

James 4:8-10

⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

2 Peter 1:8-11

⁸ For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ For whoever lacks these qualities is so nearsighted that he is blind, having forgotten that he was cleansed from his former sins. ¹⁰ Therefore, brothers, be all the more diligent to make your calling and election sure, for if you practice these qualities you will never fall. ¹¹ For in this way there will be richly provided for you an entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Exodus 11:1-13:16

Being Born Again to a New Life

September 12, 2010

Sermon Outline

Notes

I. Introduction

- A. The Importance of Being Born Again
- B. A New Beginning (Exodus 12:2)

Key Idea

We must remember that Jesus endured the bitterness of our sin so that we can enjoy the regenerating power of God and bear much fruit for his glory.

II. The Bitter Herbs & Unleavened Bread

Exodus 12:7-13

⁷ “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. ⁸ They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with **unleavened bread and bitter herbs** they shall eat it. ... ¹¹ In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall *eat it in haste*. It is the Lord’s Passover. ¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and *I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt*, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: **I am the Lord**. ¹³ 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.

- A. Remember the **Bread** of Affliction (Dt. 16:3) & the **Bitter** Judgment

Lamentations 3:15-24

¹⁵ He has filled me with **bitterness**; he has sated me with wormwood. ¹⁶ He has made my teeth grind on gravel, and made me cower in ashes; ¹⁷ my soul is bereft of peace; I have forgotten what happiness is; ¹⁸ so I say,

“My endurance has perished; so has my hope from the Lord.”

¹⁹ Remember my affliction and my wanderings, the wormwood and the gall! ²⁰ My soul continually remembers it and is bowed down within me.

²¹ **But** this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:

²² The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴ “The Lord is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

C. H. Spurgeon, Morning and Evening: April 12 PM:

*“See yonder another King’s garden, which the King waters with his bloody sweat—Gethsemane, whose **bitter herbs** are sweeter far to renewed souls than even Eden’s luscious fruits. There the mischief of the serpent in the first garden was undone: there the curse was lifted from earth, and borne by the woman’s promised seed. My soul, bethink thee much of the agony and the passion; resort to the garden of the olive-press, and view thy great Redeemer rescuing thee from thy lost estate. This is the garden of gardens indeed, wherein the soul may see the guilt of sin and the power of love, two sights which surpass all others.”*

B. Leave the Old Leaven Behind

Exodus 13:3-4

...“**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.*** ⁴ Today, in the month of *Abib*, you are going out. ⁵ And when the Lord brings you into the land ... ⁶ *Seven days* you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the Lord. ⁷ **Unleavened bread** shall be eaten for *seven days*; no leavened bread shall be seen with you, and no leaven shall be seen with you in all your territory. ⁸ You shall tell your son on that day, ‘**It is because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.**’

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 (Cf. Matthew 16:6, 12)

⁷ Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For **Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.** ⁸ *Let us therefore* celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the **leaven** of *malice and evil*, but with the **unleavened** bread of *sincerity and truth*.

III. The Consecration of the Firstborn

A. Israel is the Firstborn (Exodus 4:22-23)

B. David is made the Firstborn

Psalm 89:27

And I will make him the firstborn,
the highest of the kings of the earth.

C. Jesus is the Firstborn

Colossians 1:15-18

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the **firstborn** of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the **firstborn** from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

D. God is Making Us like Jesus

Romans 8:29-30

For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the **firstborn** among *many brothers*. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

IV. Striving to Rest in Him