

From Brokenness to Healing: Celebrating the Death and Resurrection of Jesus

Ezra 6:12-22

1. Completion of the Temple (516 BC)

Then, according to the word sent by Darius the king, Tattenai, the governor of the province Beyond the River, Shethar-bozenai, and their associates did with all diligence what Darius the king had ordered. And the elders of the Jews built and prospered through the prophesying of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah the son of Iddo. They finished their building by decree of the God of Israel and by decree of Cyrus and Darius and Artaxerxes king of Persia; and this house was finished on the **third day of the month of Adar**, in the sixth year of the reign of Darius the king.

- Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and **mounted on a donkey**, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. (Zechariah 9:9 ESV)
- Then the LORD said to me, “Throw it to the potter”—the lordly price at which I was priced by them. So I took the **thirty pieces of silver** and threw them into the house of the LORD, to the potter. (Zechariah 11:13 ESV)
- “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom **they have pierced**, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. (Zechariah 12:10 ESV)
- “Awake, O sword, against my shepherd, against the man who stands next to me, declares the Lord of hosts. **Strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered**; I will turn my hand against the little ones. (Zechariah 13:7 ESV)

2. Celebration of the Rebuilding of the Temple: Zerubbabel's Temple

And the people of Israel, the priests and the Levites, and the rest of the returned exiles, celebrated the dedication of this house of God with joy. They offered at the dedication of this house of God 100 bulls, 200 rams, 400 lambs, and as a sin offering for all Israel 12 male goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel. And they set the priests in their divisions and the Levites in their divisions, for the service of God at Jerusalem, as it is written in the Book of Moses.

A) Solomon's Temple: The Lord Blesses the Building of the New Temple (1 Kings 8:12-21 ESV)

Then Solomon said, “The LORD has said that he would dwell in thick darkness. I have indeed built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in forever.” Then the king turned around and blessed all the assembly of Israel, while all the assembly of Israel stood. And he said, “**Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel**, who with his hand **has fulfilled what he promised** with his mouth to David my father, saying, ‘Since the day that I brought my people Israel out of Egypt, I chose no city out of all the tribes of Israel in which to build a house, that my name might be there. **But I chose David** to be over my people Israel.’ Now it was in the heart of David my father to build a house for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel. But the LORD said to David my father, ‘Whereas it was in your heart to build a house for my name, you did well that it was in your heart. Nevertheless, you shall not build the house, but **your son who shall be born to you shall build the house for my name.**’ Now the LORD has fulfilled his promise that he made. For I have risen in the place of David my father, and sit on the throne of Israel, as the LORD promised, and I have **built the house for the name of the LORD**, the God of Israel. And there **I have provided a place for the ark**, in which is **the covenant of the LORD** that he made with our fathers, when **he brought them out of the land of Egypt.**”

A1) The Church: The Lord Blesses the Building of the New Temple (Ephesians 1:3-14 ESV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

B) Solomon's Temple: The Prayer Over the Temple (1 Kings 8:22-30 ESV)

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven, and said, "O LORD, God of Israel, **there is no God like you**, in heaven above or on earth beneath, **keeping covenant and showing steadfast love** to your servants who walk before you with all their heart; you have kept with your servant David my father what you declared to him. **You spoke with your mouth, and with your hand have fulfilled it this day**. Now therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father what you have promised him, saying, '**You shall not lack a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel**, if only your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Now therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you have spoken to your servant David my father. "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, **heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you**; how much less this house that I have built! Yet have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his plea, O LORD my God, listening to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before you this day, **that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house**, the place of which you have said, 'My name shall be there,' **that you may listen to the prayer** that your servant offers toward this place. And **listen to the plea** of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. And **listen in heaven** your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.

B1) The Church: The Prayer Over the New Temple (Ephesians 1:15-23 ESV)

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you **the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation** in the knowledge of him, **having the eyes of your hearts enlightened**, that you may know what is the **hope to which he has called you**, what are the **riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints**, and what is the **immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe**, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

C) Solomon's Temple: Benediction Prayer for the New Temple (1 Kings 8:54-61 ESV)

Now as Solomon finished offering all this prayer and plea to the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, where he had knelt with hands outstretched toward heaven. And he stood and blessed all the assembly of Israel with a loud voice, saying, "**Blessed be the LORD who has given**

rest to his people Israel, according to all that he promised. Not one word has failed of all his good promise, which he spoke by Moses his servant. The LORD our God **be with us**, as he was with our fathers. **May he not leave us or forsake us**, that he may incline our hearts to him, to **walk in all his ways and to keep his commandments**, his statutes, and his rules, which he commanded our fathers. Let these words of mine, with which I have pleaded before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, and **may he maintain the cause of his servant** and the cause of his people Israel, as each day requires, **that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other**. Let your heart therefore be wholly true to the LORD our God, walking in his statutes and keeping his commandments, as at this day.”

C1) The Church: Benediction Prayer for the New Temple (Ephesians 3:14-21 ESV)

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be **strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being**, so that **Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith**—that you, **being rooted and grounded in love**, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and **to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge**, that you may **be filled with all the fullness of God**. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him **be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever**. Amen.

D) The Temple: The Offering of Sacrifices for the New Temple (1 Kings 8:62-64 ESV)

Then the king, and all Israel with him, **offered sacrifice** before the LORD. Solomon offered as **peace offerings** to the LORD 22,000 oxen and 120,000 sheep. So the king and all the people of Israel dedicated the house of the LORD. The same day the king consecrated the middle of the court that was before the house of the LORD, for there he offered the **burnt offering** and the **grain offering** and the fat pieces of the peace offerings, because the bronze altar that was before the LORD was too small to receive the burnt offering and the grain offering and the fat pieces of the peace offerings.

D1) The Church: The Offering of Sacrifices for the New Temple (Ephesians 4:1-3 ESV)

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to **walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called**, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

3. Celebration of the Passover Feast

On the **fourteenth day of the first month**, the returned exiles kept the Passover. For the priests and the Levites had purified themselves together; all of them were clean. So they slaughtered the Passover lamb for all the returned exiles, for their fellow priests, and for themselves. It was eaten by the people of Israel who had returned from exile, and also by every one who had joined them and separated himself from the uncleanness of the peoples of the land to worship the LORD, the God of Israel.

4. Celebration of the Unleavened Bread Feast

And they kept the **Feast of Unleavened Bread** seven days with joy, for the LORD had made them joyful and had turned the heart of the king of Assyria to them, so that he aided them in the work of the house of God, the God of Israel. (Ezra 6:13-22 ESV)

A) Instructions for Preparing for the Plague on the Firstborn (Exodus 12:1-13 ESV)

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, “Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a **lamb** according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household...Your lamb shall be **without blemish, a male a year old**. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall **kill their lambs** at twilight. “Then they shall take some of the **blood and put it on the two doorposts** and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. **They shall eat the flesh that night**, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it...**For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt...**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, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

B) Memorial of Eating of the Unleavened Bread (Exodus 12:14-20 ESV)

“This day shall be for you a **memorial day**, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast. Seven days you shall **eat unleavened bread...**

C) Passover Meal Instructions (Exodus 12:21-28 ESV)

Then Moses called all the elders of Israel and said to them, “Go and select lambs for yourselves according to your clans, and **kill the Passover lamb**. Take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and **touch the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood** that is in the basin. None of you shall go out of the door of his house until the morning. **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 will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you**. You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons forever.

D) The Exodus and the Tenth Plague (Exodus 12:29-42 ESV)

At midnight the **LORD struck down all the firstborn** in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock... “And the **LORD had given the people favor** in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. Thus they plundered the Egyptians. ...At the end of 430 years, on that very day, **all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt**. (Exodus 12:29-42 ESV)

C1) Additional Passover Meal Instructions (Exodus 12:43-50 ESV)

And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, “This is the statute of the Passover: **no foreigner shall eat of it, but every slave that is bought for money may eat of it after you have circumcised him...**It shall be **eaten in one house**; you shall not take any of the flesh outside the house, and **you shall not break any of its bones**. But **no uncircumcised person shall eat of it...**And on that very day **the LORD brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts**. (Exodus 12:43-51 ESV)

B1) Memorial of Eating of the Unleavened Bread (Exodus 13:1-10 ESV)

The LORD said to Moses, “**Consecrate to me all the firstborn...**“**Remember this day** in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place.... You shall therefore keep this statute at its appointed time from year to year. (Exodus 13:1-10 ESV)

A1) Instructions for Memorial of Redeeming of the Firstborn (Exodus 13:11-16 ESV)

...Every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem;;;Therefore I sacrifice to the LORD all the males that first open the womb, but all the firstborn of my sons I redeem.’

Passover 1: Cleansing of the Temple (John 2:13-25 ESV)

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" Jesus answered them, "**Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.**" **The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.** Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

Passover 2: The Bread of Life (John 6:35-71 ESV)

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. **And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.**" (John 6:35-40 ESV)

So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.** As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever." Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum. (John 6:

After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God." Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the Twelve? And yet one of you is a devil." He spoke of Judas the son of Simon Iscariot, for he, one of the Twelve, was going to betray him. (John 6:66-71 ESV)

Passover 3: The Teachings, Arrest, Trial, Crucifixion and Resurrection of Jesus (John 11:1-21:25)

Matthew 21:1-28:20	35%	Teachings 21:1-26:46
Mark 11:1-16:20	40%	Teachings 11:1-14:42
Luke 19:28-24:53	23%	Teaching 19:1-22:46
John 12:1-21:25	42%	Teaching 12:1-17:26
Total	34%	

The Church: The Passover of Jesus (Romans 3:21-31 ESV)

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are **justified** by his grace as a gift, through the **redemption** that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a **propitiation** by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine **forbearance** he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law. Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, since God is one—who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law. (Romans 3:21-31 ESV)

The Church: The Living Sacrifices (Romans 12:1-2)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:1-2 ESV)