

From the Pastor

The controversy with the observance of the Passover has been around since the first century (and before) as we saw last time. Jesus and His disciples who were Jews as well as others in the Jewish community observed the Passover at the beginning of the 14th of Abib. Others in the Jewish community, however, observed the Passover at the beginning of the 15th of Abib.

We must realize that there were over 20+ different sects of Jews in Jesus' day. They did not all believe and practice the same things. That is logical. If they all believed and practiced the same things, there would be no sects. How many groups today call themselves "Christian" but believe and practice different things?

From the Bible we know of the Pharisees and Sadducees. These groups believed different things. We see this in Paul's defense before the Sanhedrin (the council) in Acts 23:1-8. Acts 23:8 records, "For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection—and no angel or spirit; but the Pharisees confess both."

We also know of a group called the Herodians (Matthew 22:15-16). From history we also know there was a group called the Essenes. The point is: not all Jews believed and practiced the same things.

In Exodus 12:6 NKJV we read of the specific time when the Passover lambs were killed. "Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight." The time set for killing the lambs in the New King James Version (NKJV) translation is "at twilight." Other translations also translate the time as "at twilight." This is how the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) and the New American Standard Version (NASV) translate the Hebrew. The King James Version (KJV) translates the time as "in the evening."

Webster's New World Dictionary defines "twilight" as "1 a) the subdued light just after sunset b) the period from sunset to dark." This is the same meaning of the Hebrew translated as "at twilight."

The Hebrew from which "at twilight" and "in the evening" are translated is "beyn ha'arbayim." "Beyn ha'arbayim" literally means "between the two evenings." This literal translation is listed in footnotes in all of the versions listed above for "at twilight" and "in the evening."

The New Brown, Driver, Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament explains the meaning of this phrase as "between the two evenings, i.e. prob. between sunset and dark."

This, of course, can only be at the beginning of a day. The Passover lambs were slain and eaten at the beginning of the 14th of Abib. This was when Jesus ate the Passover meal and changed the elements of the Passover observance to taking bread and the wine.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	6:34pm	6:35pm	6:37pm
Sunset Friday 3-17	7:37pm	7:39pm	7:40pm



Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: DVD
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

Harlingen

Sermonette: Gilbert Gonzalez
Sermon: Arnold Mendez

“The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ?”

1 Corinthians 10:16

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 3/11	Regular locations and times Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria.
Sabbath 3/18	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, Victoria and San Antonio. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. Jim Chapman will be in San Antonio. Mr. Tucker will be in Victoria. Michael Watts and Gilbert Gonzalez will deliver split sermons in Harlingen.

Gilbert and Tina Gonzalez-We have decided to move to South Dakota to be close to our daughter. It's part of her plan for her to take care of us as we grow older and need care. My wife and I have enjoyed serving the brethren here in Harlingen and will miss everyone. The house has been sold and is in the process of closing which excludes a report of the house inspection. Our (tentative) moving out date is March 31st. Our address will be: 1304 Picotte St. Yankton, SD 57078

2017 Camp Applications

The COGWA Youth Camps team is happy to announce that on March 1 the application system opened to begin taking 2017 applications. We will once again be using the COGWA Portal system, but we encourage everyone to start the process by reading the article titled "Camp Application System" on the main page of the camp website (<http://camps.cogwa.org>). There are some specific points we would like you to be aware of before you begin your application.

We think you will find that applying via this new system is faster and simpler. As mentioned in the article, much of your information is retained for subsequent years' applications and needs only to be reviewed (and edited if changes are needed).

For your convenience, here is a direct link to the article with further explanation and additional information: "Camp Application System."

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

Gonzalez Appreciation Dinner-The Harlingen Congregation will be hosting a appreciation/going away dinner for Gilbert and Tina Gonzalez. The date is Friday March 24th at 7 PM location TBA.

San Antonio Potluck: The next San Antonio potluck will be Sabbath, May 6. For consistency we will keep the potluck in the future on the first Sabbath of the month when there are no Holy Day services. Since there will be a potluck on the Last Day of Unleavened Bread.

Corpus Christi Brown Bag/Picnic Social: On March 11 there will be a Brown Bag/Picnic social after services.

Passover: Passover services will be held after sunset on Sunday evening, April 9. Services will be held in the regular Sabbath locations for all three congregations.

1st Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread: The Holy Day services will be held on Tuesday, April 11 in the regular locations and at the regular times for weekly Sabbath services.

Last Day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread:

Victoria: Services in Victoria will be at the regular time and location as the weekly Sabbath.

San Antonio: There will be two services in San Antonio. The morning service will be at either 10:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. (to be determined). There will be a potluck meal between services. The afternoon service will begin at 2:30 p.m.

Corpus Christi: There will be combined services with the Harlingen congregation at 1 PM with a potluck to follow services Harlingen will provide desserts.