Christ Our Passover

“For even Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.”
I Corinthians 5:7

The Passover Is a Shadow
A. We do not presume on Scripture to build types and shadows without very strong reasons to do so.
1. Men who preach types and shadows hardly need study, as most of it is from their imagination.
2. Since we have the reality and substance in the New Testament, let us emphasize the real thing.
B. The Bible tells us Old Testament ordinances were shadows and figures (Col 2:16-17; Heb 9:8-10).
C. The Bible tells us the Passover Feast is fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ (I Cor 5:7; Luke 22:15-22).

The Passover Is a Fact
A. We have a single, long chapter dedicated to the details of the Passover and its origination (Ex 12).
B. Israel was sojourners 430 years, 215 in Egypt, after Abram’s covenant (Ex 12:40-41; Gal 3:17).
C. They had been much afflicted by their Egyptian taskmasters, fearing their prosperity (Ex 1:7-14).
D. They had cried to God for deliverance and were heard, even their groans and sighs (Ex 2:23-25; 3:7).
E. God sent nine plagues upon Pharaoh and Egypt, which were ignored and rejected by God’s decree.
1. When Moses’ rod turned into a serpent and swallowed their serpents, it was a sign, not a plague.
2. Then followed blood, frogs, lice, flies, murrain, boils, hail, locusts, and darkness, nine plagues.
F. The final plague was to be the death of the firstborn in all Egypt, both of man and beast (Ex 11:4-7).
G. Israel delivered their firstborn by sprinkling blood around their doors (Exodus 12:1-13,21-23,29-39).
1. A lamb was chosen for each household according to their eating on the tenth of the month (12:3).
2. If the house was too small to eat a whole lamb, then they could share with another family (12:4).
3. The lamb had to be perfect, without defects; it had to be a male; it had to be a year or less (12:5).
4. The lamb was separated from the 10th to the 14th of the month, then killed in the evening (12:6).
5. The blood was to be struck on the side posts and cross post of the house where they ate it (12:7).
6. The lamb had to be eaten that night, roasted, with unleavened bread and bitter herbs (12:8).
7. The lamb could not be eaten rare or boiled in water, but roasted with fire in its entirety (12:9).
8. It was all eaten or burned that night, and anything remaining was burned in the morning (12:10).
9. It was to be eaten in a hurry, dressed and prepared to move out, girdle, shoes, and staff (12:11).
10. God would pass through the land of Egypt to kill the firstborn of man, beast, and ruler (12:12).
11. God said, “When I see the blood, I will pass over you,” which is why it is the Passover (12:13).
12. Moses told the elders of Israel to do as God had commanded and kill the Passover lamb (12:21).
13. They were to take hyssop and apply blood round their door from a bason and stay inside (12:22).
14. The Lord would check the doors of Israel and not enter where blood was round the door (12:23).
15. The LORD entered Egypt at midnight, killing a firstborn in each family, man and beast (12:29).
16. The whole nation rose up in the middle night in anguish of a dead person in every house (12:30).
17. Pharaoh finally gave unconditional permission for the Israelites to freely leave Egypt (12:31).
18. He told them to take everything with them, and he asked for a blessing from them (12:32).
19. Fearing they would all be dead soon, if things continued, the people urged them to leave (12:33).
20. Since they were in a hurry with slow yeast, they took unleavened bread and their tools (12:34).
21. And they plundered the nation (for back wages?) by borrowing much of the Egyptians (12:35).
22. God moved the Egyptians to generously give them whatever they requested at all (12:36).
23. There were 600,000 men. If we add in women and children, we might have 2-4 million (12:37).
24. A mixt multitude went with them, which were Egyptians and other strangers to Israel (12:38).
25. In order to eat, they baked unleavened cakes form their dough, for they had no vittles (12:39).
H. An annual feast was ordained for their deliverance from death and Egypt (Ex 12:14-20,24-28,40-51).
1. The LORD ordained a perpetual feast for them to remember this fantastic event (Ex 12:14).
2. The feast was for seven days; only unleavened bread was allowed; death was applied (Ex 12:15).
3. The feast was to begin with a Sabbath day and end with a Sabbath – no work done (Ex 12:16).
4. It is called the Feast of Unleavened Bread; it is called the Passover; they are the same (Ex 12:17).
5. The feast ran from the evening of the 14th to the evening of the 21st of Abib/Nisan (Ex 12:18).
6. Any violation of the leaven commandment brought death, regardless of their origin (Ex 12:19).
7. Unleavened bread was to be the main staple; there was not to be anything leavened (Ex 12:20).
8. This was a perpetual ordinance to be kept by successive generations in Israel forever (Ex 12:24).
9. Even when they came to Canaan, they were to continue to keep this ordained feast (Ex 12:25).
10. God knew such a feast would trigger children to ask of its meaning and importance (Ex 12:26).
11. They were to tell successive generations of God’s great deliverance of their children (Ex 12:27).
12. They people did exactly as Moses and Aaron had commanded them regarding it (Ex 12:28).
13. From the time God made a covenant with Abram to this event was exactly 430 years (Ex 12:40).
14. As God has promised Abram, the whole nation was delivered and went out of Egypt (Ex 12:41).
15. It was a night to be remembered; it was a night to be perpetually observed annually (Ex 12:42).
16. No stranger from the commonwealth of Israel was to partake of the Passover Feast (Ex 12:43).
17. Purchased slaves, bondservants, were circumcised so that they could partake of it (Ex 12:44).
18. Just simple visitors, foreigners, or hired servants were not close enough to partake (Ex 12:45).
19. The lamb was eaten in one place; it was not carried abroad; not a bone was broken (Ex 12:46).
20. All the congregation was to keep it, as a congregation; it was not kept by only a few (Ex 12:47).
21. Circumcision was the necessary condition for strangers to be able to partake of it (Ex 12:48).
22. There was no difference made after a man met the conditions, either Jew or Gentile (Ex 12:49).
23. The nation of Israel instituted this annual feast and kept it according to Moses’ laws (Ex 12:50).
24. That day, Passover Day, the 14th of Abib/Nisan, the Lord brought Israel out of Egypt (Ex 12:51).

The Passover Lamb Shows Jesus Christ
A. Jesus is the Lamb of God, and He is the Passover Lamb of God (John 1:29; Ex 12:21 cp I Cor 5:7).
B. Jesus is the fulfillment of the Passover, which He declared to His disciples plainly (Luke 22:15-16).
C. The lamb had to be without blemish, which was true of our Lord Jesus Christ (Ex 12:5; I Peter 1:19).
D. The lamb had to be a male, which was true of Mary’s firstborn son (Exodus 12:5; Matthew 1:21-25).
E. The lamb was young, still in its first year, and Jesus was very early in life (Exodus 12:5; Is 53:8).
F. The lamb could not have any bones broken, which was very true of Jesus (Ex 12:47; John 19:36).
G. The lamb died and shed blood for another, even though it had done no wrong (Ex 12:7,22; Is 52:15).
H. The lamb died on the fourteenth, and so did our Lord Jesus (Exodus 12:6; John 18:28; 19:14,31).

The Passover Deliverance Shows Salvation
A. Salvation (the firstborn) was by substitutionary death of another. Death occurred in every house.
B. Salvation was by God’s choice, for not a dog moved his tongue against Israel that night (Ex 11:7).
C. Salvation was unconditional on the part of the firstborn, as blood was applied by another (I Pet 1:2).

The Passover Supper Shows the Lord’s Supper
A. The feast was established by an ordinance, and our feast is a divine ordinance also (I Cor 11:2,23).
B. The feast was a memorial ordinance of an event in the past, for it to be remembered (Ex 12:14).
C. Jesus Christ observed the Passover, and the Last Supper came out of a Passover Supper.
D. Strangers could not partake of it unless they met conditions, as with baptism in the New Testament.
E. Violations of the rules would cost you your place in Israel, just as in the church (I Cor 5:1-13).
F. The bread was unleavened, due to haste, but also to picture the absence of sin in Jesus (I Cor 5:6-8).
G. It is a night to be much observed and remembered, just as our Passover (Ex 12:42 cp I Cor 11:26).