Series: Exploring Exodus: Redemption from the Depths to Glory
Text: Exodus 12:1-13
Title: The Inauguration of the Passover, Pt. I

3 *essentials*

I. THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE SOCIETY BY THE LAMB 1-4

A. A NEW CALCULATION 1-2

In Their Calendar- Israel's year previously revolved around the agricultural cycle, beginning with and ending with the harvest but now changed to the Passover month (March/April) as the beginning of its year. In Their Consideration- Passover commemorated Israel's captivity, deliverance and constitution as a nation and therefore it occupied a place of highest priority in their lives. In the new covenant we celebrate the Lord's Day (when Jesus was raised from the grave) as our day of deliverance or our new Exodus, and the Lord's Supper. These facts are pervasive and defining.

B. A NEW CONTRIBUTION 3

Each household to choose, contribute a lamb for itself

C. A NEW COMMUNION 4

A New Provision– for families too small to eat an entire lamb. A New Participation- by joint families when some are too few or too poor. A New Principle – families coming together in joint religious ceremony, celebration. Anticipates NT observation on Lord's Day.. covenant families gathering around the Lamb

II. THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SELECTION OF THE LAMB 5-10

A. THE CAREFUL CHOICE 5-6

Distinguished in Spotlessness– no defects, whether burnt, Lev 1:3; peace, 3:1; sin, 4:3, offering; freewill, 22: 21; no defilement, Mal 1:7-8; no deficiency– God is the divine Inspector with highest standards of acceptability, Mt 5:48. 1 Pe 1:15-16. Designed for Sacrifice– 14th of Abib, day of future Passover celebrations. Best to be sacrificed by the whole assembly= family. Importance of family worship. Anticipates Christ and his offering of himself, Heb 9:13-14; 1 Pe 1:18-19; *cf.* Rev 5:6, 9, 12; Rev 13:8. God gave us Christ, his best, Jn 3:16, and we are to give him ours, not our leftovers, Rom 12:1-2; Pro 3:9-10

B. THE CRUCIAL CHARACTERISTIC 7

A Mark of Separation– from those not included in this divine plan, covenant. A Mark of Substitution– not their blood but that of a sacrificial lamb. Anticipates Christ's effectual cleansing of our consciences, Heb 10:21-22

C. THE COMPLETE CONSUMPTION 8-10

The Clear Instruction– reminder of their past captivity, Dt 16:3; Ex 1:14, and of God's grace in their deliverance. The Continuing Insistence– see 12:46; Ps 34:20 fulfilled in Christ, Jn 19:36

III. THE REDEMPTION THAT IS SECURED BY THE LAMB 11-13

A. ITS PRESSING NATURE 11

Seen in the hastiness at the time of redemption. See 2 Ki 9:1; etc. No Lazing! No lingering! As in the case of Lot, Gen 19:1-23

B. ITS PENAL NATURE 12

Its Sureness- the righteous Judge must judge all creatures, Rev 20:11-15; Jn 12:31; 2 Tim 4:1; etc. Its Severity– *all*..

C. ITS PARTICULAR NATURE 13

Limited to those marked by the blood. Rom 5:8; Eph 1:7; Col 1:13; Heb 9:19-22. A Sign of Believing– God's Word, promise. A Sign of Belonging.