



LESSON 141 - MARK 14:1-2

After two days was the feast of the passover, and of unleavened bread: and the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take him (Jesus) by craft, and put him to death. But they said, Not on the feast day, lest there be an uproar of the people.

1. What time of the year is it?
2. What was passover? Read Exodus 13-14.
3. What was the spiritual significance of passover?
4. What was the feast of unleavened bread?
5. What was its significance?
6. Was this the first time the rulers of the Jews had tried to capture Jesus?
7. What stopped them?
8. Why did they oppose Jesus? ?

ANSWERS

1. Springtime; passover comes right before our Easter, in the month of Abib which is the first month of the Jewish calendar. (Exodus 12:2)
2. The Jewish people were commanded by God on the evening of the fourteenth day of Abib (Lev 23:5) to commemorate the time in Egypt when He saved them from the plague of death of their first-born, both children and animals, freed the Hebrews from slavery, and delivered them, by the leadership of Moses, out of Egypt . The passover meal, which they had had to eat in haste, included roasted lamb meat, unleavened bread, and bitter herbs. The blood of the lamb that was slain was applied to the lintel and the two doorposts of their homes. God said, "I will pass through...Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn...I will execute judgment...when I see the blood, I will pass over you and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt." (Ex 12:12-13)
3. Passover is a good example of how the things in the Old Testament are symbolic of glorious spiritual truth. Passover is a picture of redemption. Mankind was in the grips of the devil, represented by Pharaoh of Egypt, and God gave a plan to save man and free him from the hold of Satan. God sent His Son, Jesus, to be our Passover Lamb, whose blood, when applied to the hearts of our spiritual man, not only cleanses us from sin, but protects us from spiritual death. (1 Corinthians 5:7, 1 Peter 1:18-20) Jesus delivered us from the dominion of the devil, and God the Father translated us into the kingdom of His Son. (Colossians 1:13) We have a new citizenship and are now under the authority of the Lord. (Phil 1:20 KJV "conversation" means "citizenship")

4. Passover is celebrated on the fourteenth day of Abib and the feast of unleavened bread begins on the fifteenth day of Abib, and continues for seven days. God's people were to eat unleavened bread during that time, rather than bread with yeast in it. The unleavened bread was a reminder of the haste with which the Hebrews were told to leave Egypt. They didn't have enough time to mix in yeast and let the dough rise before they were to leave.

5. The feast of unleavened bread symbolizes the purity of Christ Jesus in His life. He is the Bread of life to us, sustaining us. It also speaks of the holy life, without leaven, without sin, that we are to lead in the days and years following our profession of faith in Jesus Christ. Read 1 Cor 5 to see a New Testament application of this feast.

6. No, the Jews had tried to kill Jesus a number of times, even at the beginning of His ministry in Nazareth. There, His hometown synagogue members, who had learned of the miracles He had done in Capernaum, were filled with wrath when Gentiles, not them, were commended for honoring the prophets of God. (Luke 4:16-30) Jesus was the greatest Prophet; yet they counted Him only "Joseph's son." (Luke 4:22) They did not honor Him, and so, they did not have faith in Him as the Messiah, and did not like His message. The Jews of the synagogue grabbed hold of Him in their anger and "... thrust Him out of the city, and led Him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast Him down headlong." In their wrath, they tried to kill Him, but His Father protected Him. "But He passing through the midst of them went His way,..." Perhaps this miracle of deliverance was caused by angels blinding the Jews to Him, or maybe they brought a confusion of mind to these terrible men. Whatever method was employed, His Father protected His Son, for it was not time for the Messiah to die. When the time did come for Jesus' death, it would be His laying down His life for mankind, not it being taken from Him, and it would be as it had been prophesied in scripture, on a cross, not His being thrown from a cliff. (Psalm 22:14-16) There were other times the Jews counseled together to destroy Jesus, because His miracles and message showed His power. (Mark 3:1-7,12:12, Matt. 21:15, 45-46, 26:1-5) Another time in Jerusalem, Jews tried to stone Jesus, because they didn't like His message and they did not accept Him as the Messiah.(John 8:59) Later, others attempted to stone Him, and again protected by His Father, He escaped them. (John 10:31-39) The disciples were aware of the growing danger Jesus faced in being in the Jerusalem/Bethany area. (Jn 11:8, 16)

7. God stopped them. Only at the right time, right place, and under the right circumstances, all according to the scriptures, would the Son of Man lay down His life as the Lamb of God to take away the sins of the world, as John the Baptist had said at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. (John 1:29, 36)

8. Darkness hates the Light; evil avoids revelation of its wickedness. When Truth and Light, Who is Jesus Christ, came (John 14:6), those in darkness sought to destroy Him (John 3:19-21), but they could not. Jesus was protected every moment of every day, until His time and hour was come to give Himself as the Sacrifice for the world. (John 13:1,3)

[Back](#)

