

# **PASSOVER - TWO OBSERVANCES**

Exodus and Christ Examples  
PASSOVER 14TH OF ABIB

It is commonly known that the Jewish Passover involved the sacrifice of a lamb in the first month ('Abib'). Many Old Testament scriptures state the Passover observance occurred on the 14th, but scholars do not agree on how to reflect this in the narratives of Exodus and Christ. To help clarify the correct position it is helpful to review how the Passover was observed.

## **EXODUS AND LATER PASSOVERS**

The first, and best known, Passover is that described in Exodus 12:6-13. This Passover concerned the death of the firstborn of Egypt following the passing over of the LORD.

Exod 12:12 For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; ... 29 And it came to pass at midnight that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, ...

To escape the same fate, the Israelites had been instructed to paint the doorposts and lintel of their homes with the blood (of the lamb).

Exod 12:7 And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. 13 Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; ... 23 ... and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you.

It is important to note that the first Passover service was held in private homes!

Exod 12:4 And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the persons; 22 ... And none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning. 23 ... and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you.

In the many subsequent Old Testament references to Passover we encounter a formal observance held only at the house of God.

Exod 12:43 ... This is the ordinance of the Passover: ... 46 In one house it shall be eaten; ...

Deut 16:5 You may not sacrifice the Passover within any of your gates which the LORD your God gives you; 6 but at the place where the LORD your God chooses to make His name abide, there you shall sacrifice the Passover at twilight,

...

2King 23:23 But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was held before the LORD in Jerusalem.

2Chr 30:15 Then they slaughtered the Passover *lambs*[NB: the word '*lambs*' has been incorrectly added by the translators and is not present in the original Hebrew text] on the fourteenth day of the second month. The priests and the Levites were ashamed, and sanctified themselves, and brought the burnt offerings to the house of the LORD.

2Chr 35:1 Now Josiah kept a Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem, and they slaughtered the Passover *lambs* [NB: the word '*lambs*' has been incorrectly added by the translators and is not present in the original Hebrew text] on the fourteenth day of the first month. 5 And stand in the holy place according to the divisions of the fathers' houses of your brethren the *lay* people, and according to the division of the father's house of the Levites.

Ezra 6:19 And the descendants of the captivity kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month. For the priests and the Levites had purified themselves; all of them were ritually clean. And they slaughtered the Passover *lambs*[NB: the word '*lambs*' has been incorrectly added by the translators and is not present in the original Hebrew text] for all the descendants of the captivity, for their brethren the priests, and for themselves. 21 Then the children of Israel who had returned from the captivity ate together with all who had separated themselves from the filth of the nations ...

It has generally been thought that the initial private home ceremony was converted to a temple based service. This has been a false assumption! The New Testament reflects the correct situation.

## **BEFORE AND AFTER CHRIST'S DEATH**

Scripture records Passover being observed before *and* after the death of Christ!

### ***BEFORE***

Matt 26:17 ... the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?" 18 And He said, "Go into the city to a certain man, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, "My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with My disciples"' 19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them; and they prepared the Passover.

Luke 22:15 Then He said to them, "With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer;"

### ***AFTER***

John 18:28 Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover.

This conflicting timing has led to much controversy. Some have said the last supper was merely a meal and that the Passover celebration was after His death. Others have taught Christ did keep the Passover with His disciples and that the Jews were mistaken in observing the following night. Both of these views are wrong!

In reality, in both the Old and New Testaments, Scripture is presenting two separate Passover observances!

Differences Between the Passovers

Apart from the difference in location (private homes versus house of God) highlighted in the previous page, there exists a number of distinct differences between the two Passovers.

### **DIFFERENT ANIMALS OFFERED**

#### ***First Passover***

The animals offered under the terms of the first Passover were lambs of the first year taken from either the sheep or goats.

Exod 12:5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats.

#### ***Second Passover***

The animals offered at the time of the second Passover were to be sourced from the flock or the herd.

Deut 16:2 Therefore you shall sacrifice the Passover to the LORD your God, from the flock and the herd, in the place where the LORD chooses to place His name.

Scripture uses the term 'flock' to refer to sheep and goats, and the term 'herd' to refer to cattle and oxen.

- 'flock'

Chr 35:7 Then Josiah gave the lay people lambs and young goats from the flock, ...

- 'herd'

Gen 18:7 And Abraham ran to the herd, took a tender and good calf, ...

Gen 47:17 ... Joseph gave them bread in exchange for the horses, the flocks, the cattle of the herds, and for the donkeys ...

1Sam 11:5 Now there was Saul, coming behind the herd from the field: ... 7 So he took a yoke of oxen and cut them in pieces, and sent them throughout all the territory of Israel.

### **DIFFERENT COOKING METHODS**

#### ***First Passover***

The Passover lamb was to be roasted in fire. It could not be eaten raw or boiled in water.

Exod 12:8 Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, ... 9 Do not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water, but roasted in fire; ...

#### ***Second Passover***

Deut 16:7 And you shall roast[boil]; and eat it in the place where the LORD your God chooses, ...

2Chr 35:13 Also they roasted[boiled] the Passover offerings with fire according to the ordinance; but the other holy offerings they boiled in pots, in caldrons, and in pans, and divided them quickly among all the lay people.

Usually the Hebrew word for 'boil' found in Deut 16:7 and 2Chr 35:13 is incorrectly rendered as 'roast' (or 'roasted'). This is done because of the text of Exodus 12:9, 'do not eat it ... boiled'. However, the Hebrew word encountered in Deut 16:7 (Strong's reference 1310) is the word 'boil'. It is the same Hebrew word encountered in Exodus 12:9 where the rendering is 'do not eat it ... boiled'.

The translators, in error, have tried in Deut 16:7 and 2Chr 35:13 to correct what appeared to them to be an obvious mistake in the original Hebrew. However, in doing so they confused further a complex subject.

### **WHEN THE ANIMALS WERE KILLED**

#### ***First Passover***

The Passover lamb was killed between the evenings (between sunset and midnight).

Exod 12:6 ... Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight[between the evenings].

#### ***Second Passover***

The animals slaughtered for the second Passover were killed and prepared prior to night (prior to sunset!).

2Chr 35:11 And they slaughtered the Passover offerings; and the priests sprinkled the blood with their hands, while the Levites skinned the animals. 14 Then afterward they prepared portions for themselves and for the priests, because the priests, the sons of Aaron, were busy in offering burnt offerings and fat until night;

[NB: Many have incorrectly understood Deut 16:4 and 16:6 and taken these verses to mean that the animals were slaughtered at the sunset 'evening'. However, a closer reading of Deut 16:4 shows that it was the meat which was offered in sacrifice at sunset. The animals having already been killed, and the meat cooked, prior to sunset.]

### **LEVEL OF FORMALITY**

#### ***First Passover***

The first Passover did not involve any degree of formality. It was in essence a family meal which was eaten in haste, while dressed in a manner appropriate for travel.

Exod 12:4 And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the persons; ...

Exod 12:11 And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. ...

### *Second Passover*

The second Passover involved a degree of formality.

Exod 12:43 ... No foreigner shall eat it. 44 But every man's servant who is bought for money, when you have circumcised him, then he may eat it. 45 A sojourner and a hired servant shall not eat it.

Num 9:6 Now there were certain men who were defiled by a human corpse, so that they could not keep the Passover on that day; ...

2Chr 30:16 They stood in their place according to their custom, according to the Law of Moses the man of God;

2Chr 35:4 Prepare yourselves according to your fathers' houses, according to your divisions, following the written instruction of David king of Israel and the written instruction of Solomon his son. 5 And stand in the holy place according to the divisions of the fathers' houses of your brethren the lay people, and according to the division of the father's house of the Levites. 15 And the singers, the sons of Asaph, were in their places, according to the command of David, ...

### **BLOOD ON THE DOORPOSTS & LINTEL**

#### *First Passover*

The first Passover involved a clear requirement for the placing of the blood of the lamb on the doorposts and the lintel.

Exod 12:7 And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it.

#### *Second Passover*

The second temple based Passover never mentions the need to place any blood on a doorway. Therefore the second Passover fails to reflect this important symbolic element.

### **COMMON ELEMENTS OF BOTH PASSOVERS**

Although there existed a number of differences between these two Passovers there still remained a few elements in common.

- unleavened bread and bitter herbs
  - first Passover - Exod 12:8
  - second Passover - Num 9:11
- the meat was to be eaten that night
  - first Passover - Exod 12:10
  - second Passover - Exod 12:46 (implied), 34:25; Num 9:12; Deut 16:4, Lev 7:15
- the bones were not to be broken
  - first Passover - Exod 12:9 (implied)
  - second Passover - Exod 12:46; Num 9:12

#### The Exodus and the Passovers

### **THE EXODUS PASSOVERS**

- The children of Israel observed the first Passover dressed in a manner appropriate for travel, "with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand", Exodus 12:11.
- At midnight that night the LORD killed the firstborn of Egypt and Pharaoh arose at night and called for Moses and Aaron (Exod 12:29-31).
- In the morning, in response to the call of Pharaoh, Moses organized the children of Israel and led them to the city of Rameses. (The children lived nearby in Goshen, of the territory of Rameses, refer Gen 47:6 & 11.)
- The children of Israel having arrived at the city of Rameses, presumably in the afternoon, then awaited word from Pharaoh. [ Since Moses had agreed with Pharaoh that it was not good for them to meet again (Exod 10:28-29), Moses and Aaron did not personally appear before Pharaoh in response to Pharaoh's call. ]
- Pharaoh ordered the children of Israel to leave Egypt and serve their God as they had requested (Exod 12:31).
- That night, before the city of Rameses, the children of Israel were glad. The second Passover commemorates this night!
- In the morning the children of Israel departed Rameses and in the sight of the Egyptians they journeyed to Succoth (Num 33:3-4). On this day the Egyptians were burying their dead, having spent the prior day in mourning.

[ NB: Those who consider the children of Israel departed for Succoth on the morning after the death of the Egyptian firstborn, do not portray the Israelites leaving the city of Rameses as a single group (as Scripture indicates). In error they teach that the Israelites swarmed from many different locations in Goshen and finally assembled as a single unit in Succoth. ]

### **Timing of the Passovers**

Understanding the timing of the two Passovers is not possible without gaining a proper understanding of exactly when the biblical day ended.

#### **THE BIBLICAL DAY**

The common view, that the biblical day ended at sunset, has been a modern day misconception which has caused much confusion.

\*\*\* In reality the biblical day ended at MIDNIGHT! \*\*\*

For a fuller discussion of this topic refer:

### WHEN THE BIBLICAL DAY ENDS

This helps us understand:

- The first Passover came to an end following the passing over of the LORD at midnight.
- The second Passover came to an end upon the expiry of that day.

#### FIRST PASSOVER - 13TH PASSOVER

A verse which has contributed to a great deal of confusion is;

Exod 12:6 Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight (*between the evenings*).

The portion underlined was rendered by the KJV as; "up until the fourteenth"

The word in the Hebrew rendered 'until' or 'up until' is Strong's reference 5704, which means 'as far as'.

Because there exists many verses which state the Passover was to be observed on the 14th, it was taken for granted that this verse was to be understood to be inclusive of the 14th day. This assumption was incorrect! The first Passover took place in the latter hours of the 13th day! It took place between sunset and midnight of the 13th day. The Passover lamb was killed after sunset, roasted whole and then once cooked finally eaten in the hours prior to the start of the 14th day. The lamb was kept 'as far as', but not into the 14th day.

This timing is confirmed by the New Testament verses:

Matt 26:17 Now on the first day of *the Feast of* the Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"

Mark 14:12 Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they killed the Passover *lamb*, His disciples said to Him, "Where do You want us to go and prepare, that You may eat the Passover?"

Luke 22:7 Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. 8 And He sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat."

The translators have corrupted the message of these verses by adding the words '*the Feast of*' in Matthew 26:17 and by capitalizing the references to unleavened bread. Nevertheless, these verses when properly rendered prove beyond all doubt that the day prior to the death of Jesus Christ was the day unleavened bread was first eaten (in that year) and the day the Passover was killed. They prove what is repeatedly stated in the New Testament, ie that Christ observed the first Passover with His disciples on the night prior to His death.

#### SECOND PASSOVER - 14TH PASSOVER

The second Passover was observed, between sunset and midnight, on the 14th day.

Lev 23:5 On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight[*between the evenings*] is the LORD's Passover.

Num 9:5 And they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month, at twilight[*between the evenings*], in the Wilderness of Sinai; ...

28:16 On the fourteenth day of the first month is the Passover of the LORD.

Josh 5:10 Now the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho.

2Chr 35:1 Now Josiah kept a Passover to the LORD in Jerusalem, and they slaughtered the Passover *lambs* [NB: the word 'lambs' here is not present in the original Hebrew] on the fourteenth day of the first month.

Ezra 6:19 And the descendants of the captivity kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the first month.

This Passover could be observed on the 14th of the second month if circumstances prevented its observance in the first month.

Num 9:10 Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'If anyone of you or your posterity is unclean because of a corpse, or is far away on a journey, he may still keep the Lord's Passover. 11 On the fourteenth day of the second month, at twilight[*between the evenings*], they may keep it.

2Chr 30:2 For the king and his leaders and all the assembly in Jerusalem had agreed to keep the Passover in the second month.

The 14th Passover celebration started at sunset (although the slaughter of the animals took place prior to this) and ended at midnight when the first morning arrived (the second morning being sunrise). (The ceremony began at sunset because this was the time of the day when the children of Israel began to cross the Red Sea, refer Exodus chapter 14.)

Deut 16:6 ... there you shall sacrifice the Passover at twilight[*evening*], at the going down of the sun, at the time you came out of Egypt. 7 And you shall roast[*boil*] and eat it ... and in the morning you shall turn and go to your tents.

Since the 14th Passover observance ended at midnight it did not encroach upon the annual sabbath day of the 15th (which marked the start of the 7 day Feast of Unleavened Bread). The feasts of the 14th and 15th did not overlap.

Lev 23:4 These are the feasts of the LORD, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times. 5 On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight[*between the evenings*] is the Lord's Passover. 6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to the LORD; seven days you must eat unleavened bread.

#### Nature of the Second Passover

The second Passover was a thanksgiving observance.

Deut 16:4 ... nor shall any of the meat that which you sacrifice(*offer in sacrifice*) the first day at twilight(*evening, ie sunset*) remain over until morning.

Num 9:11 On the fourteenth day of the second month, at twilight, they may keep it. They shall eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. 12 They shall leave none of it until morning, ...

Lev 7:12 If he offers it for a thanksgiving, ... 15 The flesh of the sacrifice of his peace offering for thanksgiving shall be eaten the same day it is offered. He shall not leave any of it until morning.

Its first observance is referred to in Numbers chapter 9. At this time the second month observance, for those who were unclean, was specified.

Num 9:1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying: 2 "Let the children of Israel keep the Passover at its appointed time. 6 Now there were certain men who were defiled by a human corpse, so that they could not keep the Passover on that day; ... 9 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, Speak to the children of Israel, saying: "If anyone of you or your posterity is unclean ... he may still keep the Lord's Passover. 11 On the fourteenth day of the second month, ..."

The New Testament confirms that it was this second Passover which required ceremonial cleanliness.

John 18:28 Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover.

The second Passover was the time of the ritualistic killing of the firstborn male animals. These animals included sheep, goats, cattle and oxen.

Exod 13:1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Sanctify to Me all the firstborn, whatever opens the womb among the children of Israel, both of man and animal; it is Mine". 11 And it shall be, when the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites ... 12 that you shall set apart (cause to pass over) to the LORD all that open the womb, that is, every firstling that comes from an animal which you have; the males shall be the LORD's. 15 ... Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all males that open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.

Deut 16:2 Therefore you shall sacrifice the Passover to the LORD your God, from the flock and the herd, ...

The second Passover was a formalized ceremony.

2Chr 30:16 They stood in their place according to their custom, according to the Law of Moses the man of God; the priests sprinkled the blood received from the hand of the Levites. 17 For there were many in the assembly who had not sanctified themselves; therefore the Levites had charge of the slaughter of the Passover *lambs[animals]* for everyone who was not clean, to sanctify them to the LORD. [ Translators have frequently incorrectly added the word 'lamb' where it is not present in the original Hebrew or Greek. ]

The Seven Day 'Passover'

The term 'Passover' was also a name applied to the 7 day period in which there would be 7 nights of feasting.

Luke 22:1 Now the Feast of Unleavened Bread drew near, which is called Passover.

In this verse it is actually wrong to capitalize the expression 'feast of unleavened bread'. The verse is not a reference to the 'Feast of Unleavened Bread' (15th-21st), but to the 7 day 'Passover' (14th-20th). The 7 day Passover encompassed 7 nights of feasting during which unleavened bread was eaten.

Luke 22:1, reflects the teaching presented in the Old Covenant.

Ezek 45:21 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month, you shall observe the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten.

Deut 16:2 Therefore you shall sacrifice the Passover to the LORD your God, ... 3 You shall eat no leavened bread with it; seven days you shall eat unleavened bread with it, ... (for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste), ...

This 7 day unleavened bread 'Passover' feast started with the Passover ceremony on the night of the 14th and run through to the night of the 20th. This particular 7 day period is called Passover, because these were the days the children of Israel were on the move. They had journeyed to Rameses city on the 14th, took three days to reach (and cross) the Red Sea and then went a further 3 days into the wilderness (Num 33:3-8). [ NB: On the 21st, the 7th day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the children of Israel had rested. On this day they observed the feast originally mentioned to Pharaoh in Exodus 5:1 & 10:9. ]

The 7 day Passover feast of the 14th to the 20th involved 7 nights of celebration. Each night at the house of God, between sunset and midnight, they would commemorate their departure from Egypt.

Deut 16:3 You shall eat no leavened bread with it; seven days you shall eat unleavened bread with it, ... that you may remember the day[time] in which you came out of the land of Egypt all the days of your life.

### **Passover Observances Ordained**

The Passover ordinances are specified in the twelfth chapter of the book of Exodus.

#### **FIRST PASSOVER - 13TH PASSOVER**

The 13th Passover was to be kept in much the same manner as it was originally observed in Egypt.

Exod 12:21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, "Pick out and take lambs for yourselves according to your families, and kill the Passover *lamb*. 22 And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin. And

none of you shall go out of the door of his house until morning. 23 For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and not allow the destroyer to come into your houses to strike you. 24 And you shall observe this thing as an ordinance for you and your sons forever. 25 It will come to pass when you come to the land which the LORD will give you, just as He promised, that you shall keep this service. 26 And it shall be, when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?' 27 that you shall say, 'It is the Passover sacrifice of the LORD, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt when He struck the Egyptians and delivered our households.' So the people bowed their heads and worshiped. 28 Then the children of Israel went away and did so; just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did. 29 And it came to pass at midnight that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, ...

#### **PASSOVER FEAST - 14TH OR 14TH TO 20TH**

A verse which has created some confusion is Exodus 12:14.

Exod 12:14 So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep[celebrate] it as a feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast[celebration] by an everlasting ordinance. 15 Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses. ... Verse 14 immediately follows the text which first describes the 13th se mentions 'this day', but is vague as to whether it he 13th day or the following 14th day or the entire riod (14th to 20th). From the text of this verse it it is talking about a 'feast of celebration', which view that it is a reference to the 14th Passover or Passover feast.

#### **SECOND PASSOVER - 14TH PASSOVER**

This 14th Passover was a service which could only be observed by those who had been circumcised. This Passover was to be observed in one house, the house of God.

Exod 12:43 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "This is the ordinance of the Passover: No foreigner shall eat it. But every man's servant who is bought for money, when you have circumcised him, then he may eat it. 45 A sojourner and a hired servant shall not eat it. 46 In one house it shall be eaten; you shall not carry any of the flesh outside the house, nor shall you break one of its bones. 47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it. 48 And when a stranger dwells with you and wants to keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as a native of the land. For no uncircumcised person shall eat it. 49 One law shall be for the native-born and for the stranger who dwells among you." 50 Thus all the children of Israel did; as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did. 51 And it came to pass, on that very same day, that the LORD brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt according to their armies.

The text advises that the children of Israel upon receipt of this ordinance immediately performed what was commanded, but does not clearly state when this ordinance was delivered. It is apparent that a mass circumcision could not have taken place prior to the Exodus, due to the pain which would have resulted on the third day (Gen 34:25). The following verse suggests the ordinance was announced when the children of Israel reached Marah.

Exod 15:22 So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. 23 Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. ... 25 ... There He made a statute and an ordinance for them. And there He tested them,

It seems that at Marah God required circumcision and advised some further details in respect to the observance of the 14th Passover. (NB: An initial mass circumcision, at the time of the Exodus, is indicated by Joshua 5:4-5.)

**Summary - The Passovers** Two Passover services were apparent in the Old and New Testaments.

#### **FIRST PASSOVER**

The first Passover was a commemoration of the initial killing of the Passover lamb in Egypt. This lamb was killed after sunset by the individual households, who then painted its blood on the doorposts and lintels of their homes. This Passover was observed on the 13<sup>th</sup> night, following the daylight hours of the 13th day.

#### **SECOND PASSOVER**

The second Passover was a thanksgiving ceremony held at the place where God chose to place His name. The animals eaten were firstborns taken from the flock and from cattle and oxen. The animals were slaughtered and boiled before sunset in preparation for the start of this Passover service. The service was observed from sunset to midnight on the 14th, immediately prior to the start of the 15th day. To participate in this ceremony one had to be ritually clean and circumcised. This 14th Passover initiated a period of seven nights of feasting, ie 14th to 20th, which all commemorated the journeying of the children of Israel from Egypt.

#### **BOTH PASSOVERS**

Both the 13th and 14th Passovers required all the meat to be eaten that night. The meat was to be eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs and none of the bones of the Passover animals were to be broken.

#### **TRANSLATION ERRORS**

Due to the confusion which has surrounded the Passover observances many translations have in error added the word 'lamb' (or 'lambs') in verses where it is inappropriate.