

## Have a profound Passover



April 9, 2022

Philip Shields

[www.LightontheRock.org](http://www.LightontheRock.org)

*All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.*

**KEY WORDS:** *work of God, Passover, one body, church divisions, healing, body and blood of Christ, the body of Christ.*

**Summary:** This teaching 39 mins. This teaching brings up some things we – as the Body and Bride of Christ – may be wise to be considering. How vital it is to take Passover. Is Christ's body today really one – or fragmented? Are you helping gather or scatter God's children? Are some over-emphasizing knowledge and doctrine and distancing from others who aren't fully on the same page? And do we focus on a deep, close relationship with God and Jesus/Yeshua - or just knowledge and information? What may be hindering dramatic healings in regard to Passover and Christ's body. Passover focuses on Yeshua/Jesus and our Father to their glory.

\*\*\* \*\*\*\*\* \*\*

Hello, we are so close to Passover as I record this. This won't be long – but I hope it helps us all focus on the Passover in oneness with Christ and his body.

We must first repent, be baptized and receive God's spirit before partaking of the body and blood of Christ.

Most of you hearing this by now know that we **MUST** – before taking of Christ's body and blood, or the Unleavened bread and red wine – that we must **first examine ourselves** and then we partake of it. We *don't* examine ourselves and then decide NOT to take the of the body and blood of Christ. We examine ourselves and then "So let him eat..." as 1 Cor. 11:28 says.

- If we don't eat of his flesh and drink of his blood, we have no life in us. What I'm about to read was said *shortly before Passover (John 6:4)*.

### **John 6:53-54**

**Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.**

**54 Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood HAS eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."**

- If you are baptized and had hands laid on you for the reception of God's Holy Spirit, *God's Holy Spirit has immersed you into the body of Christ.*

**1 Corinthians 12:12-14**

“For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ.

13 **For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body** — whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free — and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.”

**Holy, precious brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ, the church, or *ekklesia*, is ONE body, not many splits or split up bodies.** In the song “Onward Christian soldiers” there's the phrase “all one body we...” “ONE in hope and doctrine, ONE in charity” – but we're NOT “all one body we.”

***As we come to Passover, be praying that God will bring his church together. Christ's body is NOT to be divided (1 Cor. 1:10-13). Paul's plea was that there be no divisions in the body.***

**1 Corinthians 1:10-13**

10 Now I **plead** with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, **and that there be no divisions among you**, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. 11 For it has been declared to me concerning you, my brethren, by those of Chloe's household, that there are contentions among you.

12 Now I say this, that each of you says, "I am of Paul," or "I am of Apollos," or "I am of Cephas," or "I am of Christ." **13 Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?"**

So if you're part of those who are dividing – ARE YOU even a part of the ONE body of Christ? I assure you; the total body of Christ is not limited to where YOU attend! And I also assure you there are people where you attend who are NOT part of Christ's body. Jesus said that he will bring sheep not of this flock, and there shall be ONE flock.

**John 10:16**

“And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear **My** voice; and **there will be ONE flock and one shepherd.**”

**What is “the BODY of Christ?”** *Is it just a (or your) specific corporate group?* Absolutely not. It is anyone who has and is led by God's SPIRIT – everywhere in the world. Those LED by God's spirit are sons of God (Romans

8:9, 14). I'm totally convinced there are spirit-led children of God scattered in various groups that you don't recognize. Ask God to open your eyes.

The problem is – we expect the body of Christ to be composed ONLY of members who believe exactly like we do in all things. *And we over-emphasize doctrine and knowledge like the ancient Gnostics did-- but under-emphasize a profoundly close love relationship with Jesus/Yeshua.*

But notice a few things about DOCTRINE:

- Even APOLLOS did not understand fully about “the way of the Lord” (Acts 18:24-28). He was not rejected – but was gently taught by Aquila and Priscilla. Paul liked him, Paul said he planted the seed at Corinth and Apollos watered – and GOD gave the increase, the growth (1 Cor. 3:6). We never feel any sense of competition between Paul and Apollos.

**1 Corinthians 3:5-8**

“Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. 7 *So then neither he who plants is ANYTHING, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.*

8 Now he who plants and he who waters **ARE ONE**, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.”

*They worked together, even though the brethren started talking about being “of Paul” or “of Apollos” like brethren today speak of being of this fellowship group or that other one. Paul was very complimentary and friendly to Apollos. Paul says he was not a good speaker (1 Cor. 2:1) but Apollos was eloquent (Acts 18:24), so it's understandable that some would prefer to listen to Apollos.*

**MINISTERS:** Let's be more like Paul and bring people together. Start by being ONE with other of God's ministers-- and bringing God's people together. Encourage brethren to visit various groups – not just yours. “Christ is NOT divided” –1 Cor. 1:13.

- Some believed the resurrection of the dead was already past. Paul didn't order them thrown out of the body. NO – he explained more accurately in 1 Cor. 15.
- IN other cases, Paul says – if this or that doctrinal difference is not salvational – move on. It's OK if some won't eat meat or drink wine at all for example. Read Romans 14:14-21. Some were strict vegetarians who thought any meat was unclean. Paul said not to be offensive, even if

someone's belief is a little off (1 Cor. 8:12-13). When we are offensive to brethren, Paul says we "sin against Christ" (v.12). WHY? *Because we're not regarding or esteeming the Lord's body – which is the church.*

- Some of God's people like to spend an hour before the teaching starts – in singing, dancing, praising God in music and dance. Some of you reject that. Don't reject God's people who – like David – liked to praise God in harp, cymbals and trumpets and dance and clapping and raising hands.

Those of you who like all that dancing and singing – don't reject those who are more conservative and quiet and private. Come together!

- If people want to call God "Abba" or Yehovah, or Yahweh -- and call Jesus Yeshua or Yahshua or Yehoshua – let's let each one worship and pray and speak of their God in the way that makes them comfortable as long as it doesn't break any laws of God. But let's come together!

***Are you hearing me? Are you hearing God's word on this?*** God's people are supposed to be ONE BODY – picturing Christ. One flock.

I've said before and I'll say again: **I can't imagine Jesus Christ, Yeshua HaMashiach, marrying a Bride made up of people all claiming to be the first fruits or BRIDE of Christ, but who won't have anything to do with one another! (2x)**

**So Bride people – let's be ONE bride.** Paul said he wanted to present the church as ONE virgin. Christ is not marrying 5 or 10 virgins. He's marrying one.

**2 Corinthians 11:2**

"For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may **present you as A chaste virgin** to Christ."

**My point is, as we come to Passover, let's endeavor in the coming months and years to be someone who brings people together. Christ said we're either gathering or scattering his people.** If we're not helping to gather his people together, or we're doing nothing – we're scattering his people (**Luke 11:23**). Resolve hurt feelings. Bring people together.

But we have preconceived ideas of what a true believer should be like. And we refuse fellowship with spirit-led sons of God, look down on others, and put people (and God) into neat little boxes. **I believe these attitudes are a big reason we are not seeing a lot of dramatic healings** – though there are

some. It's partly because of not esteeming the body of Christ. That term can refer to directly to Christ himself, but in context – more likely refers to the church.

**1 Corinthians 11:26-32**

“For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes.

27 Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. 29 For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, *not discerning the Lord's body.*

30 **For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep.** 31 For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. 32 But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world.”

So I hope we can start resolving this and start esteeming God's wide variety of types of people he is calling and be coming together truly as one body.

**Now, as we come together, in everything we do, let's point people to Yeshua/Jesus.**

Here's what I know about THIS Passover. It's ALL about Yeshua. What a **precious and beautiful name is Jesus, Yeshua, SAVIOR**, one who SAVES. WE have a SAVIOR! **Who saved you on PASSOVER DAY** from certain death because of your and my sins. You were pronounced guilty by God the Father, but you accepted Christ in your repentance, *and so ALL your sins were placed on sinless Jesus* – and *HE* was the one pronounced guilty so *you could now be seen without sin*. And he continues to purge us of sin – 1 John 1:7. SO all of God's wrath WE had earned was placed on Jesus/Yeshua and God is no longer angry at your or me and sees us covered by the life of his precious son. We're now also seen with God's righteousness (2 Cor. 5:21).

**Focus on your relationship with Him** perhaps even more than you focus on having right doctrine and the knowledge of the truth. It's both. God is to be worshiped in spirit and truth – yes -- and we are to abide in Christ. John 15:4-5 says that whoever abides in the Vine (Christ), will bear much fruit. How did Jesus himself define “abiding” in him? It has much to do with Passover!

**John 6:56-57**

***“He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. 57 As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.”***

So this Passover, be ready. Start now to examine yourself and where we need to let Christ live more, and how we can fight sin more. Don't just walk in at the last minute to Passover service. Have your deep self-examination going on now, before God, in repentance and joy of forgiveness – as David did in Ps 51. David –all within that one prayer – goes from deep agony to sheer joy of salvation. But seek to KNOW Yeshua/Jesus much deeper than ever before and to KNOW GOD the Father as never before.

How would you define “God’s work”? Yeshua/Jesus always pointed it back to believing in him and coming to him. Watch:

**John 6:28-29**

Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?"

29 Jesus answered and said to them, "THIS is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

And here's what Jesus said to the Jews who were attacking him. He said again, it's more than just being about doctrine and Bible knowledge.

**John 5:38-40**

*"But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe.*

39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

**40 But you are not willing to come to ME that you may have life".**

So come to Jesus. Even talk and pray to him. And yes, I pray *mostly* to God our Father. But I also pray to Jesus Christ – as John did (Rev. 22:20), **as Stephen did (ACTS 7:59-60)**. It's OK to pray and talk to Jesus frequently. I do. I hope you do. Jesus is GOD too. Come to HIM, that you may have life.

So be ready on Passover to come into his presence in solemn joy!

**Psalms 16:11**

**"You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."**

So let's come on Passover knowing we're accepted, we've examined ourselves and realize we fall short – but, in Christ – **we are a new creation (2 Cor. 5:17)**, so we *will* partake of HIS perfectly *unleavened*, *sinless*, *perfect* body and life – as HE is the meaning of the unleavened bread we eat during Passover week. We've already thrown out the leaven in our lives and homes –

and now we know that we must proceed by letting Jesus BE OUR life now, as Paul says in Colossians 3:3-4

And in Him, we have God's righteous covering. FOR by his one sacrifice on Passover day, HE perfected forever those who are being sanctified (Hebrews 10:14). That's what it says!

And like Paul, I glory and boast in the cross of my Lord (**Gal. 6:14**) and what He accomplished on that cruel instrument of death. But for us, it's the symbol of God's forgiving love for us.

Please hear my 2-part teaching on "God's perfection for us – God's way" and the teachings on God's grace and favor.

**We should FEEL and GRASP:**

- We're all broken vessels – whom God has accepted and HEALED our brokenness because of our Yeshua/Jesus.
- We've all been awful sinners with awful sins – but at Passover we understand **God's love and grace for us was greater than ANY sins**. His GRACIOUS FAVOR came through Christ, wave upon wave. Hallelujah.
- **We come to Passover forgiving everyone as Christ did**. Even the worst of sinners, we would lovingly welcome into Christ's body if that person renounced his past and accepted Jesus as his savior. ANY repentant sinner accepting Jesus. Christ was a friend of sinners.

**Look at the one Jesus selected to write most of the New Testament: Paul, a terrible zealot** who had tortured and killed many of the Jerusalem brethren! **See our Lord's confrontation with Paul (Saul) on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-9)**. And a believer there named Ananias knew perfectly well about Paul – but when Yeshua ordered him to go welcome Paul, the first words out of Ananias' mouth were "**Brother** Saul" (Acts 9:17). BROTHER. May we copy that!

- **Our God Most High, who happens to be our own Abba, our Father – did not want to spend eternity without... YOU**. So he made the way possible, he opened the door into his divine FAMILY, **through his only Son.... Jesus**, God's Passover Lamb, who takes away the sin of the world (John 1:29). So now you are a CHILD of GOD! And HE is our FATHER. All of this started because of Passover – and Yeshua – and Abba our Father.

**Let us PRAY:**

**Father, we bow down our heads and worship you. Jesus – we worship you.** We bow down even as we raise up holy hands to reach out to you. Come be in us Father, by Christ and your spirit. Father, Yeshua – we love you. Help us love you more.

**LORD, open our eyes. OPEN our hearts to feel you, to see you, to HEAR you, to obey you, to love you, to submit to you, to seek you, to grow in YOUR image as you are the image of Abba above. OPEN US to you, dear Lord. **Have your way in us. Help us cooperate as you bring all your sheep into your one flock** (John 10:16). Rebuke Satan's work of dividing your people. Open our eyes and hearts to understand – as Paul said, - that you hate divisions in the body (1 Cor. 1:10-13). Christ, you are not divided, and neither should we, your people, be. But help us be one, as you and Father are one.**

Master, CHANGE us, to look, act and live to be just like you. LIVE in us, as you lived when you walked this earth your hands created. Oh how we've failed to measure up so many times... but time is short before your glorious return to earth. May we become less, and you become greater in our lives. As John said, you must increase, Lord – and we must decrease (John 3:30).

You've saved us, so now help us do good works and share what we have with others. Help us bring more people to you and disciple others. *HELP US COME TOGETHER with other spirit-led believers.* Help us live your zealous life on earth. "The zeal for your house has eaten me up" – and let that be true of us now too. We repent of any Laodicean lukewarmness. Help us WAKE up out of our sleep and do the work while it is still day, still possible. Help us harvest your fields of wheat for the harvest is plenteous.

Jesus, our Passover, thank you, thank you, thank you for what you suffered through for us on Passover day almost 2000 years ago. Father, thank you for letting that all go through. Jesus – be our passion. Live in us, Lion of Judah, prince of Peace, and our coming Husband. Help us see you and hear you, Master.

And help us accept and to put ON the robe of your righteousness – and not be found naked or with filthy garments of self-righteousness and sin. Pour eye salve into our eyes, that we may see. And turn us into red hot zealous members of your holy ONE body. Give us a most meaningful Passover!

In Jesus/Yeshua's mighty and holy and loving name, Amen.