

Passover / Easter Symbolism in Spiritual Realities

OLD TESTAMENT		
	Events	Higher Realities
OT Passover Exodus 12	<p>The Passover story is about protection from death for the firstborn of Israel by means of blood of sacrificed lamb smeared on doorposts of dwellings.</p> <p>During the Passover night, the death angel <i>passed over</i> and spared the Israelite firstborn, while all the Egyptian firstborn of man and beast perished. The promise of protection was conditional on obedience to the instruction.</p>	<p>Jesus is the first of the firstborn / firstfruits and the savior from the “second death”. He is <i>not</i> the fulfillment of the sacrificial lamb, but his teaching about the availability of Divine Love and immortality is saving knowledge. Those who reject God’s gift of His Love and essence will not become immortal divine angels nor enter the Celestial Kingdom of God – this is the “second death”. They will still attain a state of sinlessness and happiness in Paradise.</p>
The Exodus	<p>Moses led the people out of Egypt accomplishing deliverance from centuries-long bondage and slavery. This involved a miraculous escape and protection from the pursuing Egyptian army.</p> <p>The people were led by a cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night.</p>	<p>Jesus came to earth as the Messiah (anointed savior) to present knowledge of salvation through the Divine Love transforming the heart / soul into a new heart, which brings about the new birth and new creation. It accomplishes delivery from the bondage and slavery of sin and leads into a new life.</p>
Desert Wanderings	<p>The people had abundant provision of food (manna), water and all things needed – yet they grumbled and rebelled.</p> <p>Moses received the Ten Commandments associated with a spectacular mountain display.</p> <p>Numerous laws were given to govern social and religious conduct. This included building of a Tabernacle, ordaining priests, Sabbath keeping, tithing, special Holy Days and male circumcision. All this was a part of the Old Covenant mediated by Moses and much of it pointed to higher spiritual realities of the New Covenant mediated by Jesus.</p>	<p>Jesus brought spiritual food and drink – bread of life and living water – symbolizing the life-giving Divine Love, God’s very essence. The Ten Commandments, which are summed up in the two great commandments – love to God and love to neighbor – were brought to a greater height by Jesus’ “new commandment” to love God and one another as he had loved – with the Divine Love.</p> <p>Tithing is transcended by love-motivated generosity, circumcision becomes “circumcision of the heart” – the new heart spoken of by the prophets, and the Sabbath rest is fulfilled in the “rest” that the Celestial Kingdom symbolizes. The Tabernacle and priesthood are replaced by a spiritual temple of God, consisting of those who have the Divine Love and essence in their souls.</p>
Promised Land – conquest and settlement	<p>The Promised Land flowed with milk and honey, but was not free of obstacles. Faith in God was required to conquer fear and overcome the obstacles.</p> <p>God intervened while the people were obedient.</p> <p>Disobedience and rebellion led to eventual loss of the land, exile and captivity. Israel never again became a nation, but most have been scattered. (The state of Israel is a relatively small part – a remnant – of the original twelve tribes.)</p>	<p>The Promised Land can be seen as representing the physical life. Whether following the Divine Love path or natural love path, it is not free of obstacles and challenges. However, help is available for the asking. Disobedience and rebellion may have consequences in this life and certainly in the next. The soul condition achieved before passing over will determine one’s place in the spirit world.</p>

	<p>The Roman centurion officiating at the crucifixion was convinced of Jesus' innocence and later, at Pentecost, with the preaching of Jesus' disciples, and believing that Jesus was resurrected, he was converted to Christianity. The same was true of the lancer, who poked his lance into Jesus' heart to determine his death and some others of the Roman soldiery.</p> <p>During the crucifixion Jesus never voiced complaints nor doubted that God was with him. The words attributed to him, "Oh, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" were inserted by a copyist years later to make his death accord with the words of the Psalmist (Psalm 22). It is true that Jesus was placed between two malefactors, but never did one seek to be converted nor did Jesus tell him he would be with him in Paradise, for he could not grant that, as the man's place in the spirit world depended on his soul condition.</p>	<p>Reference</p>
<p>The Burial Luke 23:50-53</p>	<p>A man the Bible refers to as Joseph of Arimathea was actually Jesus' father, who came to Jerusalem with Jesus on his last fatal mission. He received permission from the authorities to take Jesus body and put it in a cave, where no one had been buried. Jesus' father loved him very much despite his inability to grasp Jesus' mission, but fearing both the Jews and the Romans, he sought to conceal his name and connection with Jesus.</p>	<p>Reference</p>
<p>The Resurrection Luke 24:1-10</p>	<p>After death, Jesus ascended to the spirit world to proclaim the availability of the Father's Love and the possibility of At-onement with Him. He then returned to the cave, materialized a body closely resembling his own with elements drawn the universe, dematerialized his dead body, neatly folded the linen shroud where the body had lain, and walked out of the cave. The stone blocking the entrance was rolled away by a bright spirit sent by the Father. It was in the materialized body that he saw Mary the Magdalene and the others, as mentioned in the gospels. This was the reason that they didn't immediately recognize him.</p> <p>The angel that removed the stone received his strength through energy conveyed by the many spirits present. His materialized spirit body, endowed with this additional power, was able to cope with the task of rolling away the stone. He used the guard whom he put into a trance by suggestion, to obtain the necessary ectoplasm to bring about the materialization.</p> <p>It was necessary for Jesus to materialize to show his disciples that he was still alive for at that time of their spiritual development this would prove to them that he was the Messiah. Their real understanding came to them only at Pentecost, when the Divine Love was conveyed into their souls with such power and abundance that they knew Jesus had come to bring to humanity the very essence of the Father if they would seek it through earnest prayer. This became later known as receiving the Holy Spirit, but it is in fact the Holy Spirit which conveys the Father's Love into the seeking soul.</p>	<p>Reference</p>