

GOD WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE THROUGH THE BLOOD OF A SPOTLESS LAMB.

The Passover Promise

God had sent nine plagues to Egypt because of Pharaoh's refusal to let God's people go. Pharaoh's heart was hardened toward God, and although his own people were suffering from these plagues, he would not give in. But God knew what would change his heart, and this had always been God's plan.

God told Moses to go to Pharaoh again and tell him that if he did not let God's people go that day, at midnight all the firstborn males in all of Egypt would die. The firstborn male animal from each mother animal. The firstborn son from the Egyptian farmer. The firstborn son from the Egyptian rulers. On and on it would go. In all of Egypt, for all living animals and people, the firstborn son would be killed that very night unless Pharaoh let God's people go. Pharaoh was told this, and he had a firstborn son, but still his heart was hardened toward God. He sent Moses and Aaron away, refusing to let God's people go.

But this plague was different. There was a promise for God's people in it. God told Moses to tell all His people that they needed to sacrifice a spotless, perfect boy lamb that evening and then paint the doorposts of each of their houses with the blood of that lamb. They would then all gather together that night and feast on the meat from the animals they had sacrificed, thanking God for His provision and trusting Him with what He was about to do. Then they were to be dressed for travel, sandals on their feet and staffs in their hands, with the blood of the lamb painted on their doorposts.

