

## **Song Story #23 – *Passover Me***

The day of Passover celebrates a profound event in the life of the ancient Israelites. In the Old Testament, in the book of Exodus chapter 12, it tells the story of the Passover. After God had sent many plagues upon the Egyptian Pharaoh and the Egyptians, because they had enslaved the Israelites and Pharaoh wouldn't let the go, God decided to send them one last plague. This plague would cause the death of every first-born male in the land – including the Israelites – unless they did what God told them. God told the Israelites to sacrifice a firstborn lamb and to apply some of the blood of the lamb to the doorposts of their homes. He told them, that if they did that, as the angel of death passed through the land to kill the firstborn, when he saw the blood on their doorposts, he would pass over their house and not kill their firstborn sons. This was to be called the Lord's Passover.

In the New Testament, though Jesus is presented as a great moral teacher, a miracle worker and the Son of God, a key part of how He is described is as being the "Spotless Lamb of God". When He first came to John the Baptist to be baptized, John said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" Jesus was ultimately born to offer Himself as a sacrificial Lamb in order to atone for the sins of those who repent and put their faith in Him. In I John 1:7, it says that "...the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin." And on the night Jesus was betrayed, He celebrated the Passover meal with His disciples but as He did, He established what we now call Communion, by telling them that it was His body and blood that they were eating and drinking and by presenting Himself as the Passover Lamb.

I find this profound Old Testament event – and how it foreshadowed the shedding of the blood of Jesus for our sins – to be so profound! In writing this song, I wanted to personalize this story to myself. When I look upon my sinfulness, this story reminds me of my great hope of salvation through what Jesus did – not because of how flawlessly I can live! I think about the Israelites with the blood on their doorposts. I imagine that among those people, there were some really good, God-fearing people in those homes. I also imagine there were others that were not so good and not so kind and not so faithful in their obedience to the commands of God. But, no matter how consistent or inconsistent their obedience to God was, if they believed God and obeyed that one command to apply the blood of the lamb to their doorposts, the angel of death would pass them by.

For people like me, who find themselves flawed and falling short of God's standards, the blood of Jesus, Passover Lamb, applied by faith to the doorposts of our hearts, causes the judgement and wrath of God to pass over us. It's amazing and it's what the Gospel is all about!

## **Passover Me**

Words and Music by Dan Adler

1. Passover me, O wrath of God  
Not that I'm good, for I am not  
But just for this, my hope and plea,  
That Jesus' blood has covered me

2. Passover me, O judgement great  
Though guilty, I, should bear that weight  
But Lamb of God, You died for me  
And suffered for my guilty plea

**CHORUS:** Passover Lamb, what can I say?  
I have no other hope or way  
To make the curse from me depart  
But through your blood shed on my heart

1. Passover me, like Israel  
In Egypt land the judgement fell  
But every door with blood applied  
Caused darkest death to pass them by

2. "This is my blood" is what You said  
"It is for you, it will be shed"  
And so I eat and drink of You  
Remembering all You came to do

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