

# PASSOVER SEDER

## Washing of Hands - Search for Leaven

The Seder starts with a washing of the hands after searching through the house to ensure there is no leaven. So we search our hearts for sin before approaching the Passover table. (Psalm 24: 3-4 Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His Holy Place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart.)

1 Cor 5:6-8 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. 8 Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

## 1. THE FIRST CUP — Brucha

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הַגָּפֶן

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam,  
borei p'ri hagafen.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, Ruler of the  
universe, who has created the fruit of the vine.

## 2. KARPAS – eat a green vegetable: Parsley – Brucha

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הָאֲדָמָה

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam,  
borei p'ri ha'adamah.

Blessed are You, Lord, our God, Ruler of the  
universe, who creates the fruit of the earth.

## 3. HIDE THE AFIKOMEN

The middle matzah is broken, wrapped, hidden and found at end of meal (God is the rewarder of those who diligently seek him – the child who finds Afikomen is give a reward, usually money).

This tradition is done at every Passover Seder, but the obvious symbolism of the Body of Messiah - broken, wrapped in a burial cloth, hidden in the tomb and found in resurrection is not understood by most Jewish people celebrating the Passover. In some orthodox traditions the Afikomen is tacked to the ceiling. It is not understood why, but surely this pictures the ascension of Messiah! This symbology suggests that Messianic believers had an influence on the liturgy of the Passover meal as celebrated by Jewish families till very this day.

## 4. FOUR QUESTIONS

מַה נִּשְׂתַּנָּה

מַה נִּשְׂתַּנָּה הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל הַלַּיְלוֹת

Mah nish-ta-na ha-lai-lah ha-zeh mikol ha-lei-lot?

Why is this night of Passover different from all other nights of the year?

שֶׁבְּכָל הַלַּיְלוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין סִמֵּץ וּמַצָּה, הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה - כּוֹלוֹ מַצָּה

1. She-b'chol ha-lei-lot anu och'lin cha-meitz u-matzah. Ha-laylah hazeh kulo matzah.

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

שְׁבַכְּל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין שְׂאֵר יְרַקוֹת, - הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה מְרוֹר

2. Sheb'chol ha-lei-lot anu och'lin sh'ar y'rakot. Ha-lai-lah h-azeh maror.

On all other nights, we eat vegetables of all kinds, why on this night must we eat bitter herbs?

שְׁבַכְּל הַלֵּילוֹת אֵין אָנוּ מְטַבִּילִין אֶפְּלוֹ פֶּעַם אַחַת, - הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פֶּעַמִּים

3. Sheb'chol ha-lei-lot ein anu mat-beelin afee-lu pa-am echat. Ha-lai-lah hazeh sh'tei p'ameem.

On all other nights, we do not dip vegetables even once, why on this night do we dip greens into salt water and bitter herbs into sweet haroset?

שְׁבַכְּל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין בֵּין יוֹשְׁבֵין וּבֵין מְסֻבִּין, - הַלֵּילָה הַזֶּה קָלְנוּ מְסֻבִּין,

4. Sheb'khol ha-lei-lot anu och-leem bein yo-shveen u-vein m'su-been, ha-lailah hazeh kulanu m'subeen.

On all other nights, everyone sits up straight at the table, why on this night do we recline and eat at leisure?

## 5. THE ANSWERS

The Answers to these questions are told in the story of the deliverance of the Children of Israel in Exodus 12 (READ verses 1-27).

Exodus 12:26-27 And when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?' 27 you shall say, 'It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover.

## 6. THE TEN PLAGUES

These are the Plagues that the Holy One, blessed be He, brought upon Egypt. Tradition reenacts this by dipping one's finger into a glass of wine and flipping the drop of wine onto a plate.

1. Blood | Dom | דָּם

2. Frogs | Tzfardeyah | צַפְרֵדְיָה

3. Lice | Kinim | כִּנִּים

4. Beasts | Arov | עֲרוֹב

5. Cattle Plague | Dever | דֶּבַר

6. Boils | Sh'chin | שַׁחִין

7. Hail | Barad | בָּרָד

8. Locusts | Arbeh | אֲרֵבָה

9. Darkness | Choshech | חֹשֶׁךְ

10. Slaying of First Born | Makat Bechorot | מַכַּת בְּכוֹרוֹת

“The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and outstretched arm, with great awe, miraculous signs and wonders.” (Deut. 26:8)

## 7. DAYYENU

Kama ma'a lot tovot lamakom aleinu.

Ilu hotzi'anu mimitzrayim, v'lo asah bahem shfatim, dayenu.

Ilu asah bahem shfatim, v'lo asah vailoheihem, dayenu.

Ilu asah vailoheihem, v'lo harag et bichoraihem, dayenu.

Ilu harag et bichoraihem, v'lo natan lanu mamonom, dayenu.

Ilu natan lanu mamonom, v'lo karah lanu et hayam, dayenu.

Ilu karah lanu et hayam, v'lo he'evairanu bitocho becheravah, dayenu.

Ilu he'evairanu bitocho becheravah, v'lo shikah tzareinu b'tocho, dayenu.

Ilu shikah tzareinu b'tocho, v'lo sifek tzarchainu bamidbar arba'im shana, dayenu.

Ilu sifek tzarchainu bamidbar arba'im shana, v'lo he'echilanu et haman, dayenu.

Ilu he'echilanu et haman, v'lo natan lanu et hashabbat, dayenu.

Ilu natan lanu et hashabbat, v'lo karvanu lifnei har Sinai, dayenu.

Ilu karvanu lifnei har Sinai, v'lo natan lanu et hatorah, dayenu.

Ilu natan lanu et hatorah, v'lo hichnisanu l'eretz Yisrael, dayenu.

Ilu hichnisanu l'eretz Yisrael, v'lo vana lanu et bait habchirah, dayenu.

God has bestowed many favors upon us.

Had He brought us out of Egypt, and not executed judgments against the

Egyptians, **It would have been enough – Dayyenu**

Had He executed judgments against the Egyptians, and not their gods,

**It would have been enough – Dayyenu**

Had He executed judgments against their gods and not put to death their

firstborn, **It would have been enough – Dayyenu**

Had He put to death their firstborn, and not given us their riches,

**It would have been enough – Dayyenu**

Had He given us their riches, and not split the Sea for us, – **Dayyenu**

Had He split the Sea for us, and not led us through it on dry land, – **Dayyenu**

Had He led us through it on dry land, and not sunk our foes in it, – **Dayyenu**

Had He sunk our foes in it, and not satisfied our needs in the desert for forty

years, – **Dayyenu**

Had He satisfied our needs in the desert for forty years, and not fed us the

manna, – **Dayyenu**

Had He fed us the manna, and not given us the Sabbath, – **Dayyenu**

Had He given us the Sabbath, and not brought us to Mount Sinai, – **Dayyenu**

Had He brought us to Mount Sinai, and not given us the Torah, – **Dayyenu**

Had He given us the Torah, and not brought us into Israel, – **Dayyenu**

Had He brought us into Israel, and not built the Temple for us, – **Dayyenu**

**Though the Lord has given us such a great salvation through the death and resurrection of Messiah, “He has given us all things that pertain to life and Godliness”!**

## 8. THE THREE SYMBOLS

The Passover Haggadah that many Jewish families use makes reference to Rabbi Gamaliel who says that it is one's duty to explain the following three symbols at Passover. However, Gamaliel is mentioned in Acts 5...

34 Then stood there up one in the council, a Pharisee, named Gamaliel, a doctor of the law, had in reputation among all the people, and commanded to put the apostles forth a little space;  
38 And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing;  
39 but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God.”

He was a wise rabbi indeed! Here are the three symbols as commanded in Numbers 9:11

### 1. THE PASSOVER OFFERING;

- Exodus 12:5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old.

- John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

### 2. THE MATZAH

- Exodus 12:8 They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it.

- Striped and Pierced Isa 53:5b

- a) The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, b) And by His stripes we are healed.

### 3. THE BITTER HERBS

Isa 53:5a But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities

The same traditional Haggadah also suggests that we should identify ourselves as if – “they themselves had come out of bondage.” Each of us as believers in Messiah have a TESTIMONY of how we have been saved from the bondages of sin.

## Eat the maror (bitter herbs) ...

Why do we eat Maror? For the reason that the Egyptians embitter the lives of our ancestors in Mitzrayim, as the Torah states: “And they embittered their lives with servitude, with mortar and bricks without straw, with every form of slavery in the field and with great torment.” (note at this time the haroset - the traditional fruit/nut paste is eaten - a reminder of the mortar and bricks)

### 9. THE SECOND CUP – BRUCHA

**בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגָּפֶן**

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha'olam, borei p'ri hagafen.

Praised are you, Adonai, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has created the fruit of the vine.

### 10. THE MEAL

### 11. THE THIRD CUP – BRUCHA

#### Exodus 12:7 and 13

7 “Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.

13 The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

#### Matthew 26:26-27

26 And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, “Take, eat; this is My body.”

27 Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you. 28 For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. 29 But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom.”

(Eat the middle Matza)

## Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 “Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— 32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them,[a] says the LORD. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

### 12. OPEN THE DOOR FOR ELIJAH – ELIJAHU HA NAVEE

Traditionally the youngest children open the door for Elijah. Everyone joins in singing “Eliyahu Ha-Navi” and then the door is closed.

**Eliyahu Ha-navee, Eliyahu Ha-tish-bee**

**Eliyahu, Eliyahu, Eliyahu Ha-giladee**

**Bim Heira B'yameinu Yavo eileinu**

**Eem mashiah ben David**

#### Malachi 4:5-6

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. 6 And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”

### 13. THE FOURTH CUP – BRUCHA

14. Thank you to everyone who came  
– Le Shana ha ba'a b'Yerushalayim

(next year in Jerusalem)