Bible Study Twenty-One

December 1st, 2021

EXODUS (continued)

And the length of time the Israelites spent in Egypt is recorded as 430 years. 12:40f.

The Book of Exodus is a complex book and probably the most important book in the Old Testament for Jewish people. The instructions for the Passover laid out in Chapter 12 are very precise. Repeating these instructions for centuries after the event is known as ‘memoria.’ It contains the concept that this is not just ‘remembering’ but re-living the Passover itself.

Scholars down the years rationalize about the meal itself saying. “Lamb was a natural choice, not too big but enough to feed a family for a long journey. Unleaven bread lasts longer than bread made with Yeast. Bitter herbs were meant to remind the people of their bitter years of bondage in Egypt. The instructions are exact, right down to the youngest boy asking the oldest male “why are we doing these things?”

The instruction to paint the door posts of the house with the blood of the lamb that the Angel of death might pass over the homes of the Hebrews is obviously central to the chapter.

“Celebrate the Feast of unleavened Bread, because it was on this day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. In the first month, you are to eat bread without yeast, from the eve of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day. For seven days no yeast is to be found in your houses.”

The chapter ends with the First Born male of the Egyptians dying as the Angel of death passed through the land at midnight. Ch 12:--29f.

The exodus:

“During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said: ‘Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go worship the Lord as you have requested. Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go” 12: 31f.