

## Faith's Confidence

**Hebrews 11: 28: Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.**

As we consider this verse, remember to whom the letter was written, the Hebrews. As the apostle encourages them that salvation is by faith in Christ apart from the works of the law, as he encourages the Hebrew brethren to persevere in the faith, he gives them an example of faith using Moses no less than five times. The reason the Spirit uses Moses as an example of faith is because those who attempted to turn the Hebrew brethren from Christ back to the law were fond of calling themselves the disciples of Moses. Therefore the Holy Spirit declares that Moses was saved by faith in Christ, not by the works of the law, the same way God has saved all his children in every age.

Repentance is always accompanied by faith. Therefore after showing that Moses refused the throne of Egypt (v24), that he chose to suffer affliction with the people of God (v25), that he esteemed the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt (v26) and that he would not compromise with king Pharaoh (v27), the Holy Spirit now tells us why. Moses' faith rested in the person and work of Christ; the lamb in the Passover represented Christ's person. The sprinkling of blood represented Christ's work. It is Christ's holy person that gives value to his work. Therefore this is the order so often declared in the scriptures, Christ's person then his work. (John 1: 29; I Cor 2: 2; Rev 5:6.)

- **John 1: 29: The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.**
- **I Cor 2: 2: For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.**
- **Rev 5: 6; And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain,**

Now, if we are to understand the strength Moses obtained through faith we must take into consideration what the children of Israel thought of Moses at this point. Nine plagues had come upon Egypt yet Pharaoh still refused to let the children of Israel go. The Egyptians only mocked Moses. Their hatred and cruel treatment toward the children of Israel grew more intense. Therefore even his own kindred, the children of Israel, had grown weary of Moses. To them, all Moses had accomplished was increasing Pharaoh's anger toward them. Nevertheless, the Lord now instructs Moses to go to the children of Israel declaring one last plague that must come upon Egypt. So we see it was only by faith in Christ that Moses found the strength to face the children of Israel with the details of the Passover.

Imagine what the children of Israel must have thought when Moses declared that their deliverance on that very night

- would come through a lamb (Ex 12:3) Yet, by faith Moses saw in that passover lamb what John saw when he said, Behold the Lamb of God.
- Exodus 12: 5 says, This lamb was to be taken out of the flock of sheep. Hebrews 2: 14-17 tells us what this typified: **14: Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15: And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16: For verily he took not on *him* the nature of angels; but he took on *him* the seed of Abraham. 17: Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto *his* brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.**
- Ex 12: 6: says they were to separate the lamb. Heb 7: 26: declares why: **For such an high priest became us, *who is* holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;**
- Ex 12:5: The lamb had to be without spot or blemish. I Pet 1: 19 gives the significance: God's elect are redeemed **with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:**
- Ex 12:6 says they were to slay the lamb. Rev 13:8: Christ is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.
- Ex 12: 27 says this lamb was a sacrifice which would take the place of the firstborn that the lamb might die in their stead and they go free. 1 Cor 5: 7: **Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:**
- Ex 12: 8, 9 say once slain they were to roast the lamb with fire signifying the fire of God's wrath as he bore the penalty of justice on behalf of his people. **In Luk 12: 50: But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and how am I straitened till it be accomplished!** That is why the Savior cried out in the ninth hour from the cross: **My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?**
- Ex 12: 46 says they were not to break a bone of this sacrifice. For as Christ is the husband his church the bride she is bone of his bone. Our Lord gave up the ghost before one of his bones were broken symbolizing that not one of his elect should be broken or lost.
- Ex. 12: 8, 9; says they were to eat the lamb completely, with unleavened bread, signifying that the life of the believer is not by the leaven of our own works but by faith, by spiritually eating Christ's flesh and drinking his blood. The Lord said in Joh 6: 53-58: **Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you. 54: Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. 55: For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. 56:**

**He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. 57: As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. 58: This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.**

- Ex 12: 11 says they were to eat the passover prepared to leave Egypt typifying the believer's readiness to leave this world forever.
- **Exodus 12** tells why they were to do this: **For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. 13: And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.** That very night the judgment of God passed through Egypt upon every house, Egyptian as well as the houses of the Israelites for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God. The difference for the Israelites is that God provided a lamb which stood between the offended God and the guilty sinner. Therefore when God saw the blood on the doorpost of the Israelites homes, he saw justice satisfied. Thus he passed over their houses. And all Israel was delivered that very night.

So in this one verse the Holy Spirit declared to the Hebrew brethren and to us today that it was not by the works of his own strength that Moses was delivered but Moses believed Christ. By faith he was not swayed by the mocking of the Egyptians or the murmuring of the children of Israel. Faith's confidence is faith's Deliverer, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Do you believe him by faith? No matter how impossible the way may seem, no matter how inconvenient it may be to our flesh, no matter what persecution might accompany us in this life, trust in the Lord and, as Moses and the children of Israel discovered, Christ shall set you free.