

This week's Audio, Video, and Teaching Notes are posted here.

Passover from Moses to Jeremiah – Class Seventeen (Chag Pesach Sameach; A Survey of Biblical Passovers; Moses Passover; Joshua's Passover; Circumcising the Whole Nation at Gilgal; Hezekiah's Passover; Josiah's and Hezekiah's Passover – Competing Views; Passover is Not Mentioned by the Prophets; What Jeremiah Knows About the Exodus – House of Slaves; Passover and the Themes of the Exodus; Those Who Handle the Torah Did Not Know Me; What Does God Desire; Obey My Voice; Signs and Wonders; The Second Exodus)

April 8, 2023 – Ross Nichols

Audio/Video Links:

<https://unitedisraelworldunion.com/passover-from-moses-to-jeremiah-class-seventeen/> &

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t2d7e6a4J-U>

Teaching Notes Link:

<https://unitedisraelworldunion.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2023.4.8-Passover-from-Moses-to-Jeremiah-Class-Seventeen.pdf>

TODAY'S INTRODUCTION

-Welcome to United Israel World Union, this is our Sabbath morning scripture study coming to you live from the United Israel Center South in Saint Francisville, Louisiana. Shabbat Shalom and thank you for joining us this morning.

-Jer 1:1 "The words of Jeremiah the son of Hilkiah of the priests who were in Anathoth in the land of Benjamin." This so begins the Hebrew bible's Book of Jeremiah and so begins our journey into a new and informative study on "The World and Words of the Prophet Jeremiah". Unlike any other book among the Prophets there is nothing that is more of a seed bed for the immersing biblical faiths, post the biblical period as both Judaism and Christianity draw heavily upon the book and words attributed to the prophet Jeremiah.

-Much of the book introduces oracles of Jeremiah which seem to be written or could be written by Jeremiah's own hand. Many of these examples written by the hand of Jeremiah are written in the first person. This does not prove that Jeremiah wrote it just because a text is in the first person, but it gets us as close as we can at arriving at that possible conclusion. When we read where Jeremiah says, "and the word of the LORD was to me", we're going to believe this represents a form of Jeremiah's original oracle. Get ready to follow and trust the text to get us as close as we can to the historical, authentic message of Jeremiah of Anathoth, and help us to be "Honest to Jeremiah".

TEACHING NOTES

-Today is class seventeen in our study on The World and Words of the Prophet Jeremiah and today's class is called "Passover from Moses to Jeremiah". Chag Sameach as we say during the festival of Passover. Welcome to the new year, biblically speaking.

-**Chag Pesach Sameach**

-Exo 12: 1 The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, 2 "This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you.

-We are halfway into the month that Josephus calls the holy month. Happy New Year! Exodus 12 details the rules and observance for Pesach / Passover / Unleavened Bread. This is a perfect opportunity to talk about Jeremiah and the Exodus motif / themes as far as Jeremiah knows it. A few passages you can study on Passover according to the biblical texts are noted here. Exodus 12, Exodus 34:18, Leviticus 23:5-8, Numbers 28:16-25, and Deuteronomy 16:1-8. Passover is also referred to in these texts as one of the three pilgrimage festivals. Exodus 23:14, Exodus 23:17, Exodus 34:23-25 and Deuteronomy 16:16-18. I encourage you to read all of these passages this week.

-Exo 12: 17 And you shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day, throughout your generations, as a statute forever.

-When this command goes into effect, presumably when the children of Israel are leaving Egypt, notice this is out of place in the text. The Rabbis would say there is no early or late in the Torah. You'll find some things that chronologically don't quite fit and written from another period. They have not yet left Egypt. According to the text they are still in Egypt, and he says you're going to keep this feast, this day I brought you out. The Exodus happens at the end of this chapter and into the next chapter. The narrative, this is part of laying out the rules for this particular festival which picks back up in Exodus 23:21.

-A Survey of Biblical Passovers

-It's safe to assume that many of you participated earlier this week in a commemorative meal, in a traditional Passover Seder in which the root word means order. This usually takes place with a Haggadah which is from a root word to tell. The story of the Exodus is told in an orderly fashion in association with a community commemorative meal. Since we are presently working through the World and Words of the Prophet Jeremiah, and this is class seventeen. It's only fitting that we deal with the subject of Passover and Unleavened Bread as far as Jeremiah knows it. Part of what I want to do is a survey of the Passovers from the beginning up through the end of the Jewish commonwealth, the end of the Judean kingdom. According to the biblical account we do have several Passovers that are mentioned in scripture.

-Moses Passover

-(The First Passover) The first one is when the children of Israel are in the land of Egypt and preparing to be saved and they participate in that first Passover. The next Passover that's mentioned is from Numbers 9 and it's in the second year in the wilderness which is forty years.

-(The Second Passover) Num 9: 1 And 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 people of Israel keep the Passover at its appointed time. 3 On the fourteenth day of this month, at twilight, you shall keep it at its appointed time; according to all its statutes and all its rules you shall keep it."

-In Exodus 12:17 we're told that this is an eternal festival that's to be done every year at it's moed, at it's appointed time in the first month on the fourteenth day. This is an eternal statute and it's going to be forever. This is the only other Passover that's mentioned in the forty years in the wilderness. We learn in Numbers 9 that there are some in the community who are not ritually clean at this time, and they go to Moses, and they explain the predicament. They want to keep the Passover, but they can't because they're

not clean. Moses approaches God and a plan is devised that should this situation occur in the future then the Passover can be held in the second month on the fourteenth day.

-Joshua's Passover

-(The Third Passover) Jos 5: 10 While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. 11 And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain.

-Before they could keep the Passover, they've come out of Egypt and Moses the servant of the LORD has died and Joshua and the children of Israel are poised on the edge of the Promised Land, and they are prepared to crossover. They want to do Passover, but they can't. Why can't they do Passover?

-Circumcising the Whole Nation at Gilgal

-Jos 5: 4 And this is the reason why Joshua circumcised them: all the males of the people who came out of Egypt, all the men of war, had died in the wilderness on the way after they had come out of Egypt. 5 Though all the people who came out had been circumcised, yet all the people who were born on the way in the wilderness after they had come out of Egypt had not been circumcised. 6 For the people of Israel walked forty years in the wilderness, until all the nation, the men of war who came out of Egypt, perished, because they did not obey the voice of the LORD; the LORD swore to them that he would not let them see the land that the LORD had sworn to their fathers to give to us, a land flowing with milk and honey. 7 So it was their children, whom he raised up in their place, that Joshua circumcised. For they were uncircumcised, because they had not been circumcised on the way. 8 When the circumcising of the whole nation was finished, they remained in their places in the camp until they were healed. 9 And the LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you." And so the name of that place is called Gilgal to this day.

-That is a lot of circumcision. 600,000 males left Egypt. Exodus 12:37 and Numbers 11:21 give a round number saying 600,000 males left Egypt. We get a number of 603,500 males that went out in Exodus 38:26, Numbers 1:46, and Numbers 2:32. Numbers 3:39 tells us that that doesn't even include the Levites which number 22,000. I'm talking here about the group that died along the way. How many males were preparing to cross into the land? We have that figure. They crossed into the desert and wandered in the wilderness for forty years. Along the way, after they refused to go into the land, they brought the bad report, and they started dying off. In Numbers 26:51 a new census is taken after that group has died. Another 24,000 died in Numbers 25:9 from a plague because of the situation with the Midianite and the Moabite women. By this time, every one of the male generation from twenty-years and up which left Egypt except Moses, Joshua, and Caleb, every other adult male is dead.

-Num 26: 63 These were those listed by Moses and Eleazar the priest, who listed the people of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho. 64 But among these there was not one of those listed by Moses and Aaron the priest, who had listed the people of Israel in the wilderness of Sinai. 65 For the LORD had said of them, "They shall die in the wilderness." Not one of them was left, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun.

-(The Fourth Passover) In Numbers 26:51 it says, 601,730 males from twenty years and up are present. There are a lot of males here and none of them are circumcised. There are

so many circumcisions that the place name is called the hill of the circumcisions. Then they can do Passover. There are only two Passovers mentioned in the Pentateuch and then there is this one in the Book of Joshua. After Joshua 5, we go a long time before another Passover is mentioned. Years ago, before I studied this matter out, I thought that at least a righteous remnant had kept Passover from the time they left Egypt until today, but that is not supported by the text. After Joshua's Passover not another one is mentioned until the time of Hezekiah. Even then it wasn't the first Passover, they did it in the second month on the fourteenth day because they weren't ready or prepared and people were unclean.

-Hezekiah's Passover

-2Chr 30: 1 Hezekiah sent to all Israel and Judah, and wrote letters also to Ephraim and Manasseh, that they should come to the house of the LORD at Jerusalem to keep the Passover to the LORD, the God of Israel. 2 For the king and his princes and all the assembly in Jerusalem had taken counsel to keep the Passover in the second month-- 3 for they could not keep it at that time because the priests had not consecrated themselves in sufficient number, nor had the people assembled in Jerusalem-- 4 and the plan seemed right to the king and all the assembly. 5 So they decreed to make a proclamation throughout all Israel, from Beersheba to Dan, that the people should come and keep the Passover to the LORD, the God of Israel, at Jerusalem, for they had not kept it as often as prescribed.

-Further it says that many were unclean. When the letter goes forth from Hezekiah to Judah and in the north, the people who heard this mocked him. We get the impression that this was not something that they've been doing. Hezekiah is a Godly man and a righteous king, and he wants to bring the practice back and follow the ways of God. So he reached out and some did show up.

-2Chr 30: 18 For a majority of the people, many of them from Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet they ate the Passover otherwise than as prescribed. For Hezekiah had prayed for them, saying, "May the good LORD pardon everyone 19 who sets his heart to seek God, the LORD, the God of his fathers, even though not according to the sanctuary's rules of cleanness."

-None of us are keeping the Passover as it was originally part of the way God commanded it. Very few do, because according to the text we are supposed to be in Jerusalem. We ought to say like Hezekiah, God just know our heart, we are trying to do our best to follow your appointed times.

-2Chr 30: 21 And the people of Israel who were present at Jerusalem kept the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days with great gladness, and the Levites and the priests praised the LORD day by day, singing with all their might to the LORD. 22 And Hezekiah spoke encouragingly to all the Levites who showed good skill in the service of the LORD. So they ate the food of the festival for seven days, sacrificing peace offerings and giving thanks to the LORD, the God of their fathers. 23 Then the whole assembly agreed together to keep the feast for another seven days. So they kept it for another seven days with gladness.

-2Chr 30: 26 So there was great joy in Jerusalem, for since the time of Solomon the son of David king of Israel there had been nothing like this in Jerusalem.

-According to the Chronicler, when I read this, I would think, wow, there was a gap. It does suggest that since the time of Solomon nothing like this has been seen. The writer of

Kings, according to Rabbinic tradition is Jeremiah. Kings supplies no record of this Passover that took place in the time of Hezekiah in the second month.

-Josiah's and Hezekiah's Passover – Competing Views

-(The Fifth Passover) The next mentioned Passover brings us to the time of Jeremiah. Here we are in the eighteenth year of Josiah, 622 BCE. Jeremiah at this time would have been receiving the word of the LORD in prophecy for five years.

-2Kin 23: 23 But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was kept to the LORD in Jerusalem.

-2Chr 35: 19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah this Passover was kept.

-Here is all that Kings records about that Passover. Now we're drilling in because I'm curious to know what does Jeremiah say about the Passover and what do we know about Passover in the days of Jeremiah at the end of the biblical period in a way before the Exile?

-2Kin 23: 21 And the king commanded all the people, "Keep the Passover to the LORD your God, as it is written in this Book of the Covenant." 22 For no such Passover had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, or during all the days of the kings of Israel or of the kings of Judah. 23 But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was kept to the LORD in Jerusalem.

-The writer of Kings does not mention Hezekiah's Passover. According to the writer of Kings, he just simply tells us that this was kept according to the Scroll of the Covenant which is only mentioned three times in all of the Tanakh. There is this Book of the Covenant which is often associated with the Torah of Moses. The writer of Kings tells us that there's been nothing like this back to the time of the judges who judged Israel and throughout all of the days of the kings of Israel and Judah, nothing like this has ever been done. There was no Passover. In Chronicles, the writer tells us about the Passover in the days of Hezekiah. He did the second Passover, but you have to wonder.

-2Chr 35: 15 The singers, the sons of Asaph, were in their place according to the command of David, and Asaph, and Heman, and Jeduthun the king's seer; and the gatekeepers were at each gate. They did not need to depart from their service, for their brothers the Levites prepared for them. 16 So all the service of the LORD was prepared that day, to keep the Passover and to offer burnt offerings on the altar of the LORD, according to the command of King Josiah. 17 And the people of Israel who were present kept the Passover at that time, and the Feast of Unleavened Bread seven days. 18 No Passover like it had been kept in Israel since the days of Samuel the prophet. None of the kings of Israel had kept such a Passover as was kept by Josiah, and the priests and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel who were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. 19 In the eighteenth year of the reign of Josiah this Passover was kept.

-Kings says since the time of the judges, no Passover had been kept, nor during any of the reigns of any of the kings of Israel or Judah. Chronicles says since the time of Samuel the prophet and none of the kings of Israel kept it. Both agree that this Passover that's kept in the days of Josiah stood out. But Kings made it clear that both in the Northern Kingdom and in the Southern Kingdom, Passover had not been kept. The Book of Kings seems to align with everything else biblically other than Chronicles. Chronicles makes the point that Israel was off, but Hezekiah kept it. We have these competing views, and this is often the case between Kings and Chronicles. Look at what Kings says immediately after Josiah's keeping of the Passover.

-2Kin 23: 23 But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was kept to the LORD in Jerusalem. 24 Moreover, Josiah put away the mediums and the necromancers and the household gods and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might establish the words of the law that were written in the book that Hilkiah the priest found in the house of the LORD. 25 Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the LORD with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him.

-According to the writer of Kings, there is no king like Josiah.

-2Kin 18: 5 He trusted in the LORD, the God of Israel, so that there was none like him among all the kings of Judah after him, nor among those who were before him. 6 For he held fast to the LORD. He did not depart from following him, but kept the commandments that the LORD commanded Moses. 7 And the LORD was with him; wherever he went out, he prospered. He rebelled against the king of Assyria and would not serve him.

-This is talking about Hezekiah. We do have this one account in Chronicles where Hezekiah too keeps a Passover. Kings doesn't record it, but Kings does say here that Hezekiah's the greatest. There's none before him and none after him that are greater and later in Kings just a few chapters later it says the same of Josiah. There are different traditions, but both of these kings were good faithful kings and maybe it's a tossup between saying Hezekiah is great and Josiah is great, they're both the best king. Both Kings and Chronicles report a Passover in the days of Jeremiah. Chronicles sole account of Hezekiah's Passover notwithstanding, here's what we know. There are only two kings and I'm talking Israel and Judah who we see according to any text whether they agree or not that kept the Passover. That is Hezekiah and Josiah. In fact, it says no king kept it – that's strange.

-Passover is Not Mentioned by the Prophets

-Working through the prophets, how many times do you think that the word Pesach / Passover is mentioned by the prophets? The answer is none, not once. You might think that Hezekiah's Passover in Chronicles would be mentioned by Isaiah. You might think that Micah who was a contemporary and a prophet during the time of Hezekiah would have mentioned it. Neither of these prophets mention that particular Passover. Hosea is also a contemporary to the north. Hosea mentions the kings of the south that he is a prophet during their reign, and he also mentions the north. In Chronicles, Hezekiah is called to keep the Passover which extends into the Northern Kingdom as well. But Hosea doesn't mention it either.

-We get the impression that this Passover in the days of Josiah is like none other. Even if you want to argue without textual proof that David, Solomon, or Rehoboam kept the Passover without a text that says they did it would be difficult because it says that no other king did this. Then when you get to this particular Passover, Jeremiah doesn't mention it and neither did Zephaniah who also was a prophet in the time of Jeremiah. According to the biblical account there was a long hiatus in keeping the Passover, not just in keeping it correctly, they're not keeping it at all.

-What Jeremiah Knows About the Exodus – House of Slaves

-When we get to Jeremiah, does he know about the Exodus? If Passover is a commemorative meal and all of this points to the great Exodus, does Jeremiah know

about that? Absolutely he does. Does Isaiah? Sure. Do many of the prophets speak of the themes of the great salvation of the Exodus. You bet they do. They just don't call it Passover. What is Jeremiah's view about the Exodus? He knows and frequently says that God brought Israel out of Egypt. He even associates the place of Egypt with a term, known as the house of slaves. The term, house of slaves is consistent from the Pentateuch all the way through the prophets. It's been mentioned thirteen times in the Tanakh.

-Exo 13: 3 Then Moses said to the people, "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. No leavened bread shall be eaten.

-Exo 13: 14 And when in time to come your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' you shall say to him, 'By a strong hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery.

-Exo 20: 2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

-Deu 5: 6 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

-Deu 6: 12 then take care lest you forget the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

-Deu 7: 8 but it is because the LORD loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers, that the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

-Deu 8: 14 then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery,

-Deu 13: 5 But that prophet or that dreamer of dreams shall be put to death, because he has taught rebellion against the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt and redeemed you out of the house of slavery, to make you leave the way in which the LORD your God commanded you to walk. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

-Deu 13: 10 You shall stone him to death with stones, because he sought to draw you away from the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

-Jos 24: 17 for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our fathers up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight and preserved us in all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed.

-Jdg 6: 8 the LORD sent a prophet to the people of Israel. And he said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I led you up from Egypt and brought you out of the house of slavery.

-Jer 34: 13 "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I myself made a covenant with your fathers when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, saying,

-Mic 6: 4 For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

-Passover and the Themes of the Exodus

-The prophets know about the redemption from Egypt. They talk about the themes of the Exodus. This is why it's so striking that we get the message in Kings and Chronicles, and we see as we read through the biblical accounts that actually keeping this Passover and

doing the Passover as the bible calls it. Most people will tell you that the Pesach is a certain kind of slaughter, a sacrifice, and that was Passover. What we do today, the commemoration, the meal, and reading the Haggadah at a Seder is not what the bible was originally talking about. It's a way to tell the story of that.

-Today, what does the bible really expect of us at Passover. To talk about the Pesach sacrifice or is it to talk about the themes that the prophets talk about? What are those things? God brought Israel out of Egypt with a strong hand, an outstretched arm with fury poured out. He defeated the enemy. Is that the emphasis or is the emphasis on other things? If we look at the plagues according to the Book of Exodus and we list them out in order horizontally compared to Psalms 78 and Psalms 105 we find that they are not exactly the same and this brings up questions. But there is no doubt about the themes of redemption and bringing Israel out of Egypt.

-Jer 34: 13 "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: I myself made a covenant with your fathers when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, saying, -God is saying that I, when I brought you out of the land of Egypt, I made a covenant with you, and we're told that that covenant over and over again in Jeremiah was broken. Notice the consistency of the language, a covenant with the fathers, when I brought you out of Egypt, the house of slaves. The children of Israel were slaves in Egypt and God redeemed them from that bondage. When the statutes and rules of Passover are communicated, we're told that this is to be done every year, forever. But that has not been kept. The Exodus from Egypt is mentioned by Jeremiah in other passages as well. Sometimes with and sometimes without the phrase, house of slaves. In Jeremiah 2 he tells Jeremiah that he remembers the devotion of a young Israel. How it was like the love of a bride. How they followed him into the wilderness and Israel was wholly to YHVH, but they abandoned him.

-Those Who Handle the Torah Did Not Know Me

-Jer 2: 6 They did not say, 'Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that none passes through, where no man dwells?' 7 And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its good things. But when you came in, you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination. 8 The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?' Those who handle the law did not know me; the shepherds transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit.

-Many people get uneasy we say that in your mind you can imagine that people were following the ways of God as written for all of these generations but it's just not what the texts tell us. Even the priests who handle the Torah don't know me says God. We are talking about what Jeremiah knows about the situation when Israel left Egypt. This is part of what Jeremiah said during his temple sermon that got him in so much trouble.

-Jer 7: 21 Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: "Add your burnt offerings to your sacrifices, and eat the flesh. 22 For in the day that I brought them out of the land of Egypt, I did not speak to your fathers or command them concerning burnt offerings and sacrifices. 23 But this command I gave them: 'Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people. And walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you.' 24 But they did not obey or incline their ear, but walked in their own counsels and the stubbornness of their evil hearts, and went backward and not forward.

25 From the day that your fathers came out of the land of Egypt to this day, I have persistently sent all my servants the prophets to them, day after day. 26 Yet they did not listen to me or incline their ear, but stiffened their neck. They did worse than their fathers.

-He's saying from the time you left Egypt until today in the seventh century BCE, approximately 600 to 800 years depending upon when you date the Exodus. Hundreds of years you've not done what I commanded. You'd think the priests have. The priests don't even know the Torah. In Jeremiah 8 it goes on to say that the lying pen of the scribes had made it into a lie. Did the kings keep it?

-What Does God Desire

-He said to obey my voice. He didn't say anything about burnt offerings and sacrifice. That's a startling statement and you could see why they wanted to lock him up and they did lock him up. He's challenging the priests. These were priest who were supposed to keep the Torah and here it says they didn't know it. Did God tell them or tell them not when they left Egypt to do burnt offerings and sacrifices?

-1Sam 15: 22 And Samuel said, "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to listen than the fat of rams.

-What does God desire instead? Kindness and the love of God.

-Hos 6: 6 For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

-I'm showing you that the prophetic message clashes with some of the things that we've been taught. Here he's saying the two words that in Jeremiah 7 the LORD speaks through Jeremiah in the temple. He says, when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, I didn't speak about this, and I didn't command them.

-Obey My Voice

-Jer 11: 2 "Hear the words of this covenant, and speak to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. 3 You shall say to them, Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Cursed be the man who does not hear the words of this covenant 4 that I commanded your fathers when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Listen to my voice, and do all that I command you. So shall you be my people, and I will be your God, 5 that I may confirm the oath that I swore to your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as at this day." Then I answered, "So be it, LORD."

-He's talking about speaking the words of this covenant. Interestingly enough a scroll of Moses was found in the days of Jeremiah in the days of Josiah. Hilkiah discovered the scroll. Could he be saying this scroll? Tell them this specific scroll, have them hear the words of this scroll. I think he is.

-Jer 11: 7 For I solemnly warned your fathers when I brought them up out of the land of Egypt, warning them persistently, even to this day, saying, Obey my voice.

-Signs and Wonders

-Jer 32: 20 You have shown signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, and to this day in Israel and among all mankind, and have made a name for yourself, as at this day. 21 You brought your people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs and wonders, with a strong hand and outstretched arm, and with great terror. 22 And you gave them this land, which you swore to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey.

-Jeremiah knows a lot about the story. Not only did God make a name for himself as illustrated in the Pentateuch. Remember when Pharaoh objects to letting the children of Israel go? Why is that? He said, who is this YHVH that you're talking about? I don't know this God, but the end of the story he does. Jeremiah says he knows about signs and wonders which is taken almost word for word from Deuteronomy 6:22. This passage or one very much like it is the one that Jeremiah is drawing on. The same language that I just read as far as signs and wonders, strong hand, outstretched arm, and great terror is found in: Psalms 135:9, Nehemiah 9:10, Deuteronomy 4:34, 5:15, and 26:8.

-The Second Exodus

-Jer 16: 14 "Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when it shall no longer be said, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' 15 but 'As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.' For I will bring them back to their own land that I gave to their fathers.

-Jer 23: 7 "Therefore, behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when they shall no longer say, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' 8 but 'As the LORD lives who brought up and led the offspring of the house of Israel out of the north country and out of all the countries where he had driven them.' Then they shall dwell in their own land."

-So great will be the future Exodus that no longer will it be said the LORD lives who brought the children of Israel up out of the land of Egypt, but the LORD lives who brought the children of Israel up out of all the lands into which they'd been scattered. Notice that Jeremiah is talking about themes, he's not talking about a name of a festival. He never mentions it. No prophet ever mentions it.

-If you ask me, what are you doing this week? I'm thinking and remembering and meditating on when God brought the children of Israel up from the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, with an outstretched arm and a mighty hand and fury poured out. This is what the prophets talked about.

-Jeremiah never refers to Pesach, nor do any of the prophets. He never therefore mentions Josiah's Passover. Just like there's silence in Jeremiah and Zephaniah about the great revival, nowhere does he mention that they're having this great Passover. No one does. The writer of Kings and the writer of Chronicles tells us the kings, excepting Josiah in the Book of Kings and Hezekiah and Josiah in the Book of Chronicles ever kept Passover. That's just what the text says. If people want to go beyond what the text says, that's your business. I'm trying to stick with the text where it says that they didn't. Why would they not? Did they not know about it? If they didn't know about it, why would they not?

-Why would a Godly king have many wives and multiple horses? Did they not know that Deuteronomy 17:14-20 says that you shouldn't do this, this, this, and this? Did they not know? Did they not write a copy of that document and have it to read every day of their life? Would they have not known better? If they did know and did it anyway, what does that say about them? Think about some of the good kings that had multiple women and lots of horses.

-For Jeremiah God did indeed bring the children of Israel up out of the land of Egypt. When they left though, according to Jeremiah or God speaking through Jeremiah they weren't commanded concerning sacrifices and burnt offerings. Rather they were told listen to the voice of God. For Jeremiah had established a covenant with their fathers

when he took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt which my covenant, they broke though I was a husband to them. God had married Israel and brought them into the wilderness. According to Jeremiah he looked with nostalgia upon that period. The devotion of Israel's youth. The love as of a bride, but Israel was not faithful. The priests, the kings, the prophets, they didn't listen. They mishandled the holy things. -Do you know what Israel needed? Do you know what Israel needs? Do you know what the world needs? A new covenant, and Jeremiah and Baruch are going to write one and we're going to talk about it next week.

Shabbat Shalom, Shavua Tov, Chag Sameach

THIS WEEK IN TORAH

APRIL 5 (Evening) – APRIL 13, 2023 (Evening)

This week's Torah Portion Passover / Unleavened Bread: (Leviticus 23:4-8; Deuteronomy 16:1-8) "These are the appointed feasts of YHVH, the holy convocations, which you shall proclaim at the time appointed for them. In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight, is YHVH's Passover. And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to YHVH; for seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. Welcome New Members, Enjoy Your Studies, and please keep posts related to the appointed feasts of YHVH. "Shavua Tov" and Have a Great Week!

"This Week in Torah" FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/571648826269105/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

-Blossoming Rose Israel Tours (2023): <https://blossomingrose.org/>
-80th Annual UIWU Conference, Charlotte, NC: April 21-23, 2023,
<https://unitedisraelworldunion.com/conference/>

-Tanakh Tours – Egypt / Jordan, October 31 – November 12, 2023,
<https://www.tanakhtours.com/biblical-egypt-jordan-tour/> &
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MwVIZvqHq-I>

-Tanakh Tours – Israel, November 12 – November 19, 2023,
<https://www.tanakhtours.com/tanakh-tour-november-2021/>

-James Tabor Blog: <https://jamestabor.com/>

-James Tabor YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/jamestaborvideos>

-Ross K. Nichols YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9-ZXSjHKN6L0N4EbjhJ2fA>

-UIWU YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq31WAlio9zC1eXDzrEVzlg/featured>