Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

• Hebrews 12:7-8

- Luke 22:7-9; John 12-17, 19
- Matthew 24:14; Romans 8:19

GO PREPARE THE PASSOVER

- Legitimate Sons
- The Preparation
- Passover is the End

THEME:

"But as many as received Him, to them **He gave the right to become sons of God**, to those who believe in His name: **who were born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of
man, but **of God**." John 1:12-13

"If you endure chastening, **God deals with you as with sons**; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, **then you are illegitimate and not sons**." Hebrews 12:7-8 NKJV

"Then came the Day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover must be killed. And He sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat." So they said to Him, "Where do You want us to prepare?" Luke 22:7-9 NKJV

"Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away." John 19:31 NKJV

"For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the **revealing of the sons of God**." Romans 8:19

"And this **gospel of the kingdom** will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, **and then the end will come**." Matthew 24:14 NKJV

"Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." I Cor. 5:7-8 NKJV

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Asking questions is one of the most effective ways to engage the mind on a deeper level. Paul and Y'shua used this rabbinic style often and it has continued to stir the imagination of Christians for two thousand years. A quick review of Romans, Paul's Magnum Opus, and you will discover that time after time he asked a question—each used to stitch together the fabric of the greatest theological treatise ever written—the canvas on which was painted the

masterpiece of Christian doctrine. Y'shua was also a skillful artist when asking provocative questions. "Who do men say that I am?" challenged Peter to confess, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And, what might be His most alluring question of all is one that Y'shua left blank—the conclusion is for you to discover. "Who is the faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his estate, to feed the people at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom, upon his return, the master finds so doing."

And there is one other variation of this teaching style to consider. At times, Y'shua used incendiary statements to inspire critical prophetic inquiries from His disciples, or from anyone else with ears to hear. "Assuredly, I say to you, not one stone shall be left here upon another, that shall not be thrown down." This disturbing image of the crumbling temple later induced His disciples to ask privately, "Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign of Your coming, and of the end of the age?" One such directive prompted a question from His disciples that you too might ask yourself. And coming from a modern-day Christian makes it even more flammable than His disciples' urgent appeal 2000 years ago! "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat." Their expected reaction, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?" Now you should ask yourself a similar question... "How will I prepare for the Passover that we may eat?"

PREPARATION DAY (John 13-17) See the Feasts of Yahweh

- 1. Legitimate Sons
- 2. The Preparation
- 3. Passover is the End

LEGITIMATE SONS

1. Rights and Revealing

A. Every Christian is a Child of God

- (1) How do you become a child of God?
 - (a) Receive Him!
 - 1. "He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:11-13
 - 2. Born-again by the will of God
 - a) Our inheritance is not from our bloodline, but from our faith. See Let's Get Historical
 - b) We can see how this played out in Paul's teaching on the subject.

- 1) "That is, those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God; but the children of the promise are counted as the seed." Romans 9:8
- c) An invitation into the family by His grace.
 - 1) "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God," Ephesians 2:8
- d) Children of Promise: John 1:13 ("not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."
 - 1) "Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?— just as Abraham "believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. [26] For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ

Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:5-7, 26-29

- (2) Legitimate Sons
 - (a) Authenticating the claim as a true son:
 - 1. "And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are **illegitimate and not sons.** Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; **nevertheless**, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of

- <u>righteousness</u> to those who have been trained by it." Hebrews 12:5-11
- 2. If the Lord loves you, He chastens you. He scourges every son whom He receives.
 - a) "He came to His own, and His own **did not**receive Him. But as many as received Him, to
 them He gave the right to become children of
 God." John 1:11-12
 - b) As such, those who have legitimately received Him will face correction for training purposes.
 - c) The purpose of this training is to purify and tutor you until you grow into a mature son, as the training yields a "peaceable fruit of righteousness!" (Hebrews 12:11)
 - d) The Training Program (Ephesians 4:11-13)
 - 1) "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;"

B. Passover Separates Sons

- (1) It separates Firstborns from Firstborns from Non-firstborns (Reminder: a mixed multitude departed Egypt with Israel. Exodus 12:38)
 - (a) Firstborns: at immediate risk of dying in Egypt
 - 1) **Firstborns who applied the blood to the doorposts lived:** They had the faith to believe in the true God and they applied the blood of the lamb to save them.
 - 2) **Firstborns who did not apply the blood to the doorposts died:** They did not have the faith to believe in the true God, nor did they apply the blood of the lamb to save them.
 - (b) Non-Firstborns: not at immediate risk of dying in Egypt
 - 1) Non-firstborns who came out of Egypt with Israel lived: They had faith to believe with those who worshiped the true God. They were not required to apply the blood of the lamb to avoid immediate death, but their faith led to life with Israel in the Exodus.
 - 2) Non-firstborns who stayed in Egypt died: They did not have the faith to believe with those who worshiped the true God. They were not required to apply the blood of the lamb to avoid immediate

death, but their lack of faith left them in Egypt after the Exodus where they would eventually die anyway.

C. Revealing the Sons of God

- (1) Legitimate Sons and Mature Sons
 - (a) Revealing Legitimate Sons:
 - "If you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons." Hebrews 12:8
 - (b) Revealing Mature Sons:
 - 1. "till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;" Ephesians 4:13
 - 2. "For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." {6:1} "Therefore, leaving"

- the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection..." Hebrews 5:12-14; 6:1
- (2) Revealing and separating sons is Passover Language
 - (a) **One key distinction:** every Israelite household applied the blood; no Egyptian household applied the blood:
 - "...all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, ...
 But against none of the children of Israel shall a dog
 move its tongue, against man or beast, that you may
 know that Yahweh does make a difference between
 the Egyptians and Israel." Exodus 11:4-7
 - (b) The plague shall not be on Israel:
 - Now the blood shall be a sign for you ... when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt." Exodus 12:13
 - (c) Every firstborn of Egypt died! It was **the end** of Egypt's legacy as a significant nation. NOT SONS OF GOD!
 - "And it came to pass at midnight that the Lord <u>struck</u>
 <u>all the firstborn in the land of Egypt...</u>" Exodus 12:29
 - 2. "...for there was not a house where there was not one dead." Exodus 12:30

- (d) Every firstborn of Israel lived! *Consecrate to Me all the firstborns...* " It was **the birth** of Israel's legacy as the most significant nation. TRUE SONS OF GOD
 - 1. Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Consecrate to Me all the firstborn, ...it is Mine."" Exodus 13:1-2
 - 2. "...that the Lord killed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, ... but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.'"

 Exodus 13:15
- (3) **Son Status** and **The End** are Passover Language
 - (a) The Revealing of Sons is a Passover
 - 1. "The earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the **revealing of the sons** of God." Romans 8:19
 - (b) The End is a Passover
 - 1. "But he who endures to <u>the end</u> shall be saved. And this **gospel of the kingdom** will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and **then <u>the</u>** <u>end</u> will come." Matthew 24:13-14
 - (c) The Next Event on God's Prophetic Calendar is a Passover (See <u>The Unveiling</u> Romans 8:18-22)
 - 1. God's children are on a spiritual journey from infancy when they're born-again (gain the right to become sons), to adulthood when they come of adult age (are revealed as mature sons).

- 2. This is a prophetic Bar-Mitzvah: the time when a mature son is announced to the world!
- 3. Creation will be delivered from its current state of decay (the restoration of all things) when God's children become spiritual adults.
- (d) Heaven and Earth and Hell
 - 1. "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of **those in heaven [Christians]**, and of **those on earth [Jews]**, and of **those under the earth [Pagans]**, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Philippians 2:9-11
 - a) God's ultimate prophetic plan is to separate mankind into three eternal people groups, as perfectly depicted in the Passover.
 - 1) **Christians:** Firstborns with faith and blood
 - a. Note: "the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven...the righteous made perfect." Hebrews 12:23
 - 2) **Jews:** Non-firstborns with faith and no blood
 - 3) **Pagans:** Firstborns with no faith and no blood

THE PREPARATION

2. How should we prepare for the Passover?

A. Passover 101

- (1) First: Who should prepare for and keep Passover?
 - (a) Don't be unaware!
 - 1. "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ." I Cor. 10:1-4
 - 2. Whose forefathers were in the wilderness?
 - All our fathers! And that includes the non-Jews to whom Paul was writing in Corinth.
 - b) Why? Because we all become identified as Israel when we are adopted into the family of God.
 - 1) "Remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh—who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands— that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of

promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." Ephesians 2:11-13

- (b) Should we, as Christians, be keeping Passover?
 - "Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.
 Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." I Corinthians 5:7-8
 - 2. Keep the Feast!
 - a) However, do not do so with hypocrisy or a religious spirit.
- B. As such, ask yourself the question... "How will I prepare for the Passover that we may eat?"
 - (1) Get the Leaven out!
 - (a) No time to let the bread rise (no time to let sin fester in your life). "For we have spent enough of our past time doing the desire of the Gentiles, and having walked in lewdness, lusts, drunken binges, orgies, carousings, and abominable idolatries." 1 Peter 4:3

- 1. Prophetic Significance...**remove [sin] leaven** from your houses [life]. Exodus 12:15
- 2. "Rise, go out. ...So the people took their dough **before it was leavened**...Exodus 12:31, 34
- 3. ...**nor shall leaven be seen among you** ...This is done because of what the Lord did for me when I came up from Egypt.'" Exodus 13:7-8
 - a) The survivors of the 10th plague had to leave Egypt in a hurry. There was **no time** for the bread to rise.
 - b) This is symbolic as we "Prepare for Passover" to get the leaven (sin) out of our lives.
 - c) Sin wants to rule you but you have the power to rule it! (Genesis 4:7)
- (b) Y'shua on Leaven...Beware!
 - ... "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known." Luke 12:1-2
 - ..."Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." ...not the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees." Matthew 16:6, 11-12
- (c) Sin is lawless...DO NOT SIN!

- 1. "Whoever commits sin commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. ... Whoever abides in Him does not sin. Whoever sins has neither seen Him nor known Him. ... Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God." I John 3:4-6, 9
- 2. "Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, ...do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, ... For sin shall not have dominion over you, ... Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!"

 Romans 6:12-15
- (d) Don't even entertain sin!
 - 1. "...sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."" Genesis 4:7
 - 2. **A little leaven** leavens the whole lump." Gal. 5:9
 - 3. "... let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, ..." Hebrews 12:1
- (e) Don't ever go back to your old sins!
 - "For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness, and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins." II Peter 1:9

2. "For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."" II Peter 2:20-22

C. A Prophetic Journey in the Upper Room

- (1) The preparation day: "Where do we PREPARE to eat the Passover?"
 - (a) The disciples were focused on the PREPARATION for Passover! Are you?
 - (b) It's the journey we all take toward each Passover! Ask yourself: "Where do we PREPARE to eat the Passover?"
 - (c) In John's Gospel... there is no mention of the preparation before the meal!!! WHY?? Instead it says...
 - 1. "It was just before the Passover Festival. Jesus knew that the hour had come for him to leave this world...

 The evening meal was in progress..." (John 13:1-2)

2. John does not mention the Preparation Day until later; when he does, what it reveals about the day Y'shua was crucified is shocking to most Christians!

D. <u>The Upper Room Preparation Prophecy</u>

- (1) First Imagine... the Joy set before Him!
 - (a) Imagine that, at the Last Supper, His disciples were the Joy set before Him, and by extension, so is every Christian since then, who believed because of them.
 - 1. "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;" John 17:20
 - a) "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2
- (2) In the Upper Room, at the Preparation for Passover, John records the Words of Y'shua as the Passover Destination.
 - (a) He **knew** the hour had come. It was time to prepare His People.

- (b) The last supper meal **is** the preparation for THE ULTIMATE PASSOVER!
- (c) What took place in that upper room!
- (d) In all three Synoptic Gospels they...
 - BRFAK BRFAD
 - 2. POUR WINE
 - 3. MENTION THE KINGDOM (the cup not offered)
 - 4. AND THEN THEY LEAVE FOR GETHSEMANE
- (e) ...yet they each record NOTHING of the DETAILED SERMON in the Upper Room Discourse found in John 13-17! (Y'shua's longest recorded sermon)
- (3) John 13
 - (a) "Now *before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come [when the lamb must be sacrificed and placed in the oven] that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end [Hint: the end is Passover]. And supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him," John 13:1-2
 - 1. Contrast the Synoptic Gospels... *on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they killed the Passover lamb...

- (b) He washed their feet, a servant is not greater than his master. (John 13:3-17)
 - ..."Do you know what I have done to you? You call
 Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If
 I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet,
 you also ought to wash one another's feet." John
 13:12-14
 - 2. "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you." John 13:15
 - 3. "Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him." John 13:16
- (c) His betrayer is identified (John 13:18-30)
- (d) A new commandment is given—love like I loved. (John 13:31-35)
- (e) Peter's predicted denial (John 13:36-38)
- (4) John 14
 - (a) {6} I am the way, the truth, and the life. (John 14:1-6)
 - (b) If you know Me you know My Father, I don't speak on My own authority. (John 14:7-11)
 - (c) Greater works and anything you ask in My name. (John 14:12-14)
 - (d) **If you love Me**, keep My commandments. (John 14:15)

- (e) The Promised Helper, the Spirit of truth. (John 14:16-18)
- (f) If you love Me you'll keep My words, which are really the Father's words, and My Father will love you. (John 14:19-24)
- (g) The promise of peace and the Helper Holy Spirit will teach you all things, even as the ruler of this world comes, who has nothing to do with Me. (John 14:25-31)

(5) John 15

- (a) Abide in Me, the true vine. (John 15:9-17)
 - 1. Love and Joy Perfected.
 - 2. Keeping His commands is how you abide in His Love.
 - 3. Greater Love—lay down your life.
 - 4. We are now friends.
- (b) I chose you to glorify My Father by bearing fruit as My disciples. (John 15:1-8)
- (c) The World's Hatred: they hated Me, they will hate you. (John 15:18-25)
- (d) The Spirit bears witness—you will bear witness. (John 15:26-27)

(6) John 16

(a) The coming persecution—so you recognize it when it comes. (John 16:1-4)

- (b) The work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:5-15)
 - 1. I'm going away but don't have sorrow; it will be to your advantage; the Spirit will come and convict the world and {13} **guide you into all truth** by speaking what He hears about what is coming on the authority of the Father.
- (c) Sorrow will turn to joy and {16:22-23} whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. (John 16:16-24)
- (d) Be peaceful and cheerful even when you have trials because the Messiah has overcome the world. (John 16:25-33)
- (7) John 17 (the Prayers)
 - (a) Y'shua for Himself— Glorify Me with the glory I had before the world was. (John 17:1-5)
 - (b) Y'shua for His disciples! (John 17:6-19)
 - 1. I pray for them, not the world.
 - 2. I've lost none except the son of perdition.
 - 3. They are not of the world, like I am not of the world.
 - 4. {17} **Sanctify them** by Your truth. Your word is truth.
 - (c) Y'shua for all believers! (John 17:20-26)
 - 1. {20} Y'shua prays for those sitting with Him AND also for all those who will ever believe because of them.

- 2. He prays that we will be in perfect oneness exactly as He and His Father are one.
- 3. He prays that we will have glory like His.
- 4. He prays that we will be with Him.
- 5. {26} He prays that we will **possess and experience** the same love for each other as the Father has for the Son.
- (d) Kingdom Alls—Prophetic Passover Promises declared in the Upper Room Discourse. All...
 - Knowledge, Servanthood, Truth, Power, Authority, Love, Obedience, Joy, Peace, Promises, Requests, Unity, Perfection, Glory

E. Preparation day and the Crucifixion

- (1) NOTICE: They want to pierce Him and then take Him down from the cross, and it is **STILL** the Preparation Day
 - (a) It was Preparation Day; it was a High Day
 - 1. "Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away." John 19:31
 - (b) Considerations (No other Gospel but John!)

- 1. The prophetic gospel writer records these important details (not mentioned in the synoptic Gospels).
- 2. We must take Y'shua off the cross because the Sabbath is approaching.
- 3. That sabbath was a High Day!
- 4. Left alone, any reader would assume this means the weekly Sabbath is the next day, the seventh day of the week, or in our vernacular, Saturday.
- 5. But the high day in John 19:31 actually refers to the first day of the annual Feast of Unleavened Bread, because both the first day and the seventh day of the feast are commanded as Sabbath days, regardless of on what day of the week they fall. (See Leviticus 23:4-8)
- 6. We know Y'shua was nailed to the cross in the morning at 9:00 am; and we know He died at 3:00 pm; and we know according to the Bible (Genesis 1:5), the new day begins as the sun sets (approximately 7:00 pm in April in Jerusalem).
 - a) "Now it was the **third hour [9am]**, and they crucified Him. Now when the **sixth hour [noon]** had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the **ninth hour [3pm]**

- ..."My God, My God, why have You forsaken
 Me?" And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and
 breathed His last." Mark 15:25, 33-34, 37
- b) They needed to get Him off the cross before sundown when the new day begins because it was "the Sabbath of Unleavened Bread."
- c) The time "between the evenings," as the sun is setting, is the Passover. "On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is the Lord's Passover."

 Leviticus 23:5
- d) Passover is a "moment" not a day and Y'shua was the Passover Lamb that year.
- (c) What day was the crucifixion?
 - 1. The Sabbath in John 19:31...
 - a) ...refers to the first day of Unleavened Bread
 - b) ...is not the weekly Sabbath (7th day, Saturday)
 - c) ...is not limited to falling on the 6th day (Friday)
 - d) ...can occur any day of the week.
 - 2. Therefore, the crucifixion...
 - a) ...is not required to have taken place on a Friday (as per Christian tradition).
 - b) What a relief! You are no longer forced to explain how to fit the 72 hours of 3 days and 3 nights into

- the 36 hours between Friday night and Sunday morning!
- (d) So, what day was the Passover the year Y'shua was crucified?
 - Passover that year was before sunset (between the evenings at twilight) on Wednesday before it became Thursday.
 - 2. This means He was nailed to the cross 9:00 am on Wednesday and at 3:00 pm Wednesday He died.
 - 3. He was taken down and buried before sunset on Wednesday because after sunset it becomes Thursday, the Sabbath of the first day of Unleavened Bread.
 - 4. He was then in the grave three days and three nights as per the sign of Jonah.
 - a) "For as Jonah was **three days and three nights** in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth." Matthew 12:40
- (e) Detailed timing leading up to and after the crucifixion. See Chart with details: <u>From Anointing to Resurrection</u>
 - 1. Thursday, Nisan 8: The anointing at Bethany; 6 days before the Passover. (John 12:1)

- 2. Friday, Nisan 9: The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem; 5 days before Passover
- 3. Saturday, Nisan 10: The Lamb (Y'shua) is selected for the Passover sacrifice (Exodus 12:3) and is Hidden away (John 12:36) for examination (trial), until it is slaughtered in the daytime on Wednesday, Nisan 14 (4 days of inspection).
- 4. Tuesday, Nisan 13: Before sundown, the Last Supper and Upper Room Discourse (John 13-17)
 - a) Wednesday, Nisan 14: (overnight after the sunset on Tuesday), prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane, His betrayal, His religious trial (before the cock crows), and His Roman trial with Pilate in the early morning (Matthew 26-27)
 - b) Wednesday, Nisan 14: Crucified at 9:00 am and died at 3:00 pm. (Mark 15:25, 33-34, 37)
 - c) Wednesday, Nisan 14: Off the cross and in the grave before Sundown. (John 19:31)
 - d) Passover is between the evenings at twilight, as the sun is setting, on the 14th day of Nisan, in the first month. (Leviticus 23:5)
- 5. In the grave three days and three nights. (Mat. 12:40)

- a) Nisan 15: Wednesday before Sundown going into Thursday
- b) Nisan 16: Thursday before Sundown going into Friday
- c) Nisan 17: Friday before Sundown going into Saturday
- d) Nisan 17: Resurrected before Sundown on Saturday, a full three days and three nights after His burial.
- 6. Sunday, Nisan 18: Feast of Firstfruits; the day after the first weekly sabbath following Passover. (Lev. 23:9-14)
 - a) They arrive at the grave Sunday morning and He is already gone: "Now after the [weekly] Sabbath [Saturday], as the first day [Sunday] of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb." Matthew 28:1

PASSOVER IS THE END

- 3. Mandates and Conclusions (Results)
 - **A.** The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-13)
 - (1) A glimpse into the future...
 - (a) Peter, James and John join Y'shua on the mountain; and Moses and Elijah appear.

- "and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light." Matthew 17:2
 - a) He transforms in front of them into a glorified human, a being of light.
 - 1) "I am the light of the world." John 8:12; 9:5
 - 2) "You are the light of the world." Matthew 5:14
 - 73) Paul later describes this as... "So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit." I Corinthians 15:42-45
- (b) Suddenly...
 - 1. "And behold, **Moses and Elijah appeared** to them, talking with Him." Matthew 17:3
 - a) Moses and Elijah appear.
 - b) The disciples recognized them because they know prophecy!

- (c) Then a familiar voice...
 - 1. "While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"" Matthew 17:5
 - a) This is the same voice and same message that announced Y'shua's first coming at His baptism!
 - 1) "Jesus, when he was baptized, went up directly from the water: and behold, the heavens were opened to him. He saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming on him.

Behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."" Matthew 3:16-17

- b) This prophetic picture shows it will happen again!
- c) But it also frightened them greatly, and Y'shua tells them they need not be afraid (Matthew 17:6-7)
- (d) Tell no one!
 - "Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead.""
 Matthew 17:9

- And that is exactly what Peter did later in his second letter... "For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain. And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed *as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts;" II Peter 1:16-19
 - 1) *"I am the light of the world. He who follows

 Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the
 light of life." John 8:12
- (e) Hearing the voice and seeing the prophets prompts this all-important prophetic question when they come down from the mountain:
 - "And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?""
 Matthew 17:10

- a) How did they know to ask?
- b) We can see from Peter's letter later that they knew it from prophecy... "so we have the prophetic word confirmed."
- c) We will see that prophecy shortly, but first...
- (f) Y'shua's answer is an explosion of prophetic insight...
 - 1. "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed,
 Elijah is coming first and will restore all things. But I say to you that Elijah has come already and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished.
 Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that He spoke to them of John the Baptist." Matthew 17:10-13
 - a) Elijah is coming first... (Malachi 4:4-6)
 - b) Elijah will restore all things... (Acts 3:19-23)
 - c) Elijah has come already... (Luke 1:13-17)
 - d) They did to him whatever they wished... (Matthew 14:10-12)
 - e) The disciples understood Y'shua was referring to John the Baptist... (Matthew 11:13-15)

B. John and Elijah...

(1) Why did they know Y'shua was referring to John after they saw Moses and Elijah on the mountain?

(a) Elijah is coming first...

- 1. "Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, Which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, With the statutes and judgments. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse." Malachi 4:4-6
 - a) First notice how Malachi's prophecy includes both Moses and Elijah (like they appeared together on the mountain).
 - b) There are two messengers with two messages!
 - c) If you focus in on Elijah, you see that he must come before Y'shua comes (and that means before both His first coming and His second coming).
 - d) Elijah's role is described as "turning hearts of families." Keep that in mind as we learn more about John.
 - e) And there are dire consequences for those who ignore Elijah!

(b) Elijah will restore all things...

- 1. ""Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began. For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.'" Acts 3:19-23
 - a) Times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord: What presence?
 - b) That He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before: Since this was written after the birth, life, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Y'shua, this MUST refer to His return at the second coming!
 - c) Whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things: Confirmed! He is in

- heaven waiting for the restoration and then He will return. And these things must come first!
- The gospel of the kingdom must be preached to the whole world before the end (the final Passover) can come. Matthew 24:14
- 2) Y'shua will remain at the right hand of His Father in heaven, waiting until His enemies (sin and Satan) are crushed under His feet. Hebrews 10:12-13
- 3) The bar-mitzvah that reveals the mature sons of God to all of creation at Passover. Romans 8:18-22
- d) Which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets: as per detailed by Malachi 4:4-6
 - 1) Remember the Law of Moses!
 - 2) Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet and he will turn hearts!
- e) It shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed: Malachi says, "Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."
 - 1) This is not a 'new curse,' but refers instead to the curse that already exist because of Adam's sin in the Garden!

- 2) The curse is not lifted until Elijah comes again, transforms the hearts of families, and God's people become mature 'sons.'
- 3) "For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now."

 Romans 8:20-22
- f) The restoration of all things refers to a heart transformation in families.
 - 1) Prophetic insight: Passover's focus is family.

 "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." Exodus 12:21
 - 2) Every generation is OBLIGATED to FEEL as though they personally experienced the Exodus
 - 3) We are commanded to remember the Passover and tell (Haggadah) the story.

g) "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things."

(c) Elijah has come already...

- 1. ... He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, [as affirmed by Y'shua in Matthew 17] 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."" Luke 1:13-17
- 2. Zacharias' Prophecy: "And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways, To give knowledge of salvation to His people By the remission of their sins, ...So the child grew and became strong in spirit, and was in the deserts till the day of his manifestation to Israel." Luke 1:67-80
- 3. "Now this is the testimony of John, ... "What then?

 Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the

 Prophet?" And he answered, "No." Then they said to
 him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to
 those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?"
 He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the
 wilderness: "Make straight the way of the LORD," '
 ... "Why then do you baptize if you are not the

Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ..." John 1:19-27

- a) He says he is not Elijah or the Prophet, but why is this true after he confirms that he is "The voice of one crying, in the wilderness?" (From Isaiah 40:3)
- b) John the Baptist was prophesied to come in the "the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn hearts (the Restoration of All Things).
- c) He will be a prophet of the Most High who prepares a way for the Lord.
- d) John is not **the prophet** (Elijah) but has the spirit of the prophet (Elijah)!

(d) They did to him whatever they wished...

- 1. "So he sent **and had John beheaded in prison**. And his head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, and she brought it to her mother. Then his disciples came and took away the body and buried it, and went and told Jesus." Matthew 14:10-12 NKJV
 - a) He was executed for his bold declarations of truth!
 - 1) "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29

- 2) "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and **Sadducees** coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" Matthew 3:7
- 3) He knew! "He must increase, but I must decrease." John 3:30
- (e) The disciples understood Y'shua was referring to John the Baptist...
 - 1. "In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight."" Matthew 3:1-3

- a) John was fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy.
 - 1) "The voice of one who calls out, "Prepare the way of Yahweh in the wilderness! Make a level highway in the desert for our God." Isaiah 40:3
- "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!" Matthew 11:13-15 NKJV

- a) If you are willing to receive it and have ears to hear... John was fulfilling the prophecy from Isaiah for Y'shua's first coming in the spirit of Elijah.
- b) And Elijah will come again before Y'shua's second coming
- c) When will Elijah come? Before Y'shua comes again, Elijah will come **at Passover** to restore all things.

C. What is Elijah's role at Passover?

- (1) He comes at the Ultimate Passover to preach...
 - (a) The Gospel of the Kingdom
 - 1. "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end [Passover] will come." Matthew 24:14
 - a) The Gospel of Salvation births children.
 - b) The Gospel of the Kingdom matures children into adults.
 - (b) He comes at the Ultimate Passover to mature sons...
 - 1. "...For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for **the revealing of the sons of God**. ...into the glorious liberty of the children of God..." Romans 8:18-22

- a) Passover is when mature Sons are presented to the world (a bar-mitzvah).
- b) All of creation is waiting for it!
- c) The restoration of all things is creation being delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God!
- d) Y'shua is waiting on us to fulfill our role...
 - 1) "whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began." Acts 3:21
- (c) He comes at the Ultimate Passover to destroy sin...
 - 1. "But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool [from Psalms 110:1-2]." Hebrews 10:12-13
 - a) God's chief enemies are Satan and sin.
 - b) His enemies are made His footstool when God's children conquer sin!
 - c) Each Passover is practice to get the leaven (sin) out of your life, until the Ultimate Passover!
 - d) Sin is waiting to pounce!

- "...But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." Genesis 4:7
- e) Enough living like a pagan!
 - 1) "For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing and detestable idolatry." 1 Peter 4:3
- f) You are no longer a slave to sin!
 - 1) "For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— because anyone who has died has been set free from sin." Romans 6:6-7 (Read all of Romans 6)
- g) You are no longer destined to sin!
 - 1) "We know that anyone born of God does not continue to sin..." 1 John 5:18
- h) Sin is no longer your lord:
 - 1) "Sin is no longer your master because you are no longer too weak to obey God; but you are instead empowered by His grace to obey His Word!" Romans 6:14

PREPARATION DAY (John 13-17) See the Feasts of Yahweh

- 1. Legitimate Sons
- 2. The Preparation
- 3. Passover is the End