**SHABBAT HAGADOL PESACH/PASSOVER**

**AS HEARD FROM RABBI AVIGDOR MILLER ZT’L**

**“And Hashem shall pass over to smite Egyptand He shall see the blood on the lintel and**

**on the two doorposts, and Hashem will pass over (U’Pasach) the door and will not allow the**

**Desroyer to come into your houses to smite” (Shemot 12:23)**

It was not sufficient to avoid identifying with the people of the land in order to escape the Destroyer,

But it is necessary also to practice positive identification with the Torah-Nation. The blood of the Pesach offering and the loyalty to the commands of Hashem will assure Israel that the Destroyer will always pass over (U’Pasach) them. Those of our nation that neglect the Torah laws will be subject to the Destroyer just as all the nations which have gone down into the dust. Just as the ancient empires of Egypt, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome and Communist Russia have gone downunder the hand of the Destroyer, and so also the Hellenizers and the Shabtai –Zvi heretics and allother disloyal elements perish from the earth.

Pesach (the Passing-Over) symbolizes the eternity of the loyal Jewish people whose progeny will continue until the end of days and whose souls are rewarded forever. Thus the miracle of the Pesach was not only for this occasion, but it teaches that Hashem will *always*cause the Destroyer to pass over His loyal ones in all generations.

The Pesach-offering symbolizes Israel’s unfailing loyalty to Hashem and His Torah in the face of the disapproval of the nations and the opposition of the idolaters and the academicians and the hedonists in every generation.

The slaughtering of the Pesach lambs was in itself a major catastrophe for Egypt. They knew that the Israelites used sheep for food, and they hated the sons of Israel for that (Beresheet 43:32). But

this had been done privately, so as not to arouse the animosity of Egypt. Now it was done demonstratively, with the blood smeared on the lintel and doorposts. Egypt was dumbfounded and stupefied, but in their profundity of despair they could not react.

An additional message of the Korban Pesach:

This is the first instance when the meat of an offering was eaten. Hitherto all the offerings had been in the form of ‘Olot” (burnt-offerings) and no one attempted to profane the offering by putting into a human mouth. But the Pesach-offering now came as a declaration of the status of the sons of Israel as “a holy people” (19:6) whose bodies were elevated to the holiness of an alter, and when they ate the meat of the offering it was parallel to the burning of the offering upon the alter.

Evenordinary meat must from now on be properly slaughtered to be eligible for entrance into the holy Israelite body. All the laws of forbidden foods demonstrate the exceptional holiness of the body of the Israelite. Just as it was forbidden to defile the Sanctuary by any unclean thing so also it was forbidden to defile the Sanctuary of the Israelite body by many kinds of food that were permitted to the nations. The eating of the Korban Pesach now declared this great principle.

**Quoted from "A Nation Is Born" by Rabbi Avigdor Miller ZT’L**

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