



*A Family Friendly Guide to the Spring Festival of
Pesach*

*Exodus 13: 8 – “And thou shalt shew thy children in that day, saying,
This is done because of that which the LORD did unto me when I came
forth out of Egypt.”*

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Letter from Manna



If you're not careful, when you first begin to study and keep the Feasts (and even sometimes when you've been doing it for years!) it can be easy to get caught up in the "do's and don'ts", the arguments around what's leaven, when to keep it, how to keep it, and so much more till we miss the beauty of the festival & they become a burden!

The festivals were to be the highlight of our year! There are many traditions that surround each one because they each have thousands of years of history! But if we get so caught up in trying to "keep the traditions", we can miss the entire point of the feast itself!

First and foremost, this is a Divine Appointment with Yahweh! It's all about Him! Secondly, these festivals were to be a joyous time and they were family oriented! This "guide" is to help explain the basics of the festival and also give you and your family ideas to help make it your own.

It's our family history, it's our future, & it's our story!

Introduction

Leviticus 23:5 – “In the fourteenth day of the first month at even is the LORD’s Passover.”

Passover or Pesach פסח is the first festival on the calendar of Yahweh – of all the festivals it is one that is probably the most well known! Numerous Scriptures are dedicated to describing it’s past, present, and future fulfillment!

Luke 22:15 – “With desire, I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer.”

Ezekiel 45:21 – “In the first month, in the fourteenth day of the month, ye shall have the Passover, a feast of seven days; unleavened bread shall be eaten.”

Passover is often associated with the commemoration of Yahweh delivering Israel from Egypt. As we look at the significance of this feast, we now see how multi-faceted it is! Not only is it celebrating and reminding us that Yahweh delivered Israel from Egypt, we now also are able to see how our Messiah – Yeshua fulfilled the role of the Passover lamb to redeem us once again from bondage, but even further than that Passover still points towards another future deliverance!

Isaiah 11:11-12 – “And it shall come to pass in that day, that the Lord shall set his hand again the second time to recover the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea.

And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.”

Passover is a celebration of spring, birth and rebirth, and of a journey from slavery to freedom, a story of redeeming love!

Themes of Passover



Harvest Festival: Passover is the 1st Spring Festival and celebrates the harvest of the barley! In fact the name of this month on the Hebrew Calendar is Aviv, which comes from this concept. Aviv means fresh or green or the point in which the grain has achieved “ears”. The barley was offered as a sacrifice during this season. And it was a time when Israel prayed for rain & dew and for Yahweh to bless the harvest!



Circumcision: Passover is also the festival of circumcision! Exodus 12 reveals one of the stipulations of this feast is that we must be circumcised! Passover is about being in Covenant with Yahweh. In order to seal that Covenant, Abraham was told to circumcise himself. In Egypt, we find the lamb now being circumcised to once again seal the Covenant! The picture is of both parties (Yahweh & Israel) choosing to make a sacrifice for this redemption! We understand now that we are to circumcise our hearts as well!



Spring Cleaning: Today, most are familiar with the tradition known as “Spring Cleaning” – for some reason it seems that spring time means it’s time to do the deep cleaning that often goes overlooked the rest of the year! Yet this tradition stems from Passover! Prior to celebrating Passover, we are required to remove all the leaven out of our homes – a Spring Cleaning!

It’s symbolic of how we are to be inspecting our hearts and removing the “leaven” (sin) as well!

Preparing for Passover

Exodus 12: 20 – “Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.”

Part of the preparation for Passover requires us to remove the leaven (hence the idea of Spring Cleaning) and to then eat unleavened bread (not just for Passover for the rest of week forming the 2nd Festival of Yahweh – the Feast of Unleavened Bread).

Spiritual Significance: Leaven puffs up the bread, therefore it represents pride, arrogance, and even sin. At Passover, this ritual is our reminder that as we clean our physical houses we should also be cleaning our hearts! In Hebrew leaven is chametz *חמץ* meaning to be leavened or sour, but it can also infer to be bitter, grieved, embittered, affected with anger or pain! At Passover we undertake the difficult process of inspecting our hearts and dealing with any “crumbs of leaven” that have left us embittered and operating in anger and pain!



Physical Significance: We first must define what is chametz? The simple answer is any food product made from a grain that has come in contact with water and been allowed to “rise” and ferment. But did you realize there are health benefits to removing leaven/yeast from our diet for a week? It acts as a Candida cleanse! *Candida Albicans* yeast is a part of our normal gut flora, yet almost everyone because of our diets have an overgrowth which can cause all kinds of health issues! So when we eat the unleavened bread for a week not only is it teaching us spiritual principles but it also serves as a health benefit and cleansing process for our body!

The Seder



As we find ourselves preparing for the highly anticipated Spring Feasts of Passover, we must ask ourselves how do we fulfill the commands to keep this divine appointment? What is tradition and what is Torah? Can the hand of Yahweh be seen in some of these very practices, such as the Seder, that have been passed on from generation to generation?

What is a Seder?

Answer: The seder is a ritual service and ceremonial dinner traditionally performed at Passover...sounds quite daunting right? Have no fear though!

The basic commands outlined in the Scriptures concerning Passover are the following (Exodus 12:8):

- Eat Unleavened Bread (Matzah)
- Eat Roasted Lamb
- Eat Bitter Herbs
- Teach your children of what happened (Exodus 13:8)

The seder is birthed from these very verses! Seder סדר means order in Hebrew – and it is through this meal that the story and the order of Passover is told every year! A few more parts have been added, but each food item is all about teaching our children and reminding ourselves of what Yahweh did on our behalf!

Elements of the Seder

Before we lay out the script for this meal, we want to take a moment and address some of the different elements so it doesn't seem as daunting or overwhelming!

First thing to keep in mind: this is just a tradition that can be tailored for you and your family!!! Traditional seders can take several hours, a task definitely daunting for those with small children! Yet the heart of this is about teaching our children! You can tailor your family seder to your needs!

Supplies Needed:

- Seder Plate (elaborate plates can be purchased as the one pictured above which are specifically designed to hold all the elements of the meal, or you can make your own! An excellent idea for a kids craft, or simply take a plate and put the items on it!)

- Wine Glasses/Cups (in a traditional seder, to help tell the story, there are 4 glasses we cover – you can be elaborate and set each person up with 4 cups, or they can refill the 1 – make it yours!)

- Matzah – Unleavened Bread

- Parsley
- Salt Water
- Horseradish

- Bitter Herb (we usually use Romaine Lettuce Leaf)
- Lamb Shankbone (these can also be purchased online in order to use every year)
- Charoset – Delicious mixture of fruits and nuts – recipe will be included later!)

Traditional Seder Script

To make life easy, we now have available a book that has all the how to's and the script for the seder meal! All you have to do is follow along! It's called a Haggadah! Tons are available, and it really depends on personal preference. Some highlight the role of Messiah Yeshua throughout, others are more traditionally Jewish, some are long, some are short...you decide!

The following is an example of a Haggadah Script (this one having a Messianic slant bringing in the role of Yeshua)

B' Dekat Hametz

בדיקת חמץ

The Search for Leaven



The search for leaven is completed the night before the Seder meal.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 "Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Messiah, our Passover, also has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the feast, not with the old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity & truth."

One tradition is that at the start of the Seder, the younger children take a candle, a wooden spoon, and feather to find the last bit of leaven that's been purposefully left in the house for them to remove! A great way to incorporate our children and teach them!

Lighting the Candles

Baruch Ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Yom Tov.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Lord our Yah, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us by thy commandments & has commanded us to kindle the festival lights.

Baruch Ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam shehecheyanu v'kiy'manu v'higianu lazman hazeh.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Lord our Yah, King of the universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season. Amen.

The Cup of Sanctification וְקַדְשׁ



Fill the Cup

Vay'hi erev vay'hi voker yom hashishi. Vay'chal Elohim bayom hash'vi'e m'lachto asher asah. Vayishbot bayom hash'vi'e mikol m'lachto asher asah. Vay'varech Elohim et yom hash'vi'e vay'kadesh oto, ki vo shavat mikol m'lachto asher bara Elohim la'asot.

On the 6th day, the heavens & the earth were completed. On the 7th day, Yahweh finished the work of creation and rested. Yahweh blessed the 7th day and called it holy, because on that day Yahweh rested from the work of creation.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam borei p'ri hagafen. Amen.
Blessed art Thou, Oh Lord our Yah, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine. Amen

Washing – Urchatz

ורחץ

Having sanctified this meal with the Cup of Sanctification we now prepare our hands as the priests in the temple would have done. This symbolic act of purification prepares us to enter into the holiness of this feast. |

Washing of Hands

*Do it at the sink, or have a special basin & bowl – make it your own!

Karpas: The Dipping of Parsley

כרפס

As we eat of this plant & dip twice in the salt water, we are reminded of how the nation of Israel was born of tears. But why do we dip twice?

All – It is because we must be born again! Even as Israel was born 1st of tears and must be born again spiritually, so we must be born again of the Spirit rising in newness of life.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam borei p'ri ha'adamah. Amen.
Blessed art Thou, Oh Lord our Yah, King of the universe, who creates food
from the earth. Amen.

Dip parsley twice in the salt water & eat

Yachatz: Breaking the Matzah

יחי

I now take the middle matzah of the 3 matzot and break it in 2 pieces. The best part shall be called the Afikomen & carefully wrapped in linen cloth. A place is selected to bury the covered bread with a pillow called the stone. At the appropriate time, we call for the Afikomen to come forth & be our dessert – the best part of our Seder dinner.

Afikomen is prepared & buried

***Special Matzah Bags & Afikomen covers can be purchased, or once again**

you can make your own, or even use a napkin! The Matzah bags have contain 3 slots for the 3 pieces of matzah. The Afikomen is hidden somewhere in the room for later when the children once again get to participate in finding it!

Mageed: The Bread of Affliction

Holding the unity of 3 matzot

Ha lachma anya di achalu avhatana b'ara d'Mitzrayim. Kol dichfin yeitei v'yechol. Kol ditzrich yeitei v'yifsach. Hashata hacha lashanah haba'ah b'ara d'Yisrael. Hashata avdei lashanah haba'ah b'nei chorin.

This is the bread of affliction which our forefathers ate coming out of Egypt. May those who are hungry and those in distress, come & celebrate Passover with us.

All: We thank you, Oh Yah, for Your goodness shown to our forefathers and to us. May we learn to show goodness to one another.

Leader: As we lift up these pieces of unleavened bread, we see the symbol of 3 becoming 1 in unity. We see that the Lord, Yahweh our God is 1. As the prophet Zechariah has said,

All: & Yahweh will be king over all the earth; in that day Yahweh will be one, & His name 1. Amen.

Cup of Instruction

Fill the cup of Instruction

Reader 1: Our story begins with a man named Joseph. Joseph was the son of Jacob and had many brothers. Because of their envy, Joseph was sold into slavery & taken to Egypt. While in Egypt, Yahweh prospered Joseph to become the head of Potipher's house, chief of Pharaoh's guard. But Joseph was falsely accused and soon placed in prison. While in prison, Joseph interpreted the dreams of Pharaoh's cup bearer & baker. Each man's dream happened as Joseph had said.

Reader 2: Then Pharaoh had a dream. Pharaoh sought the understanding of the dream from all the wise men of Egypt, but no one could interpret it. Finally, Joseph was brought forth and interpreted Pharaoh's dream saying, "There shall be 7 years of plenty, followed by 7 years of famine. Pharaoh should appoint a man with honesty & integrity to oversee the gathering of grain and its later disbursement." Pharaoh saw that the Spirit of Yah was upon Joseph, & he appointed him to the position. Only Pharaoh Himself was over him. Joseph was now the Viceroy of Egypt.

Reader 3: The famine began as Joseph had said & his brethren, the sons of Jacob, came to buy grain and food. After a time of reconciliation & restoration, Jacob, his wives, his sons, & their wives moved to the best land of Egypt to be preserved by Joseph. Whereas, Joseph's brethren meant evil, Yahweh intended to preserve for Himself a people. 70 persons came down into Egypt, & they began to prosper.

Reader 4: Generations passed, & a different Pharaoh rose up. This Pharaoh did not remember Joseph & feared the children of Israel because they had grown into a great company. He instructed his taskmasters to put the children of Israel under hard bondage, making bricks to build cities. He also instructed the midwives to kill the male children of Israel.

Reader 1: A certain Hebrew male child was born to Amran & Yochebel of the Levite tribe. To preserve the child's life, he was placed in an ark & floated on the River Nile. The daughter of Pharaoh found the ark & child. Taking the child for herself, she called him, "Moses" for she had drawn him from the waters. Moses grew in stature to manhood. Because he killed an Egyptian who was hurting another Hebrew, he fled to the land of Midian.

Reader 2: While in Midian, Moses became a shepherd & married the daughter of Yithro, a sheik of Midian. Then 1 day Moses saw a bush that was burning, but was not consumed. He went up the mountain to see this wonder, & there he heard the voice of Yahweh call to him.

Leader: "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face & was afraid. "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, & have given heed to their cry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. So, I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good & spacious land, to a land flowing with milk & honey. Therefore, come now, & I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt."

Reader 3: Now Moses said, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, & that I should bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?" But Yahweh assured Moses that He would be with him giving him signs & instructions to bring the children of Israel to this same mountain.

Reader 4: Now Moses said to Yahweh, "Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I shall say to them that the God of your fathers has sent me to you. Now they may say to me, 'What is His name?' What shall I say to them?"

Leader: "I AM WHO I AM. Thus, you shall say, I AM has sent me. & you shall also say, Yahweh, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob has appeared to me saying that I indeed am concerned about what has happened in Egypt & that I will bring you up out of Egypt to a good land, a land flowing with milk & honey."

Reader 1: Now Moses & his brother Aaron went in before Pharaoh & said, "The God of the Hebrews, Adonai, Yahweh says to let My people go." But Pharaoh resisted & said that he did not know Adonai, Yahweh, and he

would not let the people go. And Pharaoh instructed the children of Israel to make bricks without straw and not let their tally of bricks be any less.

Reader 2: Moses & Aaron went in again to Pharaoh announcing Yahweh's punishments upon Egypt saying, "That you, Pharaoh, might know Yahweh." As the plagues became more severe, Pharaoh continued to harden his heart against Yahweh. Finally the 10th plague came.

Reader 3: Moses instructed the sons of Israel to get a yearling lamb without spot or blemish. On the eve of the 14th of Nisan, the lamb was slain, & the blood was put on the doorposts & lintel of their houses. On that night they ate lamb, roasted by fire, with unleavened bread, & bitter herbs. They ate with their clothes & sandals on, their loins girded, & staff in hand, for they were prepared to leave.

Reader 4: Then the Angel of the Lord passed through the land of Egypt that night, & the 1st born of Egypt, in every house, died. Only those houses that had the blood of the lamb were passed over. Even the 1st born of Pharaoh's house suffered the death of the 1st born. Pharaoh & the Egyptians forced the children of Israel to leave giving them their gold & silver. Thus, Israel plundered the whole house of Egypt.

Reader 1: Moses led the nation of Israel out of Egypt with their children & their flocks & the plunder of the Egypt. They continued eating the unleavened bread for 7 days & journeyed to the Red Sea. Now Pharaoh & the Egyptians had a change of heart & said, "What is this thing we have done letting the sons of Israel go?"

Reader 2: Pharaoh assembled his choice chariots & pursued them to the Red Sea. There the children of Israel called out to Moses. But Moses said, "Stand still & see the salvation of Yah." With the blast of Yahweh's nostril, he parted the sea & Israel walked across on dry land. As the Egyptians tried to follow, Yahweh closed the waters & drowned all of the Egyptians.

Reader 3: Thus Israel was saved! & Moses sang a new song to Yahweh saying the horse & rider were thrown into the sea. We too can sing songs of deliverance & salvation at this Passover.

The Four Questions

Asked by a child

Mah nishtanah halailah hazeh mikol haleilot?

Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin chametz u'matzah. Halailah hazeh kulo matzah?

Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin she'ar yirakot. Halailah hazeh maror?

Sheb'chol haleilot ein anu matbilin afilu pa'am echat. Halailah hazeh sh'tei f'amim?

Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin bein yoshvin u'vein m'subin. Halailah hazeh kulanu m'subin?

Why is this night different from all other nights?

On all other nights, we may eat leavened or unleavened bread, but on this night why do we eat only unleavened bread?

On all other nights we eat all types of herbs, but on this night why do we eat only bitter herbs?

On all other nights we do not even dip once, but on this night why do we dip twice?

On all other nights we eat our meals sitting or reclining, but on this night why do we eat only reclining?

The Answer:

All: This night is different from all other nights because it is the Lord's Passover. On this night our ancestors sat in their houses with the blood of the lamb on the doorposts & lintel. The Angel of the Lord passed over our houses & spared the 1st born of Israel. But the Egyptians suffered a great judgment. On the next morning, we left Egypt as free people. We eat unleavened bread because there was not time enough for the bread to rise. It is the bread of haste. We eat bitter herbs to remind us of the bitter bondage we suffered under the hand of the Egyptian taskmasters. We dip twice to remind us of how we were born of tears & of our crossing the Red Sea to salvation. We recline & relax to enjoy our freedom, which Yah gave us.

The 10 Judgments

Dip with a finger removing a drop from your cup for each judgment.

Dahm דם Blood

Tz'fardaya צפרדע Frogs

Kinim כנים Gnats

Arov ערב Flies

Dever דבר Murrain

Sh'chin שחין Boils

Barad ברד Hail

Arbeh ארבה Locusts

Choshech חשך Darkness

Makat B'chorot מכת בחורות Death of 1st Born



Dayeinu: It is Enough

Yes, it is enough that He delivered us from Egypt & brought us through the Red Sea, but He brought us to His Mountain & gave us a covenant & our Torah.

Yes, it is enough that He gave us a covenant, but He gave us bread from heaven to eat, the manna.

Yes, it is enough that He fed us with bread, but He gave us water to drink from the rock & caused our clothes & shoes not to fail.

Yes, it is enough that He quenched our thirst, but He instructed the making of a Tabernacle & dwelt among us.

Yes, it is enough that He dwelt among us, but He brought us into a good land, a land flowing with milk & honey.

Yes, it is enough that we lived in the land of Israel, but He brought forth judges, kings, & prophets to guide & lead us.

Yes it is enough that we saw prophets & kings, but then He brought forth His Son, to redeem us from our slavery to sin.

Yes, it is enough that He made sacrifice and has given us eternal life!

ALL – It is enough already!

***Dayenu is a traditional song, where in between each line the entire family claps/pounds their hands on the table or their lap singing loudly**

Day Day-enu, Day Day-enu, Day Day-enu, Dayenu Dayenu Dayenu!

Passover Symbols

Shankbone – Zarowa

זרוע

The Zarowa, or shankbone, of the lamb represents the Lamb that was slain. As the blood of the lamb covered & protected the children of Israel, the blood of Yeshua, the Lamb of Yah, slain for the world covers us, & we are passed from death unto life.

Unleavened Bread – Matzah

מצה

The matzah is made without leavening. It has stripes & has been pierced & crushed. It is the bread of humility & is not puffed up. In like manner, this is the bread of Yeshua. He was without sin or leavening. The prophet Isaiah has said, “With His stripes, we are healed. He was pierced for our transgressions & He was crushed for our iniquities.”

Bitter Herbs – Maror

מרור

The maror (bitter herbs) are a symbol of slavery. The bitterness of the herbs also reminds us of the discomfort of sin. The slavery of sin leads to death. Therefore, we are reminded of the need for a Redeemer. One who will purchase us out of the slavery of sin. And, thank God, Yeshua has paid the price for us.

Charoses

חרוסת

The Charoses represents the mortar & straw used to make bricks. We have made its taste to be sweet with apple & honey. As servants of Yahweh, we have learned that the work of Yahweh is sweet & pleasant. We are reminded that it is better to be in the presence of Yahweh than in the pleasures of this world.

Preparation for the Meal

Give thanks to Yahweh, for He is good;

His mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob;

His mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to He who does great wonders;

His mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to He who formed the sun, the moon, & the stars;

His mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to He who spread out the earth over the waters;

His mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to He who made man after His own image & breathed life into him;

His mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to He who delivers His people out of the hand of the Egyptians;

His mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to He who has made a covenant with our fathers & has given us His Torah with instruction in righteousness;

His mercy endures forever.

Give thanks to He who gives us bread from heaven & water from the Rock;

His mercy endures forever.

Gives thanks to He who sent His only Son to be our Redeemer, our Deliverer, & our Salvation;

His mercy endures forever.

For great is His loving kindness, & His mercy endures forever. Amen.

Raise cup while saying:

Vehi she'amdah la'avotenu v'lanu. Shelo echad bilvad amad aleinu l'chalotenu. Ela sheb'chol dor vador omdim aleinu l'chalotenu. VeHakadosh Baruch Hu matzilenu miyadam.

Blessed are you, Lord our Yah, King of the universe, Who has freed us & our ancestors from Egypt & brought us here this night to eat matzah & maror. Yahweh, our God & God of our ancestors, help us celebrate future holidays & festivals in peace & in joy. Then we will thank You with a new song.

Baruch Atah Adonai, ga'al Yisrael
We praise you, Yahweh our God, who has freed the people of Israel.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam borei p'ri hagafen. Amen

Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, that brings forth the fruit of the vine. Amen



Drink the Cup of Instruction

Rachatz – Washing & Blessing

רחצה

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al n'tilat yadayim. Amen.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Lord our Yahweh, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by Your commandments & has commanded us to wash our hands. Amen.

Washing of Hands

Motzee Matzah

מצה מוציא

We now take a piece of matzah & recite the blessing.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam hamotzi lechem min ha'aretz. Amen.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from out of the earth. Amen.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al achilat matzah. Amen.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by your commandments & has commanded us to eat unleavened bread. Amen.

Eat a piece of Matzah

We now take a piece of matzah with bitter herbs. It is at this point that we believe Yeshua announced his betrayal.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu al achilat maror. Amen.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by your commandments & has commanded us to eat bitter herbs. Amen.

Eat piece of matzah with bitter herbs

Koraych

כורך

We have just eaten matzah & maror separately. We now make the hillel sandwich. We take 2 pieces of matzah, add bitter herbs, & the sweet charoses. This sandwich teaches us that it is better to take the bitterness of life with the aid of the Comforter & the sweetness of Yahweh.

Make & Eat the sandwich of bitter herbs with the Charoses.

Dinner is served

צפון Zafun – The Afikomen

The Passover is observed on the evening of the 14th of Nisan. Then beginning with the 15th, the children of Israel are to eat only unleavened bread for 7 days in keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread. However, there is another feast observed during this week. On the day following the 1st Sabbath, following the Passover is the Feast of First Fruits. In the temple, the priest would wave the new sheaves of barley before Yahweh, thanking Him for the resurrection of life. It was on this day that Yeshua came forth from the grave, was seen 1st by women, & then His disciples.

In the prophetic act of this resurrection, we call for the Afikomen to come forth from its grave to be the best part of our Passover dinner.

Afikomen, come forth!

Children are dispatched to bring the Afikomen

It is at this time that Yeshua took bread, & He said, "This is my body, broken for you. Eat it as often as you do in remembrance of Me."

Distribute Afikomen

*It is a tradition that whoever finds the Afikomen can also demand a ransom from the rest of the dinner guests in order to release it. It is an incentive for the children to look and a teaching to them that the Afikomen is valuable!

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam hamotzi lechem min ha'aretz. Amen.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from out of the earth. Amen.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, who has given us the true bread from heaven in our Messiah Yeshua.

Eat the Word of Yah, remembering his death, his burial, & his resurrection.

Eat the Afikomen

Cup of Redemption

Fill the Cup of Redemption

"This cup is the New Covenant in My blood shed for you. As often as you drink of this cup, you do show forth My death, burial, & resurrection until I come again."

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam borei p'ri hagafen. Amen.
Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, who brings forth the fruit of the vine. Amen.

Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, who has redeemed us from the slavery of sin & given us eternal life. Amen.

Drink the Cup of Redemption



The Cup of Elijah

Each year we invite the prophet Elijah to join us at the Passover Seder. We know that the coming of Elijah signals the coming of Messiah

Leader is to pour the Cup of Elijah to the brim & dispatch a child to the door to welcome Elijah

Eliyahu HaNavi, Eliyahu HaTishbi
Eliyahu, Eliyahu, Eliyahu HaGiladi
Bimhera v'yameinu, yavoh eleinu
Im Meshiach ben David
Im Meshiach ben David

May Elijah the Prophet come to us quickly and in our day, bringing with him the Messiah, Son of David.

The Lord knew He was going to His death, yet He rejoiced in that day knowing that the acceptable sacrifice, the Lamb of Yah would provide salvation for us.

The Cup of Praise

Fill the Cup of Praise

"I will not drink of this cup until we are in the Kingdom". This cup is prophetic & is a promise of the Kingdom to come.

Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha'olam borei p'ri hagafen. Amen.
Blessed art Thou, Oh Yahweh our God, King of the universe, who brings forth the fruit of the vine. Amen.

Drink the Cup of Praise

Turning to Jerusalem

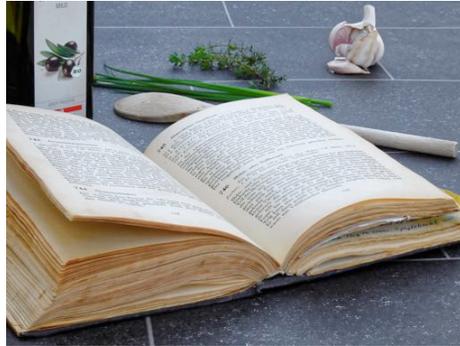
Our seder is now complete. Just as Yahweh's redemption is complete in us, so we have kept the Passover. Let us, however, not forget Jerusalem. "If I forget Jerusalem, let my right hand forget her cunning." Let us pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Let us remember that true peace will not come until the Prince of Peace comes.

Next Year in Jerusalem!
Lashanah haba'ah b'Yerushalayim!!!!



Recipes:

As with any festival, one of the best parts is of course the food! Some traditional meals for Passover include Matzah Ball Soup, Lamb, Brisket, Kugel, & much more! Passover can make it a little tricky due to the no leaven rule, but here's some our personal favorites!



Charoset:

- Walnuts
- Raisins (Regular &/or Golden)
- Honey
- Red Wine or Grapejuice
- Ground Cinnamon
- Crisp apples, peeled & roughly chopped
- Dried Dates
- Pecans

*Charoset can be made to personal preference, it's supposed to be sweet & delicious! So feel free to play around with other spices (Like Nutmeg), or toast the nuts, or maybe even add a little sugar to your liking! Mix it all together and serve, or refrigerate and serve cold!

Matzah Ball Soup:

*An easy shortcut for this one is to buy the matzah ball soup mix at the store, tastes delicious and comes with it's own instructions!

- 2 (10 oz) packages of Matzo Crackers
- ½ Cup Butter
- 6 Eggs
- 3 Tbsp minced fresh parsley
- 2 Onions minced
- 5 oz Matzo Meal
- 96 oz Chicken Broth
- Salt & Pepper to Taste



1. Bring large pot of slightly salted water to a boil.
2. Break Matzo crackers into small pieces, & place in a large bowl. Add water to cover, allow to soak for a few minutes, until soft. Drain excess water.
3. Melt butter in large skillet over medium heat & stir in drained matzos; stir until mixture is dry and slightly brown. Remove from heat, mix in eggs, salt & pepper to taste, parsley, & onions.
4. Mix in just enough matzo meal to make mixture stick and hold together. Roll 1 golf ball sized matzo ball. Place into boiling water to test the mixture. The ball must rise to top of the boiling water and not break apart! (If it doesn't rise, too much matzo meal was added, add another egg to even it out). Once ready, roll all of mixture into golf ball sized balls.
5. In large saucepan, bring chicken broth to a slow boil over medium heat; add balls to broth. Once all rise, soup is ready!
6. If you like, you can also add chicken or carrots! Our favorite is to use a young whole chicken/hen to make our own broth for the soup, and use the meat!

Matzo Crusted Chicken Cutlets:

*Recipe found from Martha Stewart

- 1 Large Egg
 - 8 Unsalted Matzos, crushed (about 3 cups)
 - 2 Teaspoons Coarse Salt
 - ¼ Tsp Freshly Ground Pepper
 - Safflower Oil (for frying)
 - 4 Boneless, Skinless Chicken Cutlets (4-5 oz each), ½ inch thick
 - 4 Lemon wedges for serving
1. Beat egg in a shallow dish. Mix crushed matzos, salt, and pepper in another dish. Heat ½ inch of oil in a large cast iron skillet until it registers 375 degrees.
 2. Dip cutlets into egg, then into matzo, coating both sides. Cook in skillet until golden brown (about 2 minutes per side).
 3. Serve with lemon wedges!

Kugel:

Kugel is definitely a Jewish dish! It is best described as a baked pudding. The dish originated over 800 years ago in Germany and became prevalent throughout Eastern Europe. There are many kinds of kugels: noodle kugels, potato kugels, savory kugels, & sweet kugels!

- 10 Potatoes, peeled & grated
- 2 Onions, peeled & grated
- 5 Eggs
- 1/3 Cup Vegetable Oil
- 2 Tsp Salt
- 1 Tsp Black Pepper

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees; grease a 9x13 inch pan.
2. Combine potatoes and onions in a large bowl. Mix in the eggs, vegetable oil, salt, & pepper. Pour the mixture into the prepared pan.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until the top is golden brown and crisp. (1 ½ to 2 hours)

*We love our cheese – so personally we like to add freshly shredded cheese to our kugel dishes!

Praline Strips:



Turn your matzah into delicious candy!

- 3 – 4 whole matzahs
 - 2 cups/4 sticks of unsalted butter or margarine
 - 2 cups brown sugar
 - 12 oz. chocolate chips or chopped chocolate bars
 - 2 cups finely chopped hazelnuts (other nuts can be substituted as well)
1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Cover a large cookie sheet with aluminum foil.
 2. Grease the foil with butter or margarine. Lay the matzahs in a single layer, breaking as needed to fill the sheet completely. Set it aside.
 3. In a large saucepan, melt the butter or margarine over medium low heat. Add the brown sugar, boil for 5 minutes, stirring constantly. Watch carefully to make sure it doesn't boil over. After it has finished boiling, immediately add 1 cup of the nuts to the mixture while still hot.
 4. Pour the brown sugar mixture over the matzahs, spreading evenly. Bake for 8 to 10 minutes. Turn the oven off. Remove the pan and sprinkle the chocolate over the matzahs. Place back in oven for another 8 minutes.
 5. Remove from the oven and spread the chocolate in an even layer. Sprinkle with the remaining cup of chopped hazelnuts (or other nuts). Refrigerate for one hour. Break into pieces.
 6. Store in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

(Inspiration taken from Kosher by Design Cookbook by Susie Fishbein)

Blueberry Crunch:

- 1 cup all purpose flour
 - 1 stick butter/margarine
 - 1 cup chopped pecans
 - 1 8oz. package of cream cheese
 - 1 package of confectioner's sugar
 - 1 tub of whipped cream
 - Bananas
 - 1 can blueberry pie filling
1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Stir together flour, pecans, and melted butter. This mixture will be quite thick! Press this dough, making a thin layer, into a disposable foil cake pan. Bake for 15 minutes – watch carefully and don't overcook!
 2. While waiting for crust to cool, whip together cream cheese, cool whip, and confectioner's sugar. Once crust is cooled, slice bananas and layer over crust. Then layer the cream cheese/cool whip mixture over the bananas. Finally top with blueberry pie filling.
 3. Refrigerate & enjoy!



Kid's Crafts:

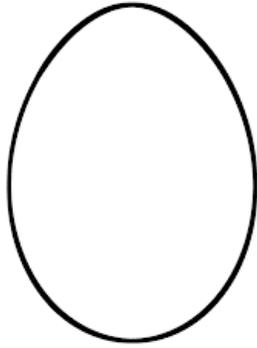
Felt Seder Plate:

(Inspiration from www.designmegillah.com)

One great project is for kid's to make their own Seder Plate! One easy way is to make a felt seder plate. You can either cut a large circle (plate sized) piece out of cardboard, or to make things a little easier, buy a cake base (can be found at Michael's Craft store, or party/wedding aisle at Walmart, normally Wilton's Brand).

Trace a circle to fit the cake stand from felt. Then trace 6 smaller circles (using a jar or glass that's a good size) in a different color for your seder food sections. Finally trace out your different seder foods in the appropriate colors...and glue all together!





colouring-page-art.blogspot.com



Afikomen Bag:

(Inspiration from Brenda Ponnay and the Toriavey.com blog)

Another great craft is to make your own afikomen bag! This example is a simple no sew craft that children can decorate sequins, buttons, and paint!

You will need:

- 2 Sheets of 9 x 12 felt
- Scissors
- Hot Glue Gun
- Buttons & Sequins for decorating
- Puff Paint

To create the fold-over flap, fold over the top edges until they meet in the middle.



You can pin at the fold or just use your eye to cut along the fold line. Then take your 2nd sheet of felt paper and line it up, you will need to trim off about 4 inches for the 2 to match up now.



Now it's time to glue your pieces together to make an envelope! Glue along the sides and the bottom.



Now for the fun part, it's time to decorate!



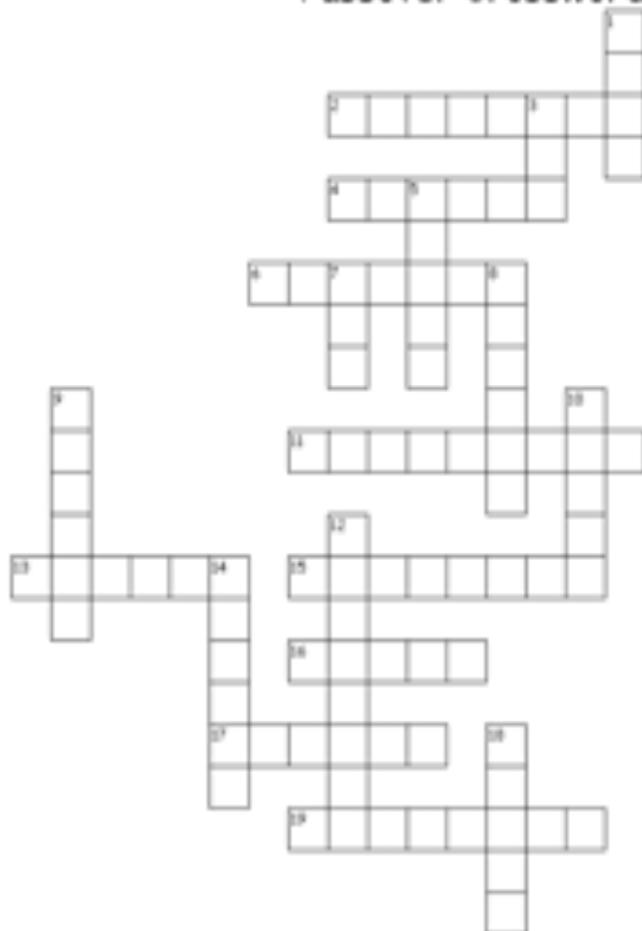
פֶּסַח



PE-sach or Passover (in English)

Pesach is 7 days long and celebrates when we left slavery in Egypt and began our journey to freedom.

Passover Crossword Puzzle



Across:

2. At the end of the seder, you can look for a piece of matzah called the _____.
4. The Hebrew name for Passover is _____.
6. We celebrate that people have _____ and are no longer slaves.
11. The Four Questions start: Mah _____.
13. The Hebrew name for the green vegetable on the seder plate.
15. The English word for Pesach.
16. The Israelites escaped from this country.
17. The book of the Torah that tells these stories.
19. The mixture of apples and nuts.

Down:

1. To remind us of ancient sacrifices there is a shank _____ on the seder plate.
2. The Four Questions start _____ Nishtanah...
5. The Passover meal is called a _____.
7. The _____ on the seder plate reminds us of spring and the cycle of time.
8. Instead of bread, many Jews eat _____ during Passover.
10. The Hebrew name for bitter herbs.
12. The book we read from at the seder meal.
14. The Israelites were _____ in Egypt.
18. The Hebrew name for the month that Passover occurs during.

Answers—Across: 2. Afikoman; 4. Pesach; 6. Freedom; 11. Nishtanah; 13. Karpas; 15. Passover; 16. Egypt; 17. Exodus; 19. Charoset. Down: 1. Bone; 5. Matz; 7. Egg; 8. Matzah; 9. Elijah; 10. Maror; 12. Haggadah; 14. Slave; 18. Nisan.



Passover Word Search

See how many words you can find in the puzzle!

M K H C R H L T R V S D F K P
A O D O C T N M E G Y P T A O
H T R A B G I I M S I B S Z T
G A S U V X S E O M O S O V T
M E J W C A H T D M O R I N A
P K T F C H T I E V A U A Z E
H A D A G G A H E F Y T S H X
P R S X E S N R R Z N Q Z L C
X P Q G L A A A F E L I J A H
I A G A G P H R S F T L V I H
G S V R J O J E C I B N K O G
T E Q C C W N D F X N K H X B
S U D O X E M E V J P F S R Y
T P T U J S T S F X R M L H R
F E N U R V V K H N A G W T B

The words in the puzzle are:

BONE
CHAROSET
EGG
EGYPT
ELIJAH
EXODUS
FREEDOM
HAGGADAH
KARPAS
MAH

MAROR
MATZAH
NISAN
NISHTANAH
PASSOVER
PESACH
SEDER
SLAVES

ARE YOU CURIOUS WHAT THESE WORDS ARE ALL ABOUT?

READ THE BRIEF SUMMARY ON THE NEXT PAGE. THE PUZZLE WORDS ARE IN BOLD.



TEXT TO ACCOMPANY PASSOVER WORD SEARCH
(THE WORDS FROM THE PUZZLE ARE IN BOLD)

PASSOVER falls during the Hebrew month of **NISAN**, usually during April of the calendar we use. The Hebrew word for Passover is **PESACH**.

Passover celebrates the legends in the book of **EXODUS** (which is in the Torah). It tells a story about the Israelites fleeing from **EGYPT**, trying to be free after many years having to work as **SLAVES**.

To celebrate Passover, many Jews have special meals. The meal is called a **SEDER**, which means "order," because there is a particular order for going through the story.

At the seder, there is a seder plate with special symbols. There's **CHAROSET** (a symbol of the bricks and mortar the Israelite slaves had to use while building); an **EGG** (a symbol of spring and the cycle of time); **KARPAS** (a green vegetable); **MAROR** (a bitter herb, to remind us of the sadness of slavery); and a Shank-**BONE** (to remind us of the ancient sacrifices).

At the seder, there is a book called a **HAGGADAH** that includes Passover stories, songs, and traditions. The youngest child is often assigned the job of reading or singing the Four Questions - which in Hebrew are called **MAH NISHTANAH**.

Some time during the seder, the door is usually opened for the prophet **ELIJAH**. We leave a wine cup on the table for him. Also, at the end of the seder, the kids usually get to search for a piece of matzah called the afikoman.

During the week of Passover, some Jews don't eat any bread or any other foods that have risen (no cakes, cookies, brownies, etc). Instead, those Jews eat **MATZAH** - which is kind of like a cracker.

Passover is a time of celebration - as we rejoice that Jews no longer need to live in slavery. We celebrate **FREEDOM** - and hope that everyone feels free this year!



Interactive Seder For Littles:

Passover is all about telling the story – our story (our past, present, and future) to the next generation. And they are never too little to learn or be involved! But obviously most toddlers will get little out of a 3 hour seder by the book. But there are so many ways to make the story come alive!

This past year we made what we referred to as “The Plague Bag”. Each little one received a little gift bag with 1 item representing each of the 10 plagues! As the plagues were talked about, time was taken to allow the little one’s to explore each item representing that plague, making a memorable experience for all! We also made a toddler station – Passover coloring pages, crayons, their 10 plague bag, and a little book about Moses found at the Dollar Store!



For our 10 plague bag, each item is based off of what can be found and open to your imagination!

- 1) Blood – we did a red fabric swatch
- 2) Frogs – Rubber frogs will work, we found a little wooden painted frog in the craft section we used
- 3) Live – black little pompoms put into a clear plastic salt shaker
- 4) Livestock – Small plastic cattle animals
- 5) Pestilence – Crawling surprise critters (found in the party section)
- 6) Boils – Red dot stickers
- 7) Hail – Large white sparkly pom poms
- 8) Locusts – “locusts” made from clothespins, paint, and pipecleaners
- 9) Darkness – Sunglasses
- 10) Firstborn – A red ribbon



Game Ideas:

Passover Charades:

Works just like regular charades – but Passover themed! Choose either a specific section of the Haggadah, one of the plagues, or any event that is tied to the festival of Passover and act it out till everyone guesses your scenario!

What's in the Bag?:

Collect random small items from around the house (almost anything will do) into a bag. Pass the bag around to all your guests and have each one pick an item out of the bag without looking. Each guest now has to connect the item they chose somehow to the Passover story!

Costume Time:

Have all your guests dress in Biblical costumes (keep it specifically Passover themed, or expand your horizons). Everyone must guess who's who by only asking yes or no questions!

Find the Leaven:

Normally finding the leaven is reserved for just the little ones, a few bread crumbs left to be found with a spoon and feather. Yet when you have a largely older crowd this tradition can still be fun! We made small balls out of crumpled foil (anything can be used), and hid tons all OVER the house. We then sent everyone on a wild goose chase to see who could find the most, while playing some upbeat Passover favorite music to make it lively!

Passover Bingo:

Free downloads can be found online for Passover bingo to play during the seder!

Decor Ideas:



Passover is a fun time to decorate your table and make it special! Above is an example of one year's decorations when we were going to have a house full and needed extra tables!

Here's some pointers for a great (inexpensive) way to make it nice!

- Pick a color scheme or theme (personally, with Passover I always prefer the gold, olive greens, creams, and wine colored/purple tones along with the wood and woven décor).
- Use Scrapbook paper as placemats
- If you have enough nice plates to put out great, if not there's several options in the party aisle now that look nice! You can go with the clear plastic pictured above, or even the plastic white with gold or silver trim that's a step up from just the paper party plates.
- Use wine glasses – these can also be found in the plastic variety to make it more kid friendly
- Make your centerpiece – baskets, candles, vases, greenery can all come together! Sand or even rice is a great filler for clear vases. Use branches/greenery from your yard!

- Make name cards at your table for your guests. A great idea is to take squares of matzah and pipe on the names in chocolate syrup! Really cute & yummy! Or if you're going with the greenery look, take magnolia leaves (or any other large leaf) and with a gold paint pen write the names!
- Make your seder plate the centerpiece. It can be easier to see and more of a focal point by making it elevated. Be creative or just stack some books and cover with a scarf!
- Scarves make great table runners!
- Place a haggadah at each place setting so your guests can be prepared to follow along
- Use small saucers or small bowls that match your décor, arrange 5 on a larger charger/plate to have multiple seder plates along your table.
- If you don't want a large floral centerpiece, but still want some color, scatter small vases or glasses with single small bouquets/flowers along the table.
- Make Parsley Placecards (Via Design Megillah)



Here's a few inspo pics of
our Seder tables through the
years!

