



Introduction

We continue from Exodus 11 where we left Pharaoh under the threat that the firstborn of the Egyptians would be killed, if he continued to refuse to let the Israelites go. The Israelites are given instructions on what they must do.



Questions

1. What instructions were given about the lamb on the tenth and fourteenth day of the first month?
2. What were they to tell their children when they asked about the Passover?
3. What was Pharaoh's reaction to the death of the firstborn?



Summary Points

- **v 1 to 11** Moses gives the Israelites instructions about the lamb that is to be killed and eaten in observing the Lord's Passover (see theme) on the night they are to escape Egypt
- **v 12 to 28** The Israelites are told how to remember their escape, when the Lord kills all the firstborn of the Egyptians. All future generations are to have a Passover meal and a 7-day feast when they are to remove all yeast from their dwellings
- **v 29 to 42** The firstborn in all Egyptian households are killed. Pharaoh and all the Egyptians want the Israelites to leave Egypt immediately. After receiving gifts from the Egyptians, all the people travel from Rameses to Succoth (see map)
- **v 43 to 51** The LORD gives Moses the details of how the Passover meal is to be observed

Timeline 1500 BC (see below)



Information

The Passover

The Passover is a ceremony recalling the deliverance of the nation of Israel from Egyptian slavery. It was instituted by God in commandments to Moses. The original Passover was held in Egypt. The details are given in Exodus 12.

The command to keep the Passover was repeated by Moses in Deuteronomy. It was one of the three mandatory feasts that Israel were expected to keep:

Deuteronomy 16 verse 1

An exceptional Passover was held in the time of Hezekiah:

2 Chronicles 30 verses 15 and 26

And in the reign of king Josiah:

2 Chronicles 35 verses 1 and 18

The feast of Passover pre-figured the ultimate salvation that would be achieved through Jesus, whose death is described as a sacrifice. The significance of unleavened bread eaten with the Passover lamb is also explained by the apostle Paul:

1 Corinthians 5 verses 7 and 8



Wilderness travels - leaving Egypt

Map showing the approximate travels of the Israelites when they left Egypt (Exodus 12 v 37). Question marks by place names indicate that the location is uncertain.



Answers to questions

Verses which answer the questions:

Q 1: v 3 and 6, Q 2: v 27, Q 3: v 31 and 32



Bible timeline

