

From the Pastor

With the Passover just around the corner it would be good to review the actual timing of its observance. It will take more than one "From the Pastor" to do this. There has been a controversy (through the years – even in the first century among the Jews) as to whether the Passover was/is to be observed at the beginning of the 14th of Abib (Nisan) as we keep it and as Jesus kept it, or at the beginning of the 15th.

Jesus observed the Old Testament Passover meal at the beginning of the 14th as it had been observed in Egypt. Luke 22:7-20 records Luke's account of the last Passover that Jesus ate with His disciples. It was at this time that Jesus changed the observance of the Passover from eating a meal of a lamb and bitter herbs to a symbolic meal of taking the bread and the wine as symbols of His own body and blood.

There is no doubt that Jesus was observing the traditional Passover. He told His disciples to "Go and prepare the Passover for us." (Luke 22:8) "And when the hour had come, He sat down, and the twelve apostles with Him. Then He said to them, 'With fervent desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.'" (Luke 22:14-15)

Jesus was eating the Passover. He was also eating the Passover at the correct time. He had been the God of Israel who gave the original instructions for the Passover to Israel. He knew when it was to be eaten. Jesus ate the Passover with His disciples at the beginning of the 14th of Abib. He was already dead and put in the tomb by the beginning of the 15th.

Jesus had died around the ninth hour (Hebrew reckoning or 3 p.m. by our time). (Matthew 27:46-50) The Jews wanted the legs of those crucified broken (to kill them) so the bodies would be taken down before the High Day (the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread). John 19:31 records, "Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away."

The Scriptures record the fact that a number of Jews did not eat the Passover meal until the beginning of the 15th at the time that is called "a night to be much observed." (Exodus 12:42 KJV) At that time Jesus had already eaten the Passover. He was now dead.

From John 18:28 we see that a number of Jews had not yet eaten the Passover. "Then they led Jesus from Caiaphas to the Praetorium, and it was early morning. But they themselves did not go into the Praetorium, lest they should be defiled, but that they might eat the Passover." So other Jews had not yet eaten the Passover. They were eating it at the wrong time. Jesus had eaten it at the correct time. He knew when it was to be eaten.

We will see more next time.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	6:29pm	6:31pm	6:33pm
Sunset Friday 3-10	6:33pm	6:35pm	6:37pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



March 4, 2017

Victoria

Sermon: Clay Mills

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Mark Monsivais

Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: Orlando Mascorro

Sermon: DVD

"Now when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake and the things that had happened, they feared greatly, saying, 'Truly this was the Son of God!'"

Matthew 27:54

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 3/4	Regular locations and times Corpus Christi, San Antonio , Harlingen, and Victoria.
Sabbath 3/11	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, Victoria , Harlingen, and San Antonio. Mr. Moody will be in Victoria. Mr. Ivor Mitchell will be in San Antonio. Mr. Arnold Mendez will be in Harlingen and Corpus Christi.

Dallas - Fort Worth 2017 Spring Holy Days Dinner and Dance

On April the 15th, the Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread, the Fort Worth congregation will again be hosting a combined Sabbath Service for the Dallas and Ft Worth congregations at the beautiful Marriott Solana Hotel in Westlake Texas (near the DFW Airport).

Later that evening, we will have a full 3 course dinner served and then dance to a live band as we celebrate the Festival together. The hotel has agreed to hold their pricing to what they did for us in 2014.

All rooms will be \$99.00 a night and include a full complementary buffet breakfast for 2 and the meals will be a choice ranging from \$34. to \$39. depending upon the entree chosen. As this is during the Feast Days, it is an appropriate use of 2nd Tithe if you so choose.

Please hold the date and add it to your calendars. Full details on reserving a room, meal selections and reservations will follow by the end of January. Again, the date is April the 15th – the Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

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.”

We hope to see you at camp this year!

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: The next San Antonio potluck will be Sabbath, March 4. For consistency we will keep the potluck in the future on the first Sabbath of the month when there are no Holy Day services.

Victoria Potluck and Bible Study: We are planning to have a potluck and Bible Study (after the potluck) on March 11 in Victoria.

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 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.