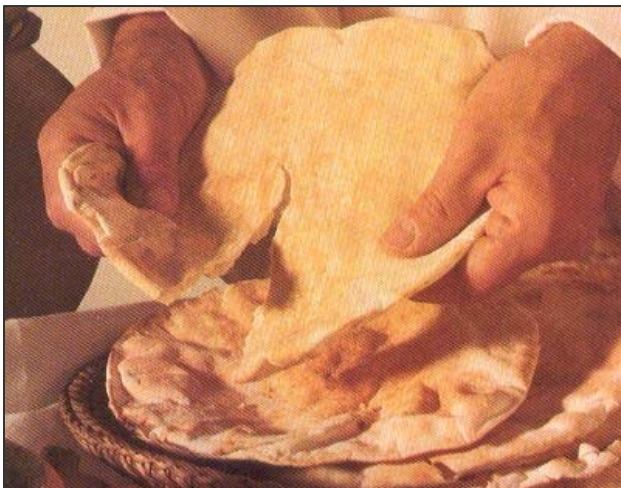


**#1287 The Mark of the Beast – Exodus 13:9 and Exodus 13:16: The proper observance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and the Consecration of the Firstborn (representing the event of the Passover) served as figurative signs, or Marks of God, on the Hand and the Forehead**

**Key Understanding:** The proper observance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and the Consecration of the Firstborn (representing the event of the Passover) served as figurative signs, or figurative Marks of God, on the hand and the forehead, seen in Exodus 13:9 and Exodus 13:16, respectively.

The proper observance of the Feast of Unleavened Bread served as a figurative sign, or figurative Mark of God, on the hand and the forehead, seen in Exodus 13:9. [Note: We are using the NIV.]



*Exodus 13:1-10 (NIV) The LORD said to Moses,  
2 "Consecrate to me every firstborn male. The first offspring of every womb among the Israelites belongs to me, whether man or animal."  
3 Then Moses said to the people, "Commemorate this day, the day you came out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery, because the LORD brought you out of it with a mighty hand. Eat nothing containing yeast.  
4 Today, in the month of Abib, you are leaving.*

*5 When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Hivites and Jebusites — the land he swore to your forefathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey — you are to observe this ceremony [the Feast of Unleavened Bread] in this month:*

**6 For SEVEN DAYS eat bread made without yeast and on the SEVENTH DAY hold a festival to the LORD.**

*7 Eat unleavened bread during those SEVEN DAYS; nothing with yeast in it is to be seen among you, nor shall any yeast be seen anywhere within your borders.*

*8 On that day tell your son, 'I do this because of what the LORD did for me when I came out of Egypt.'*

*9 This observance [the Feast of Unleavened Bread] will be for you like a [figurative] SIGN on your HAND and a reminder on your FOREHEAD that the law of the LORD is to be on your lips. For the LORD brought you out of Egypt with his mighty hand.*

*10 You must keep this ordinance at the appointed time year after year.*



The proper observance of the Consecration of the Firstborn (representing Passover) also served as a figurative sign, or figurative Mark of God, on the hand and the forehead, seen in **Exodus 13:16**. [Note: We are using the NIV.]



**Exodus 13:11-18 (NIV)** "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 forefathers,  
**12 you are to give over to the LORD** [sacrifice or redeem] **the first offspring of every womb. All the firstborn males of your livestock belong to the LORD.**  
**13 Redeem** [the word *redeem* meant to obtain release by means of payment] **with a lamb every firstborn donkey, but if you do not redeem it, break its neck. Redeem every firstborn among your sons.**

**14** "In days to come, when your son asks you, 'What does this mean?' say to him, 'With a mighty hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

**15** When Pharaoh stubbornly refused to let us go, **the LORD killed every firstborn in Egypt, both man and animal. This is why I sacrifice to the LORD the first male offspring of every womb and redeem** [obtain release by means of payment] **each of my firstborn sons.'**

**16** And it [the Consecration of the Firstborn (representing the event of the Passover), either through sacrifice or through obtaining release by means of payment] **will be like a [figurative] SIGN on your HAND and a symbol on your FOREHEAD that the LORD brought us out of Egypt with his mighty hand."**

**17** When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them on the road through the Philistine country, though that was shorter.

For God said, "If they face war, they might change their minds and return to Egypt."

**18 SO GOD LED THE PEOPLE AROUND BY THE DESERT ROAD TOWARD THE RED SEA.** The Israelites went up out of Egypt armed for battle.



The firstborn of clean beasts, such as sheep, goats, or cattle, were to be considered holy and sacrificed to the Lord (Exodus 22:30; Numbers 18:17-18). The firstborn of unclean beasts, such as an ass's colt, being unfit for sacrifice to the Lord, were to be redeemed, that is, paid for by a lamb, or destroyed. The firstborn of the Israelite children were to be redeemed, and by no means sacrificed. The price of the redemption of the firstborn was fixed by the law at the amount of five shekels (Numbers 18:16).

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