

JOSIAH CELEBRATES PASSOVER

2 Chronicles 35:1 – 6, 16 – 19

Devotional Reading: 2 Chronicles 34:8, 14 – 27

Background Scripture: 2 Kings 22 – 12; 2 Chronicles 34:1 – 35:19

LESSON AIMS: the students will:

- EXPLAIN the setting and guidelines for the first Passover celebration mentioned in Exodus 12
- EVALUATE the significance of Josiah's renewal of the Passover observance of Josiah's renewal of the Passover observance for Israel's ongoing relationship with God
- CREATE a plan to revitalize one neglected spiritual practice

INTRODUCTION: Josiah was crowned as Judah's king at the age of eight. During the eighteenth year of his reign, the priest discovered a "Book of the Law" shut up in the temple. As the priest read the words to King Josiah, he became distraught. God's people had neglected the covenant. Josiah started putting things physically and spiritually back into place. He cleansed the nation of idolatry, repaired the temple, and restored the congregation's worship. Josiah's observance of the Passover followed the strict regulations laid down in the law of Moses. Even the faithful Hezekiah had not been able to enjoy such a Passover.

KEY VERSE *35 Moreover Josiah kept a passover unto the LORD in Jerusalem: and they killed the passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.*
2 Chronicles 35:1 / KJV

LESSON:

Preparation

2 Chronicles 35:1 – 6

Celebration

verses 16 - 19

SUMMARY: The celebrants of that particular Passover were aware that such a full national celebration [all Judah and Israel who were present] had not been celebrated since the days of Samuel the prophet. As such, it was a high point in the nation's history. But to the generation of the Chronicler this meant they could recapture this moment in their own day as those who had returned to Jerusalem as representatives of "all Israel." Everything rested on how they regarded the temple. The restoration of the temple in their day would mean that they too could participate in a singularly significant, nationally historic, Passover.

QUESTIONS:

1. *How might you develop a plan to set aside seven consecutive days to take up a spiritual practice that would strengthen your faith in God?*
2. *How can your class commemorate and celebrate God's work and faithfulness?*
3. *In what ways is the lesson's Scripture text applicable to modern audiences?*

JOSIAH CELEBRATES PASSOVER
2 Chronicles 35:1 - 6, 16 - 19

DAY/DATE	SCRIPTURE	
<i>Mon., Sept. 16^h</i>	Abstain from Immorality	1 Corinthians 5
<i>Tue., Sept. 17^h</i>	Worthy Is the Lamb!	Revelation 5:6 - 14
<i>Wed., Sept. 18^h</i>	God Forgives Those Who Repent	2 Chronicles 34:8, 14 - 27
<i>Thurs., Sept. 19^h</i>	Restore Us Again, O God	Psalms 85
<i>Fri., Sept. 20^h</i>	Living in the Light of Christ	Ephesians 5:3 - 14
<i>Sat., Sept. 21st</i>	A Day of Celebration	Exodus 12:3 - 17
<i>Sun., Sept. 22nd</i>	Sanctify Yourselves	2 Chronicles 35:1 - 6, 16 - 19