

# Exodus 12:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.

## Analysis

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The 'LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians' uses the same verb ('avar, עָבַר—to pass through/over) with different outcomes. Seeing the blood, 'the LORD will pass over' (pasach) means to skip or spare. The 'destroyer' (hamashchit, הַמַּשְׁחִית) is God's agent of judgment, possibly an angel of death. The blood's protective power demonstrates substitutionary atonement—judgment satisfied, wrath averted.

## Historical Context

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This night of terror for Egypt became Israel's night of salvation. The visible distinction between blood-marked and unmarked homes demonstrated faith versus unbelief.

## Related Passages

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**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

## Study Questions

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1. How does Christ's blood similarly cause God's wrath to 'pass over' believers while falling on the unbelieving?
2. What does the destroyer's inability to enter blood-marked homes teach about Satan's powerlessness over those in Christ?

## Interlinear Text

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וְעָבַר ר	יְהוָה	לְנַגֹּף:	אֶת	מִצְרַיִם	וְכֵן ה
will pass through	For the LORD	to smite	H853	the Egyptians	and when he seeth
H5674	H3068	H5062		H4714	H7200
אֶת	הַדָּם	עַל	הַמַּשְׁקָה וּף	וְעַל	שְׁתֵּי י
H853	the blood	H5921	upon the lintel	H5921	and on the two
	H1818		H4947		H8147
					side posts
					H4201
וְפָס ח	יְהוָה	עַל	הַפֶּתַח	וְלֹא	יִתֵּן
will pass over	For the LORD	H5921	the door	H3808	and will not suffer
H6452	H3068		H6607		H5414
הַמַּשְׁחֵה יֵת	לָבֹא	אֶל	בְּתֵיכֶם	לְנַגֹּף:	
the destroyer	to come	H413	in unto your houses	to smite	
H7843	H935		H1004	H5062	

## Additional Cross-References

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**Revelation 7:3** (Parallel theme): Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads.

**Revelation 9:4** (Parallel theme): And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men which have not the seal of God in their foreheads.

**Hebrews 11:28** (Blood): Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

**1 Corinthians 10:10** (Parallel theme): Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

**Ezekiel 9:6** (Parallel theme): Slay utterly old and young, both maids, and little children, and women: but come not near any man upon whom is the mark; and begin at my sanctuary. Then they began at the ancient men which were before the house.

**Isaiah 37:36** (References Lord): Then the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

**2 Samuel 24:16** (References Lord): And when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the LORD repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the LORD was by the threshingplace of Araunah the Jebusite.

**Hebrews 12:24** (Blood): And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.

**Ezekiel 9:4** (References Lord): And the LORD said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.