

*Bitter herbs*; signifying the bitterness of their bondage. *Not . . . raw*; so as to avoid blood. *Nor sodden*; not boiled. *Head . . . legs . . . purtenance*; not divided, but with all the parts. *Nothing remain*; the remnant to be burned and not used for a common meal. It was sacred. *Loins girded*; loose robes fastened tight with a girdle for easy going.

III. MEANING OF THE FEAST.—12-14. *Pass through*. God's supreme punishment has come. *Blood a token*; a sign of Israel's belief in God. God judges faith by little signs. Great faith may lie even in a look. *Pass over*; hence the feast's name. *A memorial*; to keep in remembrance God's goodness and Israel's debt.

## Lesson Questions

What time of the year was the Passover observed?

What kind of lamb was chosen?

How was it to be prepared and how eaten?

What was done with the blood? Why?

## For Further Study and Discussion

1. What different plagues were inflicted on the Egyptians?

2. Where is Christ called "our Passover?" (1 Cor. 5:7.)

3. Should Thanksgiving Day be a holiday or a "holy day?"

4. Is the special observance of such seasons as Easter and Christmas a help or a hindrance to true religion?

PROVE FROM SCRIPTURE—That Jesus started a new feast.

SHORTER CATECHISM—Ques. 43.

## THE LESSON IN DAILY LIFE (Daily Readings)

**Monday**—The Passover, Ex. 12:1-14.

The soul of religion is a sense of deliverance. God must do, has done, something for us we could not do for ourselves. Faith is something like the sprinkling of the blood, an indication of the soul that it commits itself to the delivering power of God.

**Tuesday**—"What mean ye?" Ex. 12:21-28.

A nation or individual that has no great memories has no vision. You cannot lose your past without losing your future. Festivals are apt to be times of forgetting. God makes them things of remembrance. "What mean ye by this?" The Passover was a finger pointing to the past.

**Wednesday**—The lamb without blemish, 1 Peter 1:13-23.

Religion is a demand of God for the best and first,—beaten oil, sifted wheat, unblemished lamb, consecrated heart. It is also a gift from God of the best. In Christ God gives us the best of himself. In Christ's words, life, death, there is nothing of God left out.

**Thursday**—The cup of salvation, Ps. 116:1-13.

Some one says God's love is like a gold thread in the grey web of life. The psalmist says the web is all gold with not a thread of grey. Not only does God come in perilous and bitter times. He guides the faltering steps in life's daily trudge.

**Friday**—A great Passover, 2 Chron. 30:13-22.

Good King Hezekiah was an "opener of doors closed on God." In the first month of the first year of his reign, he opened the doors of the house of the Lord. Now, reviving the Passover, he opens another door to God, the door of a nation's memory.

**Saturday**—Lest we forget, Deut. 8:11-20.

It is "all" the way we were led, that is to be remembered. Christian must remember the Slough of Despond, and also who gave him a helping hand, the lions in the way, and also who told him they were chained, the wicket gate, and also who gave him admittance. A memory is good only if it remembers God.

**Sunday**—Do this in remembrance, Matt. 26:20-29.

The Lord's Supper revives a great memory and kindles a great hope. It has two windows. One commands the vision of the cross of divine suffering. The other fronts the sunrise, commanding a vision of the throne. He suffered for his children alone. He shares with them his victory.

## A PRAYER

O thou who preparest a table for us in the presence of our enemies, we thank thee that thou hast provided the way of approach to thee. Teach us how to come to thy table with a broken spirit, knowing that this is the sacrifice thou dost require of us, thou Lamb of God, on whose sacrifice we rest for salvation. Amen.