

Summary

This sermon explores the profound truth that 'Death doesn't win when God covers you' through the lens of the Passover story in Exodus 12. The pastor draws parallels between the masks we wear on Halloween and the daily masks we use to hide our true selves, revealing our deep need for God's covering. Through three Hebrew words - Pasak (passover), Kaphar (atonement), and Goel (redeemer) - the message unfolds three key truths: God covers what you can't control, God covers who you really are, and God covers you so you can live free.

The sermon emphasizes that just as the Israelites couldn't stop the angel of death but could trust in God's protection through the lamb's blood on their doorposts, we cannot control life's chaos but can trust in Jesus Christ's covering. God's covering isn't about our perfection but about His protection and transformation of our real, flawed selves. The blood of Jesus doesn't just protect us from spiritual death but releases us into freedom, transforming our identity from slaves to sons and daughters of God.

Intro Prayer

Heavenly Father, as we gather together today, we thank You for Your Word and the truth it reveals about Your covering over our lives. We ask that You would open our hearts and minds to receive what You want to teach us through this discussion. Help us to be vulnerable and honest with one another, knowing that we are all in need of Your grace and covering. Remove any masks or pretenses we might be wearing and help us to see ourselves and each other through Your eyes of love. Guide our conversation and speak to each of us in the way we need to hear from You today. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Ice Breaker

What's the most creative or memorable Halloween costume you've ever worn or seen someone else wear?

Key Verses

1. Exodus 12:13
2. Exodus 12:23
3. Exodus 12:29-30
4. Romans 8:1

Questions

1. The pastor mentioned that we all wear 'daily masks' to hide our true selves. What are some common masks people wear today, and why do you think we feel the need to hide?
2. In the Passover story, the Israelites couldn't control what was happening outside but could obey God's instructions. What are some areas in your life where you struggle to let go of control and trust God?

3. The Hebrew word 'Pasak' means God doesn't just skip over us but stands guard over us. How does this picture of God as our protector change your understanding of His love for you?
4. God's covering isn't based on our perfection but on His protection. How does this truth challenge the way you view your relationship with God?
5. The sermon states that 'God doesn't bless the filtered version of you.' What does it mean to live authentically before God without trying to hide our flaws?
6. The blood on the doorposts declared 'this family belongs to God.' How should knowing that you belong to God impact the way you live daily?
7. Freedom in Christ means 'living like the blood of Jesus really works.' What would change in your life if you truly believed and lived like His sacrifice was completely sufficient?
8. The pastor mentioned that when guilt whispers 'you're still that person,' we can say 'I was once that person, but I don't live that way anymore.' How can this truth help someone struggling with past mistakes or shame?

Life Application

This week, identify one area where you've been trying to control what only God can handle. Practice surrendering this area to Him daily through prayer, saying 'God, have your way with what I can't control so that you can control it for me.' Also, when feelings of shame or inadequacy arise, remind yourself of your true identity: 'I am not my worst mistake. I am the one God stands over and calls His own.'

Key Takeaways

1. God covers what you can't control - we don't have to micromanage what only He can handle
2. God covers who you really are - His covering isn't for perfect people but for real people who surrender to Him
3. God covers you so you can live free - the blood of Jesus doesn't just protect from death but releases us into abundant life
4. God's covering transforms our identity from slaves to sons and daughters
5. Freedom isn't about perfection but about direction - walking in the truth that Jesus' sacrifice really works

Ending Prayer

Father God, thank You for the truth that death doesn't win when You cover us. Thank You that through Jesus' sacrifice, we don't have to live in fear, shame, or bondage to our past. Help us to walk in the freedom that comes from knowing we are covered by Your grace. When anxiety tries to make us control what we cannot, remind us that You are standing guard over us. When shame whispers lies about our identity, help us remember that we belong to You. Give us courage to live authentically, knowing that Your love covers all our flaws and failures. May we walk out of this week not as people trying to earn Your approval, but as those who are already approved, covered, and free. In the powerful name of Jesus, our Redeemer, Amen.