is why many are called, but few are chosen.

We were redeemed (purchased) with a high price. Jesus was willing to pay the ransom in full. He paid the bride-price with His broken body and His precious blood. He was willing to die for us on Passover, so He could “redeem” our sins for the purpose of “restoring” and “reconciling” us back into walking in a covenant relationship with our heavenly Father.

Therefore, God’s faithful remnant are only those who are willing to sacrifice everything in order to follow in the footsteps of the One who has captivated our hearts with the power of His love who first loved us even while we were dead in our trespasses against Him. So much so He was willing to die for us so that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Hence, it is for this very reason; we are commanded to keep Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread as an *everlasting* “ordinance” which is also to be a “memorial” throughout our generations. We are commanded to keep these “feasts” by our heavenly Father because of the great sacrifice His only *begotten* Son, Jesus Christ, made when He shed His precious blood for all who put their faith and trust in Him. He is also the author of “eternal” salvation for those who “obey” Him (Hebrews 5:9).

No other religion with their associated “false” gods has the ability to “redeem” the people who follow them for the forgiveness of their sins so they can have a personal, intimate relationship with the Creator of the Universe and everything in it.

No other God can give “eternal” life to their followers when they die a physical death because only the Lamb of God who was slain from the foundation of the world lives on eternally. He has defeated sin, death, and the grave. He alone has “immortality.” And, for those who follow in His footsteps, they will overcome sin, death, and the grave by the words of their testimony and the blood of the Lamb.

This is why Jesus Christ is the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE and NO ONE comes to the Father except through Him. Jesus Christ was our heavenly Father’s *only* plan of redemption *before* the foundation of the world.

Therefore, as far as having eternal life is concerned, it does not matter if you are a good person or have a kind heart for God’s Word says in John 3:16, “*For God so LOVED THE WORLD that He GAVE His only BEGOTTEN SON, that whoever BELIEVES IN HIM should not PERISH but have EVERLASTING LIFE.*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

In addition, John 3:36 proclaims, “*He who BELIEVES in the SON has [we receive eternal life the moment we become “born again.” spiritually speaking] EVERLASTING LIFE; and he who does not BELIEVE the SON shall not SEE life, BUT the WRATH of GOD abides ON him.*” (NKJV) (emphasis added).

So we may have received Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior but when we clearly “reject” what our heavenly Father tells us to “do” according to His “eternal” Word, then how do we not understand we are rejecting His Son? Our heavenly Father sent *the Word* to the earth as the Son of Man in the Person of Jesus Christ who in the beginning was *the Word* who was with God and who is God.

Passover is the ultimate fulfillment of what John 3:16 is all about and is the true purpose of our heavenly Father’s *second* holy convocation of Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread that must be proclaimed throughout the body of Christ.

And, this is one of the reasons why we are commanded to keep and honor this holy convocation in “remembrance” of the great sacrifice Jesus did for all of us on Passover as our Passover Lamb because *Worthy is the Lamb* who was willing to die for us.

Jesus Christ is also the *Captain of our Salvation* because He loves us so much He was willing to “redeem” us by His broken body and by His precious blood so we may be “restored” and “reconciled” back into walking in a covenant relationship with His and our heavenly Father.

Yet the majority of believers in the body of Christ forsake remembering and celebrating Passover in “remembrance” of what Jesus Christ did at Calvary for us all. Tragically, many believers choose to celebrate Easter which is rooted in occultism based on a lie which has been perpetuated by our early church fathers. This practice continues to this *very* day. How can we be so deceived?!

And, then we wonder why we are not receiving God’s covenant promises He gave to Abraham and his descendants? It is because we are not keeping all of *Yehováh’s everlasting* [H5769: *’ólám*: perpetual; beginning of the world and is without end; eternity] “ordinances” [H2708: *chúqqáh*: appointed *custom* or *statute*].

These *everlasting* “ordinances” are based on what God “confirmed,” to Jacob as an *everlasting* “covenant” for all of Israel. This is based on the “oath” He swore to Isaac, which is based on the *everlasting* “covenant” He established with Abraham and his descendants.

Again, Jesus “confirmed” this *everlasting* covenant God made with Abraham and his descendants on the cross at Calvary with His precious blood.

God’s people are indeed perishing from a lack of knowledge, and we had better repent and make an immediate course correction before it is too late for all eternity for this reason: Only those who commemorate Passover are written in God’s Book of Remembrance. When we keep this day as a “memorial” as we are commanded to, we are acknowledging before the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit Jesus Christ is our Passover Lamb and we have been made “righteous,” and we are “justified” by His

precious blood. As such, we “do” this in “remembrance” of His great sacrifice for us if we are His “covenant” people.

In the next chapter, we will discover the significance of our heavenly Father’s *third* holy convocation—the Feast of Firstfruits to New Covenant believers. This chapter may very well rock your world, and it will challenge what you have been taught at Church concerning our *heavenly* hope concerning the timing of our inheritance.