

# A NIGHT OF WATCHING



EXODUS 12:40-42

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## Background of our text:

The Israelites are still in Egypt.

God is continuing to plague the Egyptians.

Moses and Aaron continue to communicate God's warnings and directives to Pharaoh.

There is yet one more unimaginable plague left for God to threaten as an incentive for compliance.

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## Background of our text:

That plague is the death of the firstborn.

This last and definitive plague is going to yield the desired effect. After this, the children of Israel are going to be set free.

In preparation for this event, God initiates the Passover feast.

Let's read about it in Ex. 12.

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## Background of our text:

What were the particulars that God gave about the Passover:

On the first month of the year, on the tenth day of the month, they were to select a lamb or goat, a male, a year old without blemish, and keep it until the fourteenth day of the month at which time it would be killed at twilight.

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## Background of our text:

They were to prepare it by roasting it on fire and eating it later that night with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

They were to eat it hastily with their belts fastened, sandals on, and staff in their hand.

They were to put the blood from the lamb on the doorposts and the lintel.

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**This was a night of watching by God**

God was their protector that night.

He held vigil over the children of Israel.

They were so protected that Ex. 11:7 says,  
“that not even a dog would growl against his  
people.”

God honors his promise to Abraham and  
shows his deep love for the Israelites.

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**This became a night of watching kept to the Lord**

To show appreciation and love for God, the Jews were supposed to hold a vigil to Him on this night each year throughout their generations.

The Bible has quite a bit to say about watching.

Matt. 25:1-13, I Tim. 4:16, I Cor. 16:13, Col. 4:7

# A NIGHT OF WATCHING

**This became a night of watching kept to the Lord**

Fast forward about 1300 years.

Let's consider another Passover feast. Luke 22

Have you ever thought about the significance of why Jesus in Matt. 26:36-46 told his disciples to watch and pray.

They were supposed to be holding vigil in appreciation of what God had done for their people.



# A NIGHT OF WATCHING

Thankfully, God was holding vigil for the world on the night Jesus was betrayed and arrested.

And soon, he would watch over our deliverance again.

Not from Egyptian bondage but from the bondage of sin.

I hope you will determine to show your appreciation to Him tonight.