

Easter and Passover “Passover” in the New Testament

Interpreting the Text:

1. Easter is originally defined as a “Christianized Passover.” How does this offer us a look at how early Christian communities thought about themselves?
2. How is Easter a distinct and significant observance in Christianity? Consider the way Easter functions in Christianity with the way the Passover functions in Judaism. How are they similar holidays? How are they different?
3. The video notes that Paul may not have been referring to Passover when he refers to Christ as a sacrifice in 1 Corinthians 5:7. Should this change the way we interpret Paul’s writings? Does this make his words less important?

Applying the Text:

1. Passover and Easter are intertwined as holidays. In what way can we understand Easter as similar or separate from Passover today? Should we try to find common ground between these two holidays?
2. How do you feel about Easter’s origins in Passover rituals? Does this change the way you think about the holiday?