



JESUS IN PASSOVER

Introduction

Discover the profound connection between Jesus and the Jewish holiday of Passover in this inspiring devotional study guide.

Explore how God's deliverance of Israel from slavery in Egypt mirrors His rescue of Christians from sin and spiritual death. Uncover themes of freedom, new life, and divine purpose as you deepen your faith journey. Celebrate the ultimate fulfillment of Passover in Jesus and embrace the transformative power of God's redemptive love in your life **today**.

Jesus and Passover

We all need rescuing sometimes. Easter and the Jewish holiday of Passover reveal God as the great rescuer.

These holidays occur at different times, but that's not how God intended it. Their separation is unfortunate because Passover has a lot to say about your life as a Christian. In this study guide, we'll look at those things, but first, let's set the foundation.

What is Passover?

The Jewish Feast of Passover commemorates God's dramatic rescue of the ancient Jewish people enslaved in Egypt. Pharaoh was reluctant to lose his free labor force, so God used 10 miraculous plagues to persuade him.

Passover and Jesus

The final plague was that the firstborn of every household in Egypt would die. God told the Israelites how to avoid death: place the blood of a sacrificed lamb on their home's doorframe. Seeing the blood, He would pass over them. Built right into this Jewish holiday is a picture of the Messiah, who died on Passover centuries later. Jesus' blood covers our sin and rescues us from spiritual death.

All the Feasts, or holy days, God commanded Israel to observe have prophetic pictures of future redemptive events. Jesus' first coming fulfilled the prophetic correlations of some, and His second coming will fulfill the others. God intentionally aligned Jesus' sacrificial death with Passover.

How did Passover and Easter Get Separated?

By 325 C.E., animosity toward Jewish people existed in the Church as Gentile Christians blamed the Jews for killing Jesus. This antisemitism existed even though Scripture reveals that Jesus purposefully came to die for us and laid down His own life as the only way to redeem us from sin.

Because of this attitude toward Jewish people, a group of Christian leaders met and decided to disassociate Jesus' death and resurrection from Passover. The Council of Nicaea abandoned the biblical Hebrew calendar, which is based on the lunar cycle, and adopted the solar-based Gregorian calendar. They declared a new way to calculate when the resurrection would be celebrated to ensure it didn't coincide with Passover.

Unfortunately, these calendar changes hide the very connection God intended to display: that Jesus is our Passover Lamb.

Over the next several days, you'll discover significant connections between Easter and Passover and the beautiful picture of our spiritual rescue through Jesus the Messiah reflected in the Jewish holiday of Passover, which is still observed today.

Scriptures

“On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn of both people and animals, and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are, and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the Lord — a lasting ordinance” (Exodus 12:12–14 NIV).

“For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life, so that I may take it up again. No one takes it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own. I have the authority to lay it down, and I have the authority to take it up again. This command I received from My Father” (John 10:17–18 TLV).

Going a little farther, He fell face down and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me! Yet not as I will, but as You will” (Matthew 26:39 TLV).

Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch — as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed (1 Corinthians 5:7 NIV).

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. They are set right as a gift of His grace, through the redemption that is in Messiah Yeshua [Jesus]. God set forth Yeshua as an atonement [covering], through faith in His blood, to show His righteousness in passing over sins already committed (Romans 3:23–25 TLV).



Rescued from Death

“The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are. When I see the blood, I will pass over you...” (Exodus 12:13 NIV).

Every day, across the globe, lives are saved in some way. They're rescued from crumpled cars, pulled back from the path of danger, given CPR by strangers, or restored to health by medical professionals.

In Egypt, God told the Israelites about the final plague He would bring on the entire land. The firstborn of every household, Egyptian or Jewish, human or animal, would die. He revealed the only rescue from the coming death: paint the blood of a sacrificed lamb on the doorframes of their homes. The angel of death, sweeping through the land, would see the blood and pass over those homes. The blood was their covering – their protection, and rescue. The blood saved them.

Passover illustrates a picture of Jesus, the Messiah promised in the Old Testament Scriptures, who came to rescue us from spiritual death. He died to pay the penalty of sin on our behalf. That penalty is death, spiritual and eternal. His blood not only covers the sins of those who place their faith in Him but also removes them. When God looks at us, He sees Jesus' innocent righteousness covering our sin. Jesus is our Passover Lamb.

There are countless ways to save an earthly life, but only Jesus can save our eternal lives.

“Amen, amen I tell you, whoever hears My word and trusts the One who sent Me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed over from death into life” (John 5:24 TLV).

Reflection Questions:

- *Have you ever been saved from physical death? How did you feel toward the one(s) who saved you? Thank God again for sending them to rescue you*
- *Remember how God drew you to Him and when you placed your faith in Jesus. Think for a moment about what He saved you from. Thank Him for Jesus, our Passover Lamb, whose blood covers our sin, whose death paid its price, and whose resurrection proves His victory for us over sin and death*

Scriptures:

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. They are set right as a gift of His grace, through the redemption that is in Messiah Yeshua [Jesus]. God set forth Yeshua as an atonement [covering], through faith in His blood, to show His righteousness in passing over sins already committed. (Romans 3:23–25 TLV).

In Him we have redemption through His blood — the removal of trespasses — in keeping with the richness of His grace (Ephesians 1:7 TLV).

For sin's payment is death, but God's gracious gift is eternal life in Messiah Yeshua our Lord (Romans 6:23 TLV).

We all like sheep have gone astray. Each of us turned to his own way. So Adonai has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:6 TLV).

Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch — as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed (1 Corinthians 5:7 NIV).

“They are to take the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the crossbeam of the houses where they will eat it.... For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night and strike down every firstborn, both men and animals, and I will execute judgments against all the gods of Egypt. I am Adonai. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are. When I see the blood, I will pass over you. So there will be no plague among you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt” (Exodus 12:7, 12–13 TLV).

God set forth Yeshua as an atonement, through faith in His blood, to show His righteousness in passing over sins already committed (Romans 3:25 TLV).



Rescued from Slavery

“So when your son asks you in times to come, ‘What is this?’ say to him, ‘By a strong hand Adonai brought us out from Egypt, the house of bondage’” (Exodus 13:14 TLV).

Living in freedom as we do today, it’s hard to imagine being enslaved and having no opportunity for a different life. Generation upon generation of Israelites in Egypt were servants of cruel masters, living without hope. Born into slavery, they died slaves.

Today, during a traditional Jewish Passover observance, called a Seder, a child asks, “Why is this night different from all other nights?” Part of the answer states, “If God had not brought us out, we would still be slaves today in Egypt.”

What a sobering thought. But God intervened and changed everything. He did the impossible: broke the shackles of bondage and rescued the Israelites from slavery in one sweeping event.

Just as God rescued the Israelites from Egypt, Jesus came to save us – from slavery to sin. We had no power to free ourselves, and before we placed our faith in Jesus, we were without hope. We were born slaves to sin, and if not for Jesus, we would also die as slaves to sin.

Jesus' name reveals the very thing He came to do – save us. His name in Hebrew – Yeshua – means “salvation.” If you've placed your faith in Him as God's Messiah, you are no longer a slave to sin. Sin doesn't own you anymore. God rescued you out of bondage, purchasing your freedom with Jesus' shed blood.

Looking at Easter and Passover together as they were meant to be seen, we remember how God saved the Israelites from their bondage and what Jesus accomplished for us through His death and resurrection. We recognize whose servants we now are. We no longer serve sin. We are rescued from its mastery over us, set free to love and serve God instead.

“But now, having been set free from sin and having become enslaved to God, you have your fruit resulting in holiness. And the outcome is eternal life” (Romans 6:22 TLV).

Reflection Questions:

- What trajectory do you think your life would have taken if Jesus had not delivered you from sin's mastery?
- How would you look at that sin differently if you fully grasped that you don't have to obey it, that you are not its slave anymore?

Scriptures

Then Adonai said, “I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their slave masters, for I know their pains (Exodus 3:7 TLV).

Then Moses said to the people, “Commemorate this day, the day you came out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery, because the Lord brought you out of it with a mighty hand ...” (Exodus 13:3 NIV).

“She will give birth to a son; and you shall call His name Yeshua, for He will save His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21 TLV).

Do you not know that to whatever you yield yourselves as slaves for obedience, you are slaves to what you obey — whether to sin resulting in death, or to obedience resulting in righteousness? But thanks be to God that though you were slaves of sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching under which you were placed (Romans 6:16–17 TLV).

But now, having been set free from sin and having become enslaved to God, you have your fruit resulting in holiness. And the outcome is eternal life (Romans 6:22 TLV).



Rescued for Freedom

“Therefore, say to the Israelites: ‘I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment’” (Exodus 6:6 NIV).

Can you imagine what it must have been like when the Israelites left Egypt? Each one had been enslaved their whole life. Yet, all 600,000 men – plus women and children – just walked right out of the country. Free.

The end of their slavery was the beginning of their freedom. And so it is with us. The children of Israel were rescued from bondage to Pharaoh, and we’ve been rescued from bondage to sin.

Centuries later, Jesus stood up in the synagogue and read Isaiah 61:1 from the Hebrew Scriptures – about the Messiah who would come to proclaim freedom for captives and release for prisoners. He then rolled up the scroll and said the people had just heard that prophecy’s fulfillment. He was fulfilling it.

What freedoms do we have as Believers in Jesus? Scripture tells us we can approach God freely and with confidence. We’re free from accusation, free from

condemnation, and free from the fear of death. Those are just some of the freedoms Jesus' rescue bought for us.

We are “called” to freedom. The Bible reminds us that freedom goes hand in hand with responsibility. We are to use our freedom for good as though we are slaves to God.

At Passover, God dramatically freed His people. Jesus' mission as our Passover Lamb was to set us free to live in the freedom He offers. Passover adds a new dimension to our celebrations of Jesus' resurrection. It offers us a time to look back and thank God for setting us free as He did the Israelites. True and eternal freedom comes only through Him.

“For freedom, Messiah set us free—so stand firm, and do not be burdened by a yoke of slavery again” (Galatians 5:1 TLV).

Reflection Questions:

- What mental images come to mind when you think of being freed?
- How do you think life expanded for the Israelites once beyond Egypt's borders?
- What does being rescued from slavery to sin and released into God's freedom mean to you?

- *What kind of expanded life did Jesus' blood purchase for you?*
- *What responsibilities come with your freedom in Messiah?*

Scriptures:

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Then He rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on Him. He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing" (Luke 4:18-21 NIV).

In Him we have boldness and access with confidence through trusting in Him (Ephesians 3:12 TLV).

But now He has reconciled you in Messiah's physical body through death, in order to present you holy, spotless and blameless in His eyes (Colossians 1:22 TLV).

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Messiah Yeshua (Romans 8:1 TLV).

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed!" (John 8:36 TLV).

... that through death He might break the power of the one who had the power of death (that is, the devil) and free those who by fear of death were in bondage all their lives (Hebrews 2:14–15 TLV).

Live as free people, but not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil. Rather, live as God's slaves (1 Peter 2:16 TLV).

Brothers and sisters, you were called to freedom — only do not let your freedom become an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another (Galatians 5:13 TLV).



Rescued and Supplied

“Adonai gave the people favor in the eyes of the Egyptians and let them have what they asked for. So they plundered the Egyptians” (Exodus 12:36 TLV).

In one night, God rescued the Israelites from their bondage in Egypt and sent them out as free people. As they began their new lives, God supplied them with an abundance. Even in their haste, they were able to take their livestock. Not only that, but God had instructed them to ask the Egyptians outright for their valuable articles of gold, silver, and clothing. Having just endured God’s final judgment, in which the firstborn of every household – even Pharaoh’s – died, Egypt willingly obliged.

Here is another parallel between the Jewish holiday of Passover and the life that Jesus’ death and resurrection gained for us. As God supplied the Israelites for their new lives of freedom, He has equipped us to live in the freedom He has given us in Yeshua, the Messiah. He promised to take care of our practical needs, such as food and clothing, and He has also given us an abundance of spiritual provisions.

Scripture reveals that, through the Holy Spirit, God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing and everything we need to live free and godly lives. He has supplied us with spiritual armor, spiritual gifts, His Word, and everything we need for doing His will and the works He has prepared for us.

God provided for the Israelites as they left Egypt and throughout their 40 years of wandering, and we can trust His provision for our life journeys as well.

*“His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and virtue”
(2 Peter 1:3 TLV).*

Reflection Questions:

- When we first place our faith in Jesus, we may not realize it at the time, but we embark on a journey. Take a few moments to look back on your life since you first trusted in Jesus.
- How did God spiritually equip you for the various life events and challenges you've faced along the way?
- Look at the Scriptures that follow and answer: What has God supplied you with for your journey with Him?

Scriptures

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ... But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matthew 6:31, 33 TLV).

My God will fulfill every need of yours according to the riches of His glory in Messiah Yeshua (Philippians 4:19 TLV).

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Messiah (Ephesians 1:3 TLV).

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and virtue (2 Peter 1:3 TLV).

God has put into His community first emissaries, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then healings, helps, leadership, various kinds of tongues (1 Corinthians 12:28 TLV).

Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you may be able to resist when the times are evil, and after you have done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm then! Buckle the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. Strap up your feet in

readiness with the Good News of shalom. Above all, take up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God (Ephesians 6:13–17 TLV).

We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophecy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully (Romans 12:6–8 NIV).

For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills (1 Corinthians 12:8–11 NKJV).

All Scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching, for reproof, for restoration, and for training in righteousness, so that the person belonging to God may be capable, fully equipped for every good deed (2 Timothy 3:16–17 TLV).



Rescued to Belong to God

“I will take you to Myself as a people, and I will be your God. You will know that I am Adonai your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians” (Exodus 6:7 TLV).

When God called the Israelites out of bondage at the Exodus, He called them into a deeper relationship with Him. He promised to be their God, and they would be His people. He promised to be in their midst, to walk among them. He told the Israelites that they would be His “inheritance” and His treasured possession.

The God who created the universe and who owns the whole Earth selected a people to be His special prize – Israel. Passover commemorates the Lord rescuing His people and drawing them closer to Him. They belong to Him, and He belongs to them.

As Believers in Jesus, we have been brought near to God, reconciled to Him through Yeshua’s sacrifice and glorious resurrection. The Jewish people were first His children, but Gentile Believers have been adopted into the family when they placed their faith in Jesus, who died and rose again for our freedom. Now that non-Jewish Believers have been grafted into the family, God is Father to us all. We belong to Him, and the Holy

Spirit bears witness, confirming that we are part of God's family.

If you've ever felt like you don't fit in or don't belong, know that you belong with God. Now that we have trusted Jesus, nothing and no one can undo our relationship with God as His beloved. We have been drawn into a priceless relationship with the Almighty God. As His children, we've been given the tremendous privilege of calling Him our "Abba," or "Father." God is the perfect Father, beyond all earthly comparisons.

"But whoever did receive Him, those trusting in His name, to these He gave the right to become children of God" (John 1:12 TLV).

Reflection Questions:

- *Think about how God's love compelled Him to provide the remedy for the separation from Him that your sin caused*
- *What does it mean to you that God has called you to be His own?*
- *How does that affect your daily life and interactions with Him?*
- *Spend some time thanking Him for your salvation and being a part of His family*

Scriptures

“I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people” (Leviticus 26:12 NIV).

“But the Lord has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be His people, an inheritance, as you are this day” (Deuteronomy 4:20 NKJV).

For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the Lord has chosen you to be his treasured possession (Deuteronomy 14:2 NIV).

For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall again into fear; rather, you received the Spirit of adoption, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” (Romans 8:15 TLV).

“My sheep hear My voice. I know them, and they follow Me. I give them eternal life! They will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of My hand” (John 10:27–28 TLV).

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God’s own possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the One who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Peter 2:9 TLV).

If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root (Romans 11:17 NIV).

See how glorious a love the Father has given us, that we should be called God's children – and so we are! ... (1 John 3:1 TLV).



Rescued to Follow

*“By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night”
(Exodus 13:21 NIV).*

God called the Israelites out of Egypt, freeing them from bondage to evil masters, but not to be without guidance or covering. They were to follow Him.

The Israelites in the wilderness followed God physically. God led them with His presence in pillars of cloud and fire. He directed them where to go, when to move, and when to rest. Later, He gave His Law, full of instructions on how His especially selected people should follow Him spiritually.

Often, as Jesus selected His disciples, He simply said, “Follow Me.” When Peter asked about John’s future, Jesus told him that his business was to follow Him, regardless of anyone else. It’s the same with us today. Jesus set us free from our bondage to sin, but that doesn’t mean we are free to be our own guides in life. We are to follow Him.

Deuteronomy 13:5 gives us an idea of what it means to follow God spiritually. In telling Israel to follow the

Lord, Moses revealed it includes fearing God – having reverent respect for Him and, yes, even some awed fear – obeying Him, listening to His voice, serving Him, and clinging to Him.

As Moses prepared to die, he presented a choice to the Israelites, explaining that choosing to follow and obey God was the same as choosing life for themselves. The same choice is ours each day.

As we remember Easter and how it relates to Passover, the Exodus, and the wilderness, let's thank the Lord for how He led the Israelites into their new lives long ago and how He guides us into life today.

“But thanks be to God, who in Messiah always leads us in triumphal procession, and through us reveals everywhere the aroma of the knowledge of Himself” (2 Corinthians 2:14 TLV).

Reflection Questions:

- Are you more prone to following, or do you want to take the lead?
- How do you think your personality and leadership roles affect how you follow God?
- As a Believer, in what ways is choosing to follow God each day the same as choosing life over death?

Scriptures

You in Your lovingkindness led the people You have redeemed. You guided them in Your strength to Your holy habitation (Exodus 15:13 TLV).

After these things, Yeshua went out and observed a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth. He said to him, “Follow Me” (Luke 5:27 TLV).

“This book of the Torah should not depart from your mouth—you are to meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. For then you will make your ways prosperous and then you will be successful” (Joshua 1:8 TLV).

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah ... But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people” (Jeremiah 31:31, 33 NKJV).

Seeing him, Peter said to Yeshua, “Lord, what about him?” Yeshua said to him, “If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!” (John 21:21–22 TLV).

It is the Lord your God you must follow, and Him you must revere. Keep His commands and obey Him; serve Him and hold fast to Him (Deuteronomy 13:4 NIV).

“I call the heavens and the earth to witness about you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Therefore choose life so that you and your descendants may live, by loving Adonai your God, listening to His voice, and clinging to Him. For He is your life and the length of your days, that you may dwell on the land that Adonai swore to your fathers — to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob — to give them” (Deuteronomy 30:19–20 TLV).



Rescued to a New Life

“So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, to bring them up out of that land into a good and large land, a land flowing with milk and honey ...”
(Exodus 3:8 TLV).

The Jewish holiday of Passover provides an excellent opportunity for Believers in Jesus to reflect on how God delivered and provided for the ancient Jewish people and, paired with Easter, how He provides for Believers today.

The Lord had promised the children of Israel a new home, a land of their own. He designated a good and spacious land that was fertile and abundant. The Israelites were free and on their way to a new life in the Promised Land that God had already allocated for them.

The Israelites journeying through the wilderness didn't always trust what God said. As a result, the whole generation that came out of Egypt – all except Joshua and Caleb – wasn't allowed in the Promised Land. They missed out on what God wanted to give them.

As Believers, we can miss out on enjoying our new life in Messiah when we don't trust what God says. When

we seek after other things, choose our own way, or let fear overtake us, we don't experience the blessings God has already given us. Paul urges us to lay hold of what God has offered and not forfeit it through seeking fulfillment our own way. In contrast, as we trust the Lord, we'll be like a tree planted by a river, with roots consistently absorbing the living water – no matter the season.

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“For He satisfies the thirsty soul and fills the hungry soul with goodness” (Psalm 107:9 TLV).

Reflection Questions:

- What spiritual “good land” has God given to us through the gift of Jesus and the Holy Spirit? What is the “abundant life” Jesus talked about?
- If He has already given it to us, why don't we continually experience it?
- What can you do to help yourself more consistently live in the new life God has given you?

Scriptures

Therefore if anyone is in Messiah, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new (2 Corinthians 5:17 TLV).

“The thief comes only to steal, slaughter, and destroy. I have come that they might have life, and have it abundantly!” (John 10:10 TLV).

“Whoever believes in Me, as the Scripture says, ‘out of his innermost being will flow rivers of living water’” (John 7:38 TLV).

“But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never be thirsty. The water that I give him will become a fountain of water within him, springing up to eternal life!” (John 4:14 TLV).

“In this wilderness your bodies will fall — every one of you twenty years old or more who was counted in the census and who has grumbled against me. Not one of you will enter the land I swore with uplifted hand to make your home, except Caleb son of Jephunneh and Joshua son of Nun” (Numbers 14:29–30 NIV).

I press on toward the goal for the reward of the upward calling of God in Messiah Yeshua (Philippians 3:14 TLV).

“Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit” (Jeremiah 17:7–8 NKJV).



Rescued to Glorify God

“Adonai is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation. This is my God, and I will glorify Him, my father’s God, and I will exalt Him” (Exodus 15:2 TLV).

When God rescued the Israelites from Egypt, He called them to a new, free life. He also called them to glorify Him. The word “glorify” has several related meanings. One indicates worship or praise. Another is to reveal God as glorious. Yet another is to light up or shine.

God is not an egomaniac. He wants us to worship Him because it’s the only honest response to who He is, and those who worship Him must do so in truth. Psalm 29:2 instructs us to give God the glory He’s due.

Another reason God wants us to glorify Him is to point others to Him. As we worship and follow God, the world takes notice. As we live godly lives, we reflect Him. God wants us to reveal Him as glorious so that others will recognize Him as the one true God, turn to Him, believe in Jesus, and experience their own rescue by Him.

This is one of the reasons God chose – or set apart – the Jewish people. Isaiah 43:21 says God chose Israel to proclaim His praiseworthiness – in other words, to

shine a light on Him so the rest of the world will see Him. And it's the calling of every Believer.

In the New Testament, Paul made a profound statement regarding the transformation God worked in his life. He had once aggressively persecuted Christians but was now preaching the Gospel. Because of this remarkable change, he said that those he once persecuted were now “glorifying God because of me.”

Seeing Easter's connection to Passover helps remind us that God has rescued the ancient Israelites and us today with the desire that we reveal Him to others – nonbelievers and Believers alike. And isn't that the kind of life we want?

*“In the same way, let your light shine before men so they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven”
(Matthew 5:16 TLV).*

Reflection Questions:

- God has created us with different gifts, talents, and skills. What are some of yours, and do you think God is glorified when you use them?
- Who in your life needs to see God more clearly? How can you shine the light on Him to give them hope?

Scriptures

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth” (John 4:24 TLV).

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness (Psalm 29:2 NIV).

“This people I have formed for Myself; they shall declare My praise” (Isaiah 43:21 NKJV).

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:16 NIV).

But they only kept hearing, “The man who once persecuted us is now preaching the faith which he once tried to destroy.” And they were glorifying God because of me (Galatians 1:23–24 NASB).

I praise You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and glorify Your Name forever (Psalm 86:12 TLV).



