New Life... New Year... New World Exodus 12:2

The Lord said to Moses, "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of the year... This is a day you are to commemorate for generations to come... the day you came out of Egypt and out of slavery, because the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand... Today, in the month of Abib... observe this ceremony in this month... keep this ordinance at this appointed time year after year."

(Exodus 12-13)

- The Jews made this month "the first" in *significance* and *celebration*
- The <u>honor</u> and <u>power</u> of this day (Passover) was beyond all others.

Passover was a forerunner/prediction/type/symbol of the crucifixion of Jesus.

However, the symbolism of Passover goes beyond the cross. There was (and must be) an <u>exodus</u>. God passed through the land.

- The death angel passed over the blood.
 - The people (exiting their houses) passed under the blood.
 - That moment birthed a <u>new</u> future, a <u>new</u> world, <u>new</u> year.

The significance of the new life was so great and so absolute and all encompassing, God expected them to mark that event on their calendar as the day that CHANGED EVERYTHING. The day an individual is truly saved or transformed or given spiritual life is no less significant. It CHANGES EVERYTHING.

✓ a new <u>BEGINNING</u>

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. So stand firm, and do not let yourself be burdened again by a yoke of slavery

(Galatians 5:1)

✓ a new BIRTH

When you were dead in your sins and your sinful nature, God MADE YOU ALIVE with Christ. (Colossians 2:13)

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised by my saying, "You must be born again."

(John 3:7)

✓ a new **POWER**

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness... and he has given us his very great and precious promises, so that me may <u>participate</u> in the <u>divine nature</u> and escape the corruption in the world.

(11 Peter 1:3-4)

✓ a new ACCOUNTABILITY

Set your mind on things above... put to death what belongs to your flesh nature... get rid of all such things as these... Take off the OLD SELF with its practices and put on the NEW SELF... *(Colossians 3)*

OLD habits/hang-ups are forsaken

If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has GONE, the new has COME.

(11 Corinthians 5:17)

OLD excuses/lies are exposed as frauds

The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy. I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

(John 10:10)

OLD sins/stereotypes are rendered impotent.

Do not be deceived. The Kingdom of God will not be given to idolators or adulterers, not to sexually immoral or homosexuals, not to the drunkard or the greedy or the slanderer or the swindler. And that is what some of you were! But you were WASHED, you were SANCTIFIED, you were JUSTIFIED in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of God.

(1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

I am FORGIVEN!

OLD expectations/limitations are broken.

You were dead in your transgressions and sins... but God, who is rich in mercy, has made us alive with Christ... and raised us up and seated us with him in the heavenly realms... that he might show us the incomparable riches of his grace... we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works...

(Ephesians 2)

God knew that FREEDOM in the desert is better than BONDAGE in paradise.

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