

Genesis to Revelation: The Greatest Story
Life Group Notes Week Beginning 2nd June 2019

RECAP:

- God created everything good. We rebelled against God.
- Every human being is born broken because of sin.
- Throughout the OT we read of coming judgement against sin and also a promised rescuer – this is pictured in a micro sense in many of the OT historical events.

Setting the Scene – God has promised to Abraham that he will raise up a nation from whom the rescuer would one day come. From Abraham's descendants come the tribes of Israel. Israel end up in slavery in Egypt, and in that sense, they are “far from home”. This is where we pick up the story...

Read Exodus Chapter 3.

Q. The Lord chooses Moses for a specific task – What is it?

Q. What is the Lord's response towards the suffering which the Israelites are enduring at the hands of the Egyptians? (see verses 7-10)

Q. Is Moses keen to go to Pharaoh? Why/Why not?

Q. What is the Lord's promise to Moses in verse 12?

Q. Why should this be encouraging for us?

Moses' command to Pharaoh to let the people go is declined. Ten plagues follow as judgement, culminating in the plague of the first born.

The Lord asks the Israelites to kill a lamb and put the blood on their doors as a sign that they are trusting in God to save...

Read Ex 12:12-17

Q. Chapter 12v14 says the Israelites are to commemorate this Passover event – Why are they to do this do you think?

Read 1 Peter 1:18-21

This speaks of Christ as a “lamb”. Paul in 1 Cor 5:7 speaks of Christ as “our Passover lamb” –

Q. What parallels exist between the Passover and the sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ? (If you are stuck, think about what the Passover lamb achieves, which is fully realised in Christ)

It is helpful to see the Passover as a “pre-enactment” of the ultimate rescue achieved through the Lord Jesus.

Q. What do you understand by the above statement? In what ways is it a “pre-enactment”?

Q. If the Passover was a “pre-enactment” i.e. looking forward ... How is communion a “re-enactment” i.e. looking backwards?

When the Lord Jesus institutes the Lord’s Supper, he is in fact celebrating Passover. In other words, he is sharing the Passover celebration with his disciples, but says this is about himself. i.e. Passover points forward to the ultimate rescue of sinners.

Concluding parallels between the Exodus and the gospel:

- A. The Lord saved the Israelites from slavery through the blood of the lamb on their door posts. This blood was a sign they trusted wholly in God....
- B. ...Similarly the Lord will save all, from slavery to sin, who trust in **the** Passover lamb, the Lord Jesus. If we trust Jesus to have paid for our sin, we are saved from the coming judgement.
- A. In the Exodus story the Israelites are brought to freedom and eventually into a land...
- B. ...the parallel with this is seen in the reality that, through faith in Christ alone, we are brought to freedom and one day into **the** promised land, the new earth where we will be God’s people, in Gods place, under his rule forever.

The Exodus speaks of an amazing rescuing God – who has made a way for us through Jesus the lamb.

Spend some time in prayer giving thanks for his amazing salvation. Pray for the courage to proclaim the good news to those we meet. Remember Moses was reluctant/fearful to go and proclaim freedom to Pharaoh – we should be encouraged that God uses us in spite of our weaknesses. He is with us – Praise God!

Paul ☺