

To encourage and equip Christian business and professional women to reflect Christ in their world.

March/April 2004

## Sacrifice

### The Passover Lamb

By Pastor Chris Mueller

#### CBWA Luncheon Location North Phoenix Baptist Church

5757 N. Central Avenue  
Lunch Price \$13 with RSVP  
Lunch Price \$18 without RSVP  
Or \$5 Program Only  
RSVP 480-948-CBWA (2292)  
cbwa@globalcrossing.net  
www.cbwa-az.org

#### Program Information

See the back cover

We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God, without error, and the final authority in our lives. We believe in one God eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died as a sacrifice for our sins, was raised from the dead, and that all who receive Him by faith are born of the Holy Spirit and enter into a relationship in which they are eternally secure.

## The Passover Lamb

### Jesus Christ offers Himself as the Passover Lamb for our sins

#### Luke 22:47-Luke 23

By Pastor Chris Mueller

I'd like to invite you to come with me on a voyage. We're in Egypt, the land of pyramids and pharaohs, and we're about to witness a dramatic encounter between a pharaoh who claimed to be God and a God who claimed to be King.

As we look around Egypt, we see millions of slaves called Israelites. Years before, in a time of famine, they had come down into Egypt looking for food. At first the Pharaohs welcomed them, but then there arose Pharaohs who made them slaves and proceeded to pile upon them burden upon burden until their cries of desperation reached the very ears of God. God reached down and chose a deliverer named Moses.

Through Moses, God demanded that Pharaoh release His people, freeing them that they might go and worship Him. Pharaoh refused. God persisted, and He sent upon Egypt plagues of frogs and flies and lice and boils and blood and pestilence. But still Pharaoh refused, because his heart was hardened. So God prepared one last dramatic event.

It would be forever known in Hebrew as the protecting, the sheltering, the Passover. God sent the angel of death to enter into every home in the land to instantly slay just the oldest son. But if a family wanted protection from that angel, God provided a way. It consisted of six steps.

Step one-Let them find a lamb and mark it out as their protecting lamb.

Step two-Let them watch that lamb for three days to verify that it was perfect.

Step three-On the fourth day, let them kill the lamb on the porch of their house, letting the blood flow into the basin that was at the base of the door of every Hebrew house in Egypt.

Step four-Let them take that lamb back inside, roast it with fire, then eat it.

Step five-Let them be careful not to break one bone of that lamb's body.

Step six-Let them take a branch, dip it into the blood that had been collected and apply it to the top of the door; then dip it again and apply it to the two sides of the door.

When the angel of death came that night, seeing the blood applied to the door of the house, rather than kill, he would pass over and do no harm. *The blood of the lamb provided protection.*

It was because the Egyptians suffered for lack of this protection that Pharaoh ultimately released over 2 million of God's people. But, buried deep in the wisdom of God, was a plan. God was using that ceremony to point to a future Passover and to a future Lamb whose blood would literally save millions of people around the world.

If you had been at the first Passover back in

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Jesus had three more unjust trials. However, Pilate, the Governor, wanted to release Jesus and tried three times to get Him released. But, ultimately, Pilate was more interested in preserving his career than in preserving justice, so he finally delivered Jesus over to be crucified. *"Behold, your king,"* he said in *John 19:14*.

*The Scriptures give the details of His death Matthew 27:27-34.*

Pilate's soldiers in *Matthew 27:28* "stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him" and *verse 29*; they put a crown of thorns on His head. *Verse 30* says, *"They spit on Him"* (the lowest form of human contempt) and began to beat Him on the head, driving those thorns into His skull like hundreds of tiny nails. They hit Him so much that the Bible says His face was barely recognizable as a human face. It's no surprise that as Jesus was forced to carry his own cross, he fell under its weight. *Luke 23:26*

*Verse 33* says, *"They came to a place called Golgotha, which means Place of the Skull."* *Matthew 27:34* says, *"They offered Him wine to drink, mixed with gall"* (a drugged drink), as an act of mercy, but Jesus refused.

Then they crucified Him. *Luke 23:33*. Even through that incredible pain, the Word of God tells us, Jesus looked up at the men who were driving stakes through His flesh and said, *"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."* *Luke 23:34*

Step four-The Passover Lamb will be subjected to fire.

God caused a darkness to come across the sky. But that darkness was no match for the darkness that was coming upon Jesus Himself as He hung on the cross. God was putting on Jesus the sin of every man and woman who had ever lived and ever will live. Jesus was now bearing sin. Somehow Jesus, the sinless One, took your sin and my sin upon Himself and experienced all of God's wrath and punishment for all sin of the world.

In the middle of that agony, Jesus screamed out these words, *"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"* *Matthew 27:46*. God was forsaking His Son on the cross because the punishment that really should have fallen on you and me—the punishment that will fall on those who don't receive Him—was falling on the Lamb of God. For three long hours on the cross, Jesus experienced the Hell of isolation and separation from God that we deserve. Suddenly at 3 o'clock p.m., Jesus screamed out, *"It is finished!"* *John 19:30* Sin had been paid for. Jesus told God the Father *"Father, into your hands I commit my spirit."* *Luke 23:46*

And with that, three things happened in a row:

1. The earth began to shake and roar.
2. In the temple the veil hanging in front of the Holy Place suddenly was ripped in two by the invisible hand of God.

3. In the same instance, the body of Jesus Christ gave one last convulsive shudder and He breathed no more.

All this happened at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, the precise moment when, 750 yards away at the temple, the Passover lambs were being slain. Jesus, the ultimate Passover lamb, had died.

Step five- The Passover lamb will have no broken bones.

When the Roman soldiers wanted a man on the cross to die more quickly they would break the legs of the man so he could no longer push himself up to breathe. *John 19:31-37* tells us the soldiers did this to the man on Jesus' left, and he died. Then they did it to the man on Jesus' right, and he died. They intended to do this to Jesus, but they looked up and saw that Jesus was already dead.

This had been predicted thousands of years before in the picture of the Passover lamb found in Exodus, and again one thousand years before Christ's death by David in *Psalms 34:20*, where he prophesied about the body of the Messiah, *"he protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken."*

Now let's review the details of Jesus' life. Can you see how His life met the requirements of the Passover lamb?

- 1-Jesus was marked out as the Passover lamb by John the Baptist.
- 2-For three years the religious leaders watched Him to make sure He was perfect, and He was.
- 3-He was killed, put to death, just as the Passover lambs died.
- 4-He was roasted with the wrathful fire of God's judgment against the sins of man!
- 5-He had no bones broken.

Finally, Step #6-The Blood must be applied to YOU.

The death of Jesus Christ is worthless if you and I never get the blood of Jesus applied to our hearts.

Imagine back in Egypt, that a family goes through the whole ceremony of the Passover lamb and then forgets to put the blood on the door where it will protect them? The whole point of killing the lamb was to put the blood on the door in order to be saved from God's judgment.

You must have the blood of Christ applied to your heart. It is something so divine that only God can do it. Only He can move Jesus into the core of your life. Each one of us has sinned against God. We all deserve Hell. But God loved us so much that He laid on Jesus the punishment for our sins. One day you

## PHOENIX LUNCHEON MEETINGS

CBWA luncheons are held at North Phoenix Baptist Church  
Located at 5757 N. Central Ave (Bethany Home and Central Avenue)  
Lunch Price is \$13 - or \$18 no RSVP - or \$5 Program only

■ Monday, March 8, 2004 12:00-1:15 p.m.  
RSVP by Wed., March 3rd, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR  
cbwa@globalcrossing.net or online at www.cbwa-az.org

### One Woman's Story

Come be encouraged as two of CBWA's members share their own "One Woman's Story" how God has impacted their lives personally and professionally.

■ Monday, March 22, 2004 12:00-1:15 p.m.  
RSVP by Wed., March 17, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR  
cbwa@globalcrossing.net or online at www.cbwa-az.org

### Who Gives a R.I.P. About Sin? -

#### Dr. Norm Wakefield

As Christians we recognize the subtle ways that sin tries to invade our lives and fill us with guilt, shame and defeat. But it is our Lord's intention for His children to live joyful, fruitful lives that are free from sin's power. Dr. Norm Wakefield has identified key biblical

principles that every Christian can apply to live beyond sin's tyranny.

Dr. Norm Wakefield is a seminary professor, conference speaker and author. His most recent book, *Who Gives a R.I.P. About Sin*, teaches Christians how to live lives free from sin's authority and power.

■ Monday, April 12, 2004 12:00-1:15 p.m.  
RSVP by Wed., April 7th, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR  
cbwa@globalcrossing.net or online at www.cbwa-az.org

### One Thing You Can Count On....Change! - Neil Pitchel

It's been said that the only constant in this world is change, but in *Malachi 3:6* God said "I the Lord do not change." Popular opinion will change, psychology books will change, but the Bible states that God is unchanging in His love for His people.

Neil Pitchel is the administrative pastor at East Valley Bible Church in Gilbert. He and his wife, Kate, live in Gilbert and have a daughter in college and a son in high school. Neil is a completed Jew and loves to teach from the Old Testament!

■ Monday, April 26, 2004 12:00-1:15 p.m.  
RSVP by Wed., April 21st, 480-948-2292, line #1 OR  
cbwa@globalcrossing.net or online at www.cbwa-az.org

### "What Are You Doing, God?" A Biblical Approach to Suffering - Kate Fuller

Must we stumble through sorrow without understanding, or is there another way? We will boldly explore the very character of God, whose sovereign care for us confounds our finite understanding. We will see why God allows pain and trials, their purpose in our lives, and what our response to suffering should be.

Kate and her husband, John, reside in Phoenix and have three children. She teaches women's Bible studies as well as Sunday school at her church and is also involved in drama presentation. She is a cancer survivor.

#### Future Luncheon Speakers....

May 10th - Pastor Chris Mueller - Dangerous Decoys  
May 24th - No Luncheon  
June 14th - Paul Wegner - The Book of Micah  
June 28th - One Woman's Story

#### The Passover Lamb—from page 3

will stand before Christ. The issue on that day is not going to be how many good things in comparison with the bad things you did. The issue is going to be much simpler—has the blood of Jesus Christ been applied to your heart? As you stand there, God will either see your sin or see the blood of the Passover Lamb.

Do you know Jesus Christ personally? He is reaching out to you, and He wants to set you free from sin, transform you, and give you a new life now and eternal life forever. Jesus Christ will give you peace, joy, love and a clean conscience. That is why He died for you 2000 years ago.

*Chris Mueller is a Pastor at East Valley Bible Church in Gilbert, AZ and Director of the East Valley Bible Institute. The above article is under copyright, so that it is not published or printed elsewhere without permission. We invite you to come hear Pastor Chris Mueller at CBWA on May 10th on the topic "Dangerous Decoys".*

*The CBWA Connection* is a bi-monthly newsletter published by the Christian Business Women's Association, a nonprofit organization based in metro Phoenix area, Arizona. Newsletter ideas and comments, and editorial contributions supporting CBWA's statement of faith are welcome. *The CBWA Connection* is an outreach of CBWA and donations are tax deductible. To help underwrite newsletter expenses, a suggested donation of \$25 would cover the annual cost of preparing and mailing each newsletter. Editor: Joy Cervantes, cervantes@mpmcpa.com; Copy Editor: Kristen Wehrli; Newsletter Advisor: Diane Lippard; Newsletter Layout: DreamCreek Design; Printed on recycled paper by Techniprint. **CBWA 24-hour Phone 480-948-CBWA (2292) www.cbwa-az.org Email: cbwa@globalcrossing.net**

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