



FOLLOW THE  
**DONKEY**

# **EATING THE DONKEY**



**In following we still struggle with sin**

**Often time we attempt to justify our sin as necessary**

**Sometimes it is in desperation**

**God never redefined sin out of desperation**

**At this point God said no so it would have been considered sin**



# EATING THE DONKEY

Just how hungry are you?



# **DONKEYS AND SHEEP**

**Donkeys in the Bible were considered work animals**

**They were flock and herd protectors**

**Donkeys are natural herd animals**

**Donkeys have a natural dislike for canine based animals and act aggressively toward them**

**While not effective against large animals like a lion, a donkey's kick can easily wound these smaller predators at even kill them if landed to the head**



# UNCLEAN

So, while extremely useful animals they were still considered unclean

That means not only could you not eat them, but they were also not to be used as a sacrificial animal

*Redeem with a lamb every firstborn donkey, but if you do not redeem it, break its neck. Redeem every firstborn among your sons.*

*Exodus 13:13*

God say is again in *Exodus 34:20*



**REDEEMING  
YOUR DONKEY**



# THE COMMAND



*The Lord said to Moses, “Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether human or animal.”*

*Exodus 13:1-2*

**Consecrate: Make or declare something, sacred; dedicate formally to a religious or divine purpose.**

**For this moment specifically every first-born human male was to be set apart**

**These would be the leaders and future leaders under Jewish culture**



# THE COMMAND

Next came the animals and yes these were to be sacrifices

They would have to bring the first-born males of all their flocks to the temple to be sacrificed

This is a powerful symbol because it reminds us that following God means will cost

# THE CELEBRATION

*Exodus 13:3-7*





# THE CELEBRATION

After the Consecration and sacrifice a seven-day Celebration would ensue

This was called the feast of unleavened bread

This feast would have begun the day after Passover

We know  
Jesus was  
celebrating  
Passover the  
night he was  
arrested



**Another Easter Connection**

He would have  
been crucified  
on the start of  
this festival



# THE PURPOSE



*On that day tell your son, 'I do this because of what the Lord did for me when I came out of Egypt.' This observance will be for you like a sign on your hand and a reminder on your forehead that this law of the Lord is to be on your lips. For the Lord brought you out of Egypt with his mighty hand. You must keep this ordinance at the appointed time year after year.*

**Exodus 13:8-10**



# THE HISTORY



**The Israelites were a nation of slaves that to be set free**

**Their freedom came at a cost**

**The first born was to die amongst every house**

**However, any house that celebrated Passover in the way God instructed would be spared**

**Part of the celebration was to kill a lamb and strike the door posts and door mantle with its blood**



# REMEMBRANCE

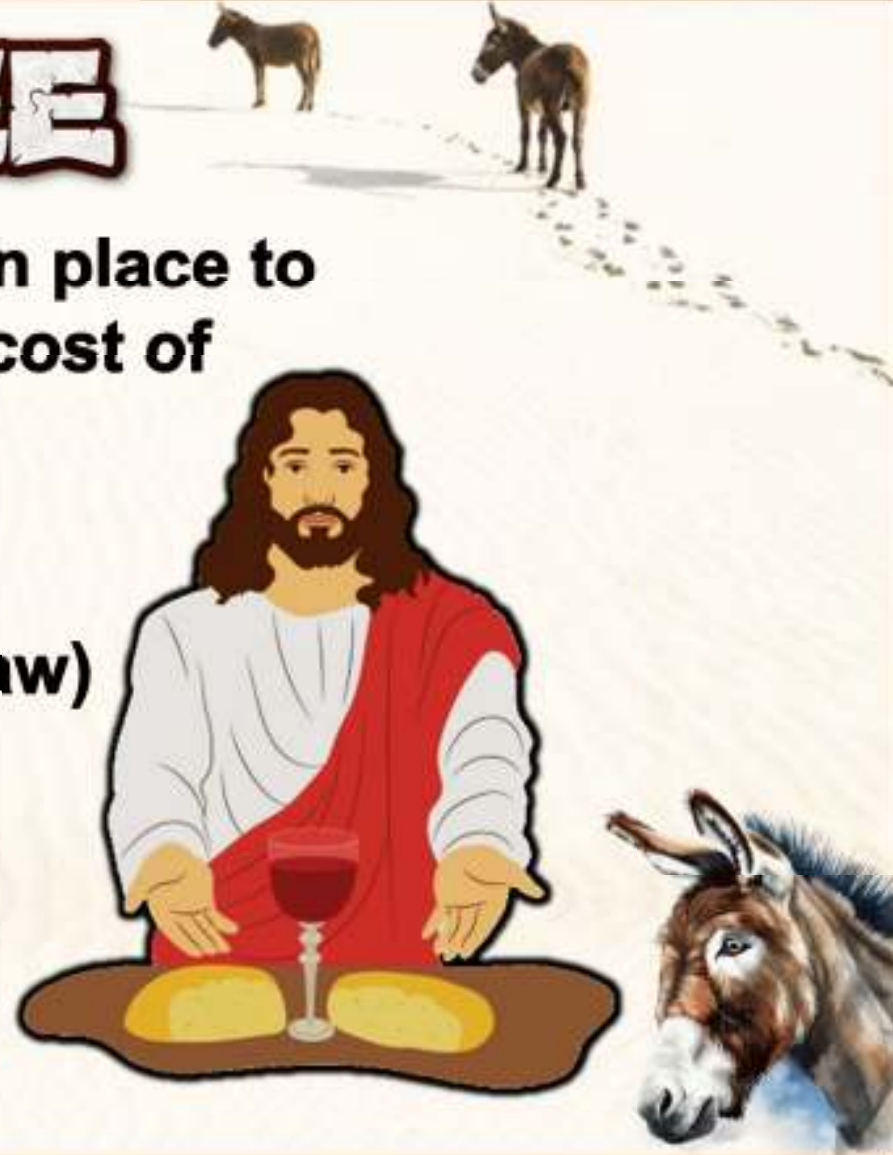
Passover and this feast were put in place to that Israel would never forget the cost of freedom and the power of God

On their hands (what they did)

On their foreheads (what others saw)

On their lips (what they said)

It was at this meal Jesus gave us the Lord's supper



# REDEEM THE DONKEY



***“After the Lord brings you into the land of the Canaanites and gives it to you, as he promised on oath to you and your ancestors, you are to give over to the Lord the first offspring of every womb. All the firstborn males of your livestock belong to the Lord. Redeem with a lamb every firstborn donkey, but if you do not redeem it, break its neck. Redeem every firstborn among your sons.”***

***Exodus 13:11-13***



# REDEEM THE DONKEY



**Remember first born males of the livestock had to be sacrificed**

**But donkeys cannot be sacrificial animals because they are unclean**

**Thus, they were told to break the necks of the firstborn donkeys**

**However, if the owner of the donkey did not want to see the donkey die, he could buy him back**

**(Redeemed)**



# THE COST

**An additional lamb would have to be sacrificed from the flock in place of the donkey allowing the donkey to go free**



# REDEMPTION



**What a beautiful picture  
of what Jesus did for  
Barabbas  
(*Matthew 26:16-26*)**



**He was a murder, a killer**

**He had been tried and found guilty**

**He was sentenced to die and under the law rightly so**

**But that is the point of redemption**





# REDEMPTION

*Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

**Romans 8:1-4**





**Follow the  
DONKEY**

**Accept Redemption?**