



Easter and Passover Old Testament Origins

Interpreting the Text:

1. It is proposed that there is a “practical” origin to Passover: unleavened bread was eaten when people had no means to leaven their bread. What does this say about the holiday as a whole? Does it change the way we think about it?
2. What role does storytelling play in our understanding about Passover?
3. Even the Bible has some contradictory information about what the festival is and how it should be celebrated. What do interpreters do about these discrepancies?

Applying the Text:

1. How does Passover work differently today as explained in the video? In what ways has its practice evolved over time?
2. Think about how two holidays formed into one new holiday. Do you see this idea happening elsewhere today?
3. What role do you think myths play in understanding Passover? Is the agricultural cycle origin more “real” than the story that Deuteronomy gives for the feast of unleavened bread?