

Exodus 12:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

Analysis

The Hebrew 'ben ha'arbayim' (בֵּין הָעֶרְבַּיִם) literally means 'between the evenings,' referring to the time between the sun's decline and sunset (approximately 3-6 PM). The requirement that 'the whole assembly' participate emphasizes corporate responsibility—every household shares in the sacrificial death. Christ died at the ninth hour (3 PM, Mark 15:34), precisely during Passover preparation.

Historical Context

The fourteenth of Abib placed Passover at the full moon, providing maximum light for the nighttime exodus. The corporate slaughter meant hundreds of thousands of lambs were killed simultaneously throughout Goshen.

Related Passages

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. How does the timing of Christ's death at Passover reveal God's meticulous orchestration of redemptive history?

2. What does the whole assembly's participation teach about the church's corporate identification with Christ's death?

Interlinear Text

יֹם	עֶשֶׂר	אָרְבָּעָה	עַד	לִמְשַׁמֶּרֶת	לָכֶם	וְהָיָה
H3117	H6240	H702	H5704	H4931	H0	H1961
day		it up until the fourteenth		And ye shall keep		
קָהָל	כָּל	אֶת־וּ	וְשָׁחֹט וְהָיָה	לַח־דָּשׁ		
H6951	H3605	H853	H2088	H2320		
assembly	and the whole	shall kill		of the same month		
הָעֶרְבָּיִם:	בַּיּוֹם	יִשְׂרָאֵל	עֵדָת			
H6153	H996	H3478	H5712			
the evening	it in	of Israel	of the congregation			

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 23:5 (Parallel theme): In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD'S passover.

Numbers 28:16 (Parallel theme): And in the fourteenth day of the first month is the passover of the LORD.

Exodus 12:18 (Parallel theme): In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even.

Numbers 9:11 (Parallel theme): The fourteenth day of the second month at even they shall keep it, and eat it with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

Acts 4:27 (References Israel): For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

Exodus 16:12 (References Israel): I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel: speak unto them, saying, At even ye shall eat flesh, and in the morning ye shall be filled with bread; and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God.

Ezekiel 45:21 (Parallel theme): In the first month, in the fourteenth day of the month, ye shall have the passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten.

Mark 15:25 (Parallel theme): And it was the third hour, and they crucified him.

Mark 15:1 (Parallel theme): And straightway in the morning the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council, and bound Jesus, and carried him away, and delivered him to Pilate.

Mark 15:8 (Parallel theme): And the multitude crying aloud began to desire him to do as he had ever done unto them.