

GOD'S CALLING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lesson Sixteen

GOD CALLED ISRAEL (1) (Exo. 12:3-13; 14:1-31)

Burden to Impart:

In this lesson we see how God called the children of Israel by using two means: He saved them from His judgment upon all the firstborn sons by the atoning blood of the Passover lamb, and He saved them from the Egyptian slavery by bringing them safely through the great Red Sea. In the same way, we are saved by believing in Christ and His redeeming death for us, and by baptism we are transferred out of Satan's kingdom into the kingdom of God.

Memory Verses: "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that everyone who believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

Facts to Teach:

1. The children of Israel were a special treasure to God. God had promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that He would bring their descendants into the promised land of Canaan and make a great nation out of them.

2. God was with Moses when he demanded that the king of Egypt let the Israelites go so they could serve the Lord. Moses' word was God's word. Pharaoh, however, would not believe or obey. Even after God caused nine dreadful plagues to fall upon Egypt, Pharaoh still refused to obey God. Rather, he hardened his stubborn heart again and again after each plague and would not let the Israelites go.

3. Finally, God had no choice but to righteously judge the whole land. All the firstborn must die. However, God provided a way of salvation for all who would believe and obey His commandment. Every house that killed a lamb and sprinkled its blood on the door post and sides of the door would be spared from God's judgment.

4. Just as God had warned, it happened. At midnight the Angel of Death passed through Egypt and killed all the firstborn sons. But, all the children of Israel were saved because they believed and obeyed God's word, sprinkling the blood of the killed lamb on their door posts. Because the lamb died, they did not need to die. The Angel of Death passed over every house of the children of Israel and all were saved.

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GOD'S CALLING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lesson Sixteen (Continued)

[Present points 5 and 6 as the gospel to the children as you teach.]

5. Just as the children of Israel were saved from God's judgment on the whole land of Egypt by sprinkling the blood of the killed Passover lamb upon their door posts, we too can be saved from God's terrible judgment that will come upon the whole world because it has hardened its evil heart against God, refuses to believe in God or obey His word, and rejects His provision for salvation.

6. Although we were all born into the world under Satan's slavery of sin, God has provided a way to escape His judgment upon the world. He gave His dearly beloved Son as a sacrifice for our sins to die upon the cross. When we believe in Him, the true Passover Lamb, all of our sins are washed away and God's judgment passes over us.

7. At midnight a great cry was heard in Egypt. All the firstborn sons were slain. The children of Israel were finally commanded to leave Egypt by Pharaoh. As they were fleeing Egypt Pharaoh again hardened his heart and pursued after them. Escape seemed impossible! On the right and on the left there were mountains, before them was the great Red Sea, and coming angrily from behind were the armies of Pharaoh.

8. The children of Israel cried out to the Lord for help. He parted the Red Sea and they walked through on dry ground to safety in the wilderness. Pharaoh foolishly tried to pursue the children of Israel and cross the Red Sea also. But, after the last Israelite had crossed over, God closed up the sea upon Pharaoh and his armies and all were drowned. The children of Israel sang, shouted, and rejoiced in their marvelous God and Savior.

9. God saved Israel from judgment through the redeeming blood of the Passover lamb and delivered them from the slavery of Egypt by bringing them through the Red Sea. In the same way, we are saved by the precious blood of Christ and by baptism we are transferred out of Satan's kingdom, the world, into the kingdom of God, the church.