

# הפטרות פסח

## Haftarah Pesach

### Yehoshua [Joshua] 3:5-7; 5:2-6:1; 6:27

#### Along the Way

##### *Yehoshua (Joshua) 5:7*

***And their children, whom He raised up in their stead, Joshua circumcised them; for they were uncircumcised, because they had not circumcised them along the way.***

Before the very first Pesach every male of Israel was circumcised. So, when Israel came out of Egypt all the males of Israel were circumcised. However, after this first circumcision, they did not continue to practice circumcising their children on the eighth day after they were born even though YHWH had commanded them to do this.

##### *Shemot (Exodus) 12:48*

***And when a stranger shall sojourn with you, and will keep the Passover to YHWH, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land; but no uncircumcised person shall eat it.***

In keeping Pesach to YHWH all the males of YHWH are to be circumcised and no uncircumcised male may eat of it. This raises a very serious question about Israel keeping Pesach for the forty years in the wilderness. We know that they kept it the second year at Mount Sinai.

##### *B'midbar (Numbers) 9:1*

***1 And YHWH spoke to Moshe in the wilderness of Sinai, in the first month of the second year after they had come out of the land of Egypt, saying,***

***2 "Moreover let the children of Israel keep the Pesach in its appointed season.***

***3 In the fourteenth day of this month, at even, you shall keep it in its appointed season; according to all the statutes of it, and according to all the ordinances thereof, shall you keep it."***

YHWH clearly commands Israel through Moshe to be careful to keep Pesach the second year, or second time after coming out of Egypt and to be sure to keep all of its ordinances. One of those ordinances was to make sure that all the males were circumcised. Now we cannot say for sure that they kept this

commandment, the commandment of circumcision. However, when we take into consideration the passage from Yehoshua which clearly states that no person was circumcised after leaving Egypt, then we can rightly surmise that there were young male children who were not circumcised when this particular Passover was kept.

This is rather alarming to us, that after all that YHWH had done in the sight of Israel in bringing them out of Egypt and then in providing for their daily needs with water and manna, and also in several of the plagues that He had struck Israel with already for their stubborn disobedience, what were these people thinking in choosing not to keep the commandment of circumcision? One truly wonders!

Things have not really changed down through the ages as man always thinks that he can figure out a better way to come to our Creator, a better way than what YHWH has clearly told us. A way in which YHWH clearly tells us that we should be careful not to add to or take away from what He has commanded us.

***Devarim (Deuteronomy) 12:32***

***“Whatever I command you, that shall you observe to do; you shall not add to it, nor take away from it.”***

Yet in man’s flawed wisdom, he consistently thinks that he is much wiser than he truly is. In this instance we see that YHWH clearly commanded Israel to keep Pesach and to make sure to keep and do all the ordinances that are associated with Pesach. Did they? Apparently not. Why?

***Mishle (Proverbs) 14:12***

***There is a way which seems right to a man;  
But its end is the way of death.***

Now mind you that this is now only the second time in which Israel was to keep Pesach. The first time was on the eve of when YHWH brought them out of Egypt. So here they were only a year later. This means that any of the male children that were born after coming out of Egypt were all less than a year old. Now we can start to see the reasonings of man begin to surface. After all, these youngsters would not understand Pesach anyway. Neither would they actually partake of it as they would have all still been nursing on their mother’s milk. So, what was the need to circumcise these youngsters anyway?

The need was to obey YHWH!

The need was not to toss aside the commandment of YHWH in favor of man’s idea!

Yet, we find ourselves in this same boat today. Instead of listening to the persuasive arguments of men, we need to just obey the Voice of YHWH our Elohim in all matters. And since this is the season of Pesach, we need to go back to the beginning and simply read and do what YHWH has commanded us to do.

YHWH has commanded us to observe the aviv barley and the new moon to begin a new year. Man tells us that we do not need to do this. Who will you obey?

YHWH has commanded us to circumcise all our males. Man tells us that we do not need to do this. Who will you obey?

YHWH has commanded us to kill and eat the Pesach lamb and to put its blood on our doorposts and lintels. Man tells us that we do not need to do this. Who will you obey?

YHWH has commanded us to keep Pesach with all of its ordinances throughout all our generations. Man tells us that we do not have to keep all the ordinances of YHWH to keep Pesach. Who will you obey, YHWH or man?

Some men tell us that we do not need to obey YHWH because Yeshua did away with all that. However, Yeshua taught us that He did not do away with any of it.

***Matithyah (Matthew) 5:17***

***“Do not think that I came to destroy the Torah or the prophets; I came not to destroy, but to verify.”***

Some men tell us that we do not need to obey all the ordinances according to the commandments of YHWH in how He instructed us to keep Pesach because there is no temple now. However, there was no temple when He instructed us to keep Pesach in Egypt and there was no mishkan when our fathers kept Pesach the second time at Mount Sinai.

The Babylonian mindset is one in which it is okay to keep the commandments of YHWH as long as it is convenient. However, if it is not convenient, then it is quite okay not to keep His commandments. Now really, what kind of mindset do you desire to walk in? Will you walk in a mindset in which you will obey YHWH and all His commandments regardless of the inconvenience? Or, will you walk according to the ways of this world, which will surely lead one to death and destruction?

ABBA YHWH, fill us with Your Spirit that we might walk in all of Your commandments to please You because we love You; in the name of Yeshua our Mashiach. Amein.

Shabbat Shalom

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