

## The Refiner's Fire



# Pesach Haggadah

הגדה של פסח  
(Haggadah shel Pesach)

[therefinersfire.org](http://therefinersfire.org)

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## The Seder Plate

On each table:

- **מצה, Matzah**, wrapped in a cloth, enough for everyone at the table
- A small **bowl of salt water**

A plate containing:

- **זרוע, Z'ro'a**, (a lamb shankbone - represents the lamb taken for the Passover offering)
- **מרור, Marror**, (ground horseradish - for a bitter herb eaten twice during the Seder)
- **חרוסת, Charoset**, (a mixture of apples and other fruits, nuts, cinnamon and other spices and red wine. There is no set recipe. Charoset is symbolic of the mortar used to make the bricks and a remembrance of the hard work done in the Land of Egypt.
- **כרפס, Karpas**, (A green vegetable, celery or parsley are most often used.) The karpas is dipped in the salt water. The Karpas is symbolic of the hyssop used to put the blood of the lamb upon the door frames and the salt water represents the Red Sea, as well as the tears shed when Israel cried out to YAHWEH in Egypt.

**Note** that the traditional roasted egg (beitzah) is *not used*. The egg represents the “festival sacrifice” at the Temple and mourning for the loss of the Temple. Since Yehsua was our final sin sacrifice, we, as believers in His shed blood for us, we are obedient to YAHWEH, so we do not need an egg to represent mourning for the destruction of the Temple. If you use a traditional Jewish seder plate, simply leave the plate for the egg empty.

## Preparing for the Passover

During the days before the Passover, leavened bread, and leavening agents are removed from the home. This includes all breads, cakes, cake mixes and anything containing leavening agents. Today, that includes prepared yeast (e.g. *Fleischmann's*) and baking powder. (Wines do not contain live yeast, so the command to rid our homes of chametz does not include finished wines.) (Do not concern yourself with “scrubbing” your house of yeast—natural yeast is everywhere and you cannot clean your home completely of natural yeast.)

We must also prepare our hearts for the Passover Seder. Tradition teaches that we all must consider ourselves as having personally been freed from Egypt and prepare for our experience of personal redemption. Let us separate ourselves from the leaven of sin which may be hidden in our hearts.

## The Table Setting

Set a traditional table for the meal being served. Prepare an additional setting for Eliyahu (see page 25). The setting for Eliyahu can be at its own table, or at one or all of the guest tables if there is space, and you have the tableware. Eliyahu’s setting represents a sign of our coming Messiah. In the middle of each table, make room for a Seder Plate, see page 31.

## The Matzah Tosh

Prepare in advance, a matzah tosh—a three compartment bag. The bag needs to hold three pieces of matzah. The leader will place three pieces of matzah in this bag during the service.

## The Wash Basin

Prepare a pitcher of water, some towels and a large bowl to receive the overflow water, enough for all to wash their hands.

## Pesach Order of Service

(The contents of the seder plate may be found inside the last page)

1. Lighting of the Candles
2. The four cups
3. Kiddush (the first cup)
4. Washing of Hands
5. Eating the Green Vegetable
6. Maggid (“The Story”)
  - The Four Questions
  - The Answers
  - The Story of Passover
  - The Ten Plagues
7. The Second Cup
8. The Pesach Lamb
9. Dayenu
10. Shulchan Orekh (dinner)
11. Afikomen
12. The Third Cup
13. Elijah
14. The Fourth Cup
15. Closing

**Note:** All Brit Chadasha scriptures are taken from the Aramaic English New Testament (AENT)

Also, note the phonetic pronunciation of Hebrew words for non-Hebrew speakers is often met with criticism. For example is it “Yeshua” or “Yea-shuah” or “Y’shua”? Is it “Charoset” or “Karolet” or “Kh’ro’set”? In this Haggadah, we have endeavored to provide the Hebrew text, and the phonetic pronunciation in a form which all might correctly pronounce. If you prefer another pronunciation, please feel free to use it.

**Note:** The four cups of wine during the service is intended to be one cup per person which is sipped from four times! The Pesach celebration is not intended to get anyone inebriated! When it comes time to partake in each of the four cups—simply take a sip! Replenish your cup if necessary. Use grape juice as a substitute for wine if you wish.

# The Passover Seder Begins

## ברחת הנר

(Brechat HaNer / Blessing of the Light)

(The woman of the house will light the candles and wave her hands 3 times over the flames toward her eyes, and say the following blessing to YAHWEH.)

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהנו מלך העולם  
אשר קדשנו על ידי אמונה ב ישוע המשיח  
אור העולם וב שמו אנו מדל יקים הנר של פסח

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohanu melech ha-olam, asher kiddshanu  
ayl y'day ehmunah b'Yeshua Hamashiach or ha-olam oov-sh'mo  
ahnu mahd-li-keem hanayer shel pesach*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us through trust in Yeshua the Messiah the Light of the world, and in His Name we kindle the Passover lights.

**Leader:** Women have always had the privilege of beginning the Seder by lighting the candles which begins the holiday and gives light to the Passover table. It was from the seed of a woman that the Messiah came to perform His redemptive ministry and bring light to the world.

**Isaiah 7:14** "Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel."

**Matthew 1:22-23** "And this all happened that it might be fulfilled what was said by Master YHWH through the prophet, "Behold, a virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call his name Ammanuel, which is interpreted 'our El (is) with us'"

*(All drink from the fourth cup)*

**All:** Blessed art Thou, YAHWEH our Elohim, King of the universe, for the fruit of the vine, and for the produce of the field and for that desirable, good and spacious land which You granted our forefathers to inherit, to eat of its fruit, and be satisfied with its goodness. Have compassion, YAHWEH our Elohim, upon us, on Israel Your people, upon Jerusalem, Your city, on Zion, the residence of Your glory, and upon the altar and Your temple. Rebuild Jerusalem, Your holy city, speedily in our day. Be gracious to us and give us strength and cheer us on this first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. For You, YAHWEH our Elohim, are good and beneficent to all and therefore do we give thanks to You for the land, and for the fruit of the vine. Blessed art Thou, YAHWEH, for the land and for the fruit of the vine.

## Closing

נרצה (nirtzah)

**Leader:** Our Passover seder is now complete, just as our redemption is forever complete. Let us conclude with the traditional wish that we may celebrate Passover next year in Jerusalem.

לשנה הבאה בירושלים

*lahshanah hahbahah b'yeh-ru-shah-lah-yeem*

And everyone says:

**NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM!!!**

## The Four Cups of Wine

**Leader:** As we read through the Haggadah, you will see we drink of the cup of wine four times.

These four cups stand for the four "I wills" recorded in *Exodus 6:6-7*: "Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am YAHWEH--**I will** bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. **I will** rid you out of their bondage, and **I will** redeem you with an Outstretched Arm! and with great judgments. **I will** take you as My people, and I will be your God.'"

Therefore the four cups are:

### The Cup of Sanctification

I will bring you out from under the burdens  
of the Egyptians.

### The Cup of Judgment

I will rid you out of their bondage. (with judgment)

### The Cup of Redemption

I will redeem you with an Outstretched Arm.

### The Cup of Praise

I will take you to me for a people,  
and I will be your God.

Let us honor our El by only sipping from our cup at the appropriate times. It is not the intent of our Pesach celebration to drink too much!

## The First Cup of Wine

(The cup of Sanctification)

קִדּוּשׁ (kiddush)

*(The leader reads the following while holding his/her cup in the right hand)*

**Leader:** The first cup is the cup of sanctification which represents the first "I will". This is YAHWEH's promise that He would bring the people out from under the cruel laws and oppression of the Egyptians. Throughout His life, Yeshua would have begun every Sabbath and every festival day with this act of sanctification, that is, setting the day apart from the other days of the week as a special day. He would remember His Father as Creator, Giver of Rest, and Great Redeemer. He would praise YAHWEH for the fruit of the vine that makes glad the heart of man and for bread that strengthens man's heart. (Psalm 104:15)

At the beginning of this evening, we must now rededicate ourselves to YAHWEH so that during this seder, our hearts and minds will seek to realize fully all we owe YAHWEH, His goodness and redeeming power and for the many ways He has blessed His people.

Blessed be YAHWEH, King of the Universe, Who has given us gifts of grace, not through our own merit, but only because of His abounding love and mercy. He has called us to proclaim the good news of salvation for all who turn to Him. We thank You for giving us this Passover festival to remind us of our deliverance from Egyptian bondage, and for showing love to all people by sending Yeshua our Messiah into the world to save mankind from the slavery of sin. Blessed are You, YAHWEH, Who cleanses and sanctifies us through the life, teaching and sacrifice of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

*(All - Raise the 1st cup, hold and say: )*

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם  
בורא פרי הגפן

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohanu melech ha-olam boray p'ree ha-gafen*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH our Elohim, King of the universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine. Amain.

*(Drink from the cup while seated and reclining or leaning to the left)*

## The Fourth Cup

(Cup of Praise)

**Leader:** We come to the fourth and last drinking of the cup. This cup represents the fourth "I will" -- "I will take you to Me for a people, and I will be your God." This 'chosenness' of Israel and YAHWEH's promise never to forsake them but to draw all of Israel unto Himself, is in itself a reason for praise.

**Leader:** YAHWEH has remembered us, He will bless us, He will bless the house of Israel, He will bless the house of Aaron. He will bless those who revere YAHWEH, the small as well as the great may YAHWEH increase you, more and more, you and your children. You are blessed by YAHWEH, the maker of heaven and earth. The heavens are the heavens of YAHWEH, but the earth has He given to the children of men. We will bless YAHWEH from now and forever more. Halleluyah!!

**All:** Praise YAHWEH, all you nations; praise Him, all you peoples; for His mercy prevails over us, and the truth of YAHWEH endures forever. Halleluyah!

**Leader:** I will praise You, for You have answered me and become my Deliverance. The Stone which the builders rejected, has become the chief Cornerstone. This has proceeded from YAHWEH, it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day which YAHWEH has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

**All:** Blessed be He Who comes in the Name of YAHWEH, we bless You from the house of YAHWEH. YAHWEH is Elohim, and it is He Who granted us light. Bring the sacrifice bound with myrtle to the horns of the altar.

**Leader:** You are my Elohim, and I will praise You! O my Elohim, I will extol You. Give thanks to YAHWEH, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.

*(Everyone: raises their fourth cup and recites:)*

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם  
בורא פרי הגפן

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohaynu melech ha-olam boray p'ree ha-gafen*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH our Elohim, King of the universe Who creates the fruit of the vine. Amain.

*dreadful day of the Lord comes.*

Before the birth of Yochanan the immerser (John the Baptizer), an angel said referring to him:

**Luke 1:17** *And he will go before Him in the spirit and in the might of Eliyahu the prophet, that he might turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and those that are not obedient to the knowledge of the just, and he will prepare a perfect people for Master YHWH.*

Later Yeshua Himself spoke of Yochanan and said,

**Matthew 11:14** *And if you desire, accept that this is Eliyahu who was to come.*

It was this same Yochanan who saw Yeshua and declared, "Behold the Lamb of Elohim Who takes away the sin of the world," At each seder table, there is an empty place set for Eliyahu the prophet in hopes that this is the year and the place when he will proclaim the coming of Messiah.

*(A child may go to the door to look for Elijah and returns with his/her report.)*

*(Optional, if so musically inclined, all may sing Eliyahoo HaNavi:)*

## Eliyahoo HaNavi

*eh-lee-yah-hoo hah-nah-vee  
eh-lee-yah-hoo hah-tish-bee  
eh-lee-yah-hoo eh-lee-yah-hoo  
eh-lee-yah-hoo hah-gee-lah-dee  
bihm-hay-rah v'yah-may noo yah-vo ah-lay-noo  
ihm mah-shee-ahkh behn dah-vihd  
ihm mah-shee-ahkh behn dah-vihd*

Elijah the prophet, Elijah the Tishbite,  
Elijah the Gileadite, quickly in our day come to us,  
with the Messiah, Son of David.

## Washing the Hands

ורחץ

(oor'chahtz)

**Leader:** It was an ancient custom in the Middle East as well as a Jewish tradition to wash one's hands before eating. Usually a pitcher of water with a basin and towels were customarily passed around to the guests. In the days of Messiah, it was customary for a servant to perform this task of washing. During this time both hands and feet were washed.

It was just before the Passover feast. Yeshua knew that the time had come for Him to leave this world and go to His Father.

Having greatly loved His disciples, He now showed them another aspect of His love. The Passover meal was being served, as they came to this part for the washing, He got up from the meal, took off His outer garment and wrapped a towel around His waist. And he poured water into a basin and began to wash the feet of his disciples, and was wiping them with the cloth that girded his loins. But when he came to Shimon Keefa, Shimon said to him, "My Master, you wash my feet for me?" Y'shua answered and said to him, "The thing that I do, you do not understand now, but afterwards you will know." Shimon Keefa said to him, "You will never wash my feet for me!" Y'shua said to him, "Unless I wash you, you have no portion with me!" Shimon Keefa said to him, "In that case my Master, not only my feet but wash for me also my hands, even my head!" Y'shua said to him, "He who has bathed does not need but to wash only his feet, for all of him is clean. Even all of you are clean, but not all of you!" For Y'shua had known he who would betray him. Because of this, he said, "not all of you are clean!" And when he had washed their feet, he took up his garments and he reclined and said to them, "You call me 'Our Master' and 'Our Master' and well you speak, for I am. Therefore, if I, your Master, have washed your feet for you, how much more you should wash the feet of one another. For this example should do." This scripture is from John, chapter 13, verses 5 to 15.

So we now wash our hands to remember and honor our Messiah, to prepare for our Seder. Please assist each other. Pour some water onto your hands and then towel your hands dry.

**(All: Assist each other and wash your hands by pouring water from the pitcher and drying with a towel.)**

# Eating a Green Vegetable

כרפס (karpas)

**Leader:** From **Exodus 12:22** "And you shall take a bunch of hyssop, dip it in the blood that is in the basin, and strike the lintel and the two doorposts with the blood that is in the basin."

Passover is a holiday that comes in the springtime, when the land is becoming green with life. This vegetable, called "karpas" in Hebrew, represents life, created and sustained by YAHWEH Elohim. But life in Egypt for the children of Israel was a life of pain, suffering, and tears, represented by the salt water. As the wine is red in color and represents the blood of the passover lamb, so also does the karpas represent the hyssop which was used to place the blood of the lamb upon the door posts and lintel. For us, we are using parsley as our karpas. Everyone please take a piece of parsley, and dip it in the salt water. When all are ready we will say the blessing.

(All: Dip the karpas in the salt water, hold, and recite the following:)

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם  
בורא פרי האדמה

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohaynu melech ha-olam, boray pr'ee ha-adama*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH our Elohim, King of the universe Who created the fruit of the earth. Amain

(All: You may now eat the karpas which was dipped in the salt water!)

In Messiah's death, YAHWEH did not just cover sin. He actually took sin away! Anyone who accepts Messiah's death and resurrection, and accepts Him as their Lord and Messiah will pass from death into life. YAHWEH has eternally forgiven their sin. He has cleansed them from all unrighteousness.

Our Messiah came and died, shedding His blood, even as the Passover Lamb of old, to provide redemption from sin to all who will place their faith and trust in Him.

**Matthew 26:28** *This is my blood of the renewed covenant, which for the sake of many is shed for the forgiveness of sins.*

**1 Corinthians 11:25** *So, after they had dined, he gave also the cup and said: "This cup is the renewed covenant in my blood: do this as often as you drink (it), in remembrance of me."*

(All: The third cup is raised, held and **all recite in unison:**)

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם  
בורא פרי הגפן

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohaynu melech ha-olam boray p'ree ha-gafen*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH our Elohim, King of the universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine. Amain.

(All: Drink of the third cup.)

## The Prophet Elijah

אליהו הנביא  
(Eliyahu hanavee)

**Leader:** Passover time, almost more than any other season of the year, seems to intensify Messianic feelings, hopes and desire among the Jewish people. The Scriptures declare that before Messiah comes, YAHWEH will send Eliyahu (Elijah) the prophet to prepare the way of the Messiah.

**Malachi 4:5** *See, I will send to you the prophet Elijah before the great and*



# The Third Cup

(Cup of Redemption)

**Leader:** Our third cup represents the third "I will" -- "I will redeem you." This is YAHWEH's promise that He would redeem His people from slavery, meaning He would buy them back. It was this cup of redemption which, after supper in the Upper Room Yeshua raised and stated:

**Luke 22:20** ...*"This is the cup of the renewed covenant in my blood, which is shed for your sake."*

This cup that represents the New Covenant is the cup after the supper which our Messiah used to symbolize His death. The scriptures tell us that without the shedding of blood there can be no remission of sin. The scriptures further state that the life of the flesh is in the blood. When one is wounded, blood forms a covering over the wound and permits the healing to take place. It keeps out infection and disease. If this covering is removed or damaged, the wound cannot heal and may even become infected. The Scripture tells us that after YAHWEH placed the man and the woman in the garden, they rebelled and sinned. Like an ugly wound, sin cut the fellowship between YAHWEH and man. YAHWEH in His holiness and righteousness cannot have a personal relationship with a sinful, rebellious man. Man in his rebellion, sin and pride, would not seek to have relationship with YAHWEH on his own. A covering for that wound of sin had to be made. So YAHWEH in His mercy and love chose Israel. Unto Israel He committed the sacrifices, the offerings, and the Torah. YAHWEH told Israel that He would allow them, through the blood of the bulls and goats -- the sacrifices -- to make an atonement, a temporary covering for sin. It would cover over the ugly wound and permit healing and fellowship with Him. But Israel would not leave the covering alone. Instead of obeying YAHWEH and following His instructions, they sought to cover sin in their own way. The infection of sin spread through the nation and would ultimately have destroyed them had not YAHWEH intervened. Once again, in His grace and mercy, in fulfillment of His Word, He sent His Son, the Messiah, Yeshua to die in our place. The prophet wrote:

**Isaiah 53:5-6** *But he was wounded because of our crimes, crushed because of our sins; the disciplining that makes us whole fell on him, and by his bruises we are healed. We all, like sheep, went astray; we turned, each one, to his own way; yet YAHWEH laid on him the guilt of all of us.*

# Maggid: The Story

מגיד (maggid)

## The Four Questions

... when your children ask you, "What does this ceremony mean?" then tell them ...

## מה-נשתנה הלילה הזה מכל הלילות

Mah nishtana halaylah hazeh mikol halaylot

"Why is this night different from all other nights?"

*(If children are present, one or more can read these questions)*

1. Why is this night different from all other nights? On all other nights we eat either leavened or unleavened bread; why on this night do we eat only matzah? (unleavened bread)
2. On all other nights we eat vegetables and herbs of all kinds; why on this night do we eat only bitter herbs?
3. On all other nights we never dip our vegetables in anything; yet on this night we dip twice; parsley in salt water and the bitter herbs in kharoset?
4. On all other nights we eat either sitting upright or reclining; why on this night do we all recline?

## Answers to the Four Questions

**Leader:** First Question. This night is different from all other nights because on this very night, over 3500 years ago, the Jewish people were brought out of slavery into freedom. On all other nights we eat bread with or without leaven, but on Passover we eat only matzah, unleavened bread. As the children of Israel fled from Egypt, they did not have time for their dough to rise. Instead, the hot desert sun baked it flat. But even more than that, Scripture teaches us that

leaven symbolizes sin.

**1 Corinthians 5:7** *Purge out from you the old leaven that you may be a new mass, as you are unleavened. For our Passover is the Mashiyach, who was slain for us.*

*(Leader: Raise the Matzah Tosh so all can see while the following is read:)*

Matzah is also called the "bread of affliction", the bread our fathers ate in the land of Egypt. Let all who are hungry come and eat. Let all who are needy come and celebrate the Passover.

Three matzot are wrapped together in this bag called a Unity or Matza Tosh. There are three compartments in the bag. One compartment for each of the pieces of matzot.

Many explanations have been given for this three compartment bag. Some rabbis consider it a unity of the three patriarchs --- Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Others see it as a unity of worship --- the priests, the Levites, and the people of Israel.

But as believers in Yeshua the Messiah we can see that the Unity bag and three matzot show us the true unity of YAHWEH as He is revealed as Father, Son and Ruach haChodesh.

We take out the middle matzah, which represents the Son, Yeshua, and notice how much it is a picture of Him.

*(Leader: Remove the middle matzah so all can see)*

You will note that the matzah is unleavened and, in the baking process it is pierced and striped. Unleavened because it is to be without contamination--without sin. Pierced and striped, it illustrated the beautiful symbol of our Messiah, Who being without sin, yet was pierced according to Scripture.

**Zechariah 12:10** *And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.*

**Psalms 22:16** *Dogs are all around me, a pack of villains closes in on me like a lion [at] my hands and feet. I can count every one of my bones, while they gaze at me and gloat. They divide my garments among themselves; for my clothing they throw dice."*

He would be the Lamb Who would take away the sin of the world.

The breaking and wrapping of the middle matzah, and then hiding it away represents His death. Death is separation. Physical death is a separation of the material part of man from the immaterial, the flesh from the soul and spirit. Spiritual death is eternal separation from YAHWEH. Scripture tells us that the wages of sin is death -- it was through Adam that this type of death was introduced to mankind. As long as the matzah remained hidden, it symbolized that death reigned. But when the broken matzah was found and returned, it symbolized life and the resurrection from the dead!

The origin of breaking of the middle matzah and hiding it is unclear, but some scholars believe it was instituted by Yeshua Himself at His last Passover. This middle matzah which was broken and then hidden away and finally has been brought back to be distributed to each one is not significant. Yeshua spoke about HIMSELF when He said, "This is My body which is given for you." Remember, the matzah is unleavened, it is striped and it is pierced. Even so, the Messiah was unleavened; that is, sinless. Messiah was striped; that is by way of the Roman whip. Messiah was pierced; that is by the nails in His hands and feet, the spear in His side, and the crown of thorns on His head. If you are a believer in the Messiah, you can eat this piece of matzah as in a communion service, reminding yourself of what happened in the upper room at the Last Supper.

YAHWEH, we thank You for sending us Yeshua the Messiah, Who broke bread and gave it to His disciples. He said to them, 'Take, eat; this is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me'.

*(The Afikomen is broken into pieces, and each person is to take a piece, and hold. When all have a piece, all recite in unison:)*

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם  
המוציא לחם מן הארץ

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohaynu melech ha-olam, ha-motzi lechem min ha-aretz*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH our Elohim, King of the universe, Who brings forth bread from the earth. Amain

*(All: Eat the Afikomen. Nothing else is eaten after this.)*

# The Passover Meal

## שלחן עורך (shulchan orekh—dinner)

**Exodus 12:14** This will be a day for you to remember and celebrate as a festival to YAHWEH ...

**Deuteronomy 8:10** When you have eaten and are satisfied, you shall bless YAHWEH your Elohim for the good land which He has given you.

**Leader:** Let us say the blessing for our food.

All: Blessed be the Name of YAHWEH from now and forever more.

**Leader:** Let us bless our Elohim of Whose gifts we have eaten.

All: Blessed be YAHWEH of Whose bounty we have eaten and through Whose goodness we live. Blessed be He and blessed be His Name.

*(The Pesach meal is now eaten. If needed, the seder plate may be removed from the table to make room for the food.)*

*(Optional: After the meal is finished, the children may search for the Afikomen. The father of the child finding the Afikomen may “redeem” it from the child by “purchasing” it.)*

## The Afikomen

### צפון (tzafun)

**Leader:** The afikomen is our substitute for the Paschal Lamb, which in days of old, was the final food of the Seder feast. It is significant that it was the middle piece of matzah from the Unity bag which was broken and hidden away during a large part of the seder. The middle piece represents the Son of Elohim Who is our Messiah.

**Isaiah 9:6** For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; dominion will rest on his shoulders, and he will be given the name Pele-Yo'etz El Gibbor Avi-'Ad Sar-Shalom [Wonder of a Counselor, Mighty God, Father of Eternity, Prince of Peace]

The Son of YAHWEH, our Messiah, took upon Himself the name 'Yeshua' (meaning 'Yah saves') because He would be the Savior of His people.

**Isaiah 53:5** But he was wounded because of our crimes, crushed because of our sins; the disciplining that makes us whole fell on him, and by his bruises we are healed.

**John 6:32-35** Y'shua said to them, “Amen, amen I say to you that it was not Moshe that gave bread to you from heaven, but my Father gives true bread to you from heaven. For His bread is that of Elohim, He who has come down from heaven and gives life to the world.” They said to him, “Our Master give this bread to us at all times!” Y'shua said to them, “I am the Bread of Life. Whoever comes to me will not hunger. And whoever believes in me will not ever thirst.”

**(Leader: Break the middle matzah in half.)**

Just as the middle piece of the matzah is removed and broken, so Messiah was afflicted and broken. One half of this matzah is called the afikomen - the desert. It is wrapped in a white cloth and hidden until the Passover meal is over, just as Messiah's body was wrapped for burial and hidden for a time in the tomb. The other half is the lachma anya—the “bread of affliction”.

**(Leader: Wrap afikomen in a cloth and set it aside. Take the other half, break off a small piece, and hand the remainder to a participant.)** (The leader arranges for the afikomen to be hidden.)

**Matthew 26:26** And while they were dining, Y'shua took bread and blessed it and broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, “Take eat. This is my body.”

**(All: Each person takes a piece of the lachma anya or from the matzah on their table, break off a small piece, hold, and recite the following:)**

## ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם המוציא לחם מן הארץ

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohaynu melech ha-olam, ha-motzi lechem min ha-aretz*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH our Elohim, King of the universe Who brings forth bread from the earth. Amain

**(All: Lean to your left as you eat the piece of matzah. Keep the remaining part of the matzah at your plate.)**

Second Question. Why do we eat only bitter herbs tonight? Because while our forefathers were slaves in Egypt their lives were made very bitter. The Egyptians made their lives bitter with hard labor, with bricks and mortar, with all kinds of work in the fields. All of this forced slave labor became very hard. The bitter herbs speak of the sorrow, the persecution, and the suffering of our people under the hand of Pharaoh; and as maror—bitter herb—brings tears to the eyes, so also did the great affliction of our people bring tears to their eyes. For us, the bitter herb is represented with horseradish.

In every generation each of us must look upon ourselves as though we have come forth out of Egypt. It was not only our fathers that the Holy One redeemed, but us as well has He redeemed along with them. We, who by trust, have experienced the Passover in our hearts, have been redeemed from the bondage of sin.

**Romans 6:11** *So also do you account yourselves as being dead to sin and alive to Elohim through our Master Y'shua the Mashiyach.*

**(All:** *Each person takes another piece of matzah, and places on it some maror, hold, and recite the following:)*

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהנו מלך העולם  
אשר קדשנו בדברו וצונו על אכילת מרור

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohanu melech ha-olam, asher kiddshanu bihd-varo vitzi-vah-noo ahl ahk-hee-laht mah-ror*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH our Elohim, Ruler of the universe Who has set us apart by His Work and commanded us to eat bitter herbs. Amain

*(Do not lean to your left and eat the matzah with the maror.)*

Third Question. On all other nights we do not dip our vegetables at all, but tonight we dip them over and over. We have already dipped the parsley into the salt water, so that was the first. Then we dipped our Matzah in the maror. Now we prepare to dip again. The children of Israel toiled to make cities for Pharaoh, working in brick and clay. We remember this task by using a mixture called kharoset, made from chopped apples, nuts, spices, and the fruit of the vine. We dip the bitter herb into kharoset to remind ourselves that even the most bitter of circumstances can be sweetened by the hope we have in YAHWEH.

## Dayenu

*dah-dah-yay-nu  
dah-dah-yay-nu  
dah-dah-yay-nu  
dah-yay-nu dah-yay-nu*

*dah-dah-yay-nu  
dah-dah-yay-nu  
dah-dah-yay-nu  
dah-yay-nu dah-yay-nu*

*eelu hotzi hotzi-ahnu  
hotzi-ahnu me'mitzra'yihm  
Hotzi-ahnu me'mitzra'yihm dah-yay-nu*

*(Had He done no more than save us from Egypt, it would have been enough)*

*dah-dah-yay-nu...*

*eelu nahtahn nahtahn lahnu  
nahtahn lahnu et hah Torah  
nahtahn lahnu et hah Torah dah-yay-nu*

*(Had He done no more than give us the Torah, it would have been enough)*

*dah-dah-yay-nu...*

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely split the sea for us, but had not brought us through on dry ground ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely brought us through on dry ground, but had not drowned our oppressors ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely drowned our oppressors, but had not supplied us in the desert for forty years ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely supplied us in the desert for forty years, but had not fed us with manna ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely fed us with manna, but had not given us the Sabbath ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely given us the Sabbath, but had not brought us to Mount Sinai ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely brought us to Mount Sinai, but had not given us the Torah ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely given us the Torah, but had not brought us to the land of Israel ..

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely brought us to the land of Israel, but had not built us the Temple ...

**Dayenu!**

How much more do we have to be thankful to the YAHWEH Elohim Who gives us more than we can think or ask!

**Dayenu!**

(Optional: If desired, Dayenu may be sung:)

**Mark 14:18-20** *And while they were reclining and eating, Y'shua said, "Truly I say to you that one of you who eats with me will betray me." And they began to be grieved and were saying to him one at a time, "Is it I?" And he said to them, "It is one of the twelve who dips with me in the dish."*

(**All:** *Each person takes another piece of matzah, and places on it some maror, and some charoset. Do not lean and eat the matzah with the maror and charoset. Eat! )*

**Leader:** If you are wondering why these last two times we've not leaned while we ate the maror and the maror with charoset, it is because we wanted in some small way to simulate the conditions of the Israelis. The people, as slaves were not permitted the comfort of reclining while eating. This brings us to the...

Fourth question. On all other nights we eat either sitting or reclining, but tonight we eat reclining. The first Passover was celebrated by a people who were enslaved. "Once we were slaves, but now we are free!" Only those who are free were allowed to recline when eating a meal. Slaves had to sit or stand to eat, as did the Israelite slaves during their last meal in Egypt. Even Yeshua at the Last Supper reclined upon cushions to eat. Today we all may recline if we wish and freely enjoy the Passover seder.

**Matthew 11:28** *Come to me all who labor and bear burdens, and I will give you rest.*

## The Story of Passover

In the beginning our forefathers were worshippers of idols, but when they realized the stupidity and emptiness of their ways, the YAHWEH drew them near to Himself.

In days of old, when our ancestors lived beyond the Euphrates River, Terah, the father of Abraham, served gods of wood and stone. Abraham rebelled against the senseless practice of bowing down to the work of one's own hands, and he uprooted his family and moved to the land of Canaan. There he took Sarah as his wife and their son Isaac was born to them.

Isaac followed in the tradition of his father. Rebecca became his wife, and Jacob and Esau were the children of their marriage.

Jacob followed in the tradition of his father and grandfather. He took Rachel

and Leah as wives, as well as their handmaids Billah and Zilpah. The children of his marriages totaled twelve sons and one daughter.

A great sorrow came upon Jacob, for he lost his beloved son Joseph, who had secretly been sold to a caravan of Ishmaelites by his jealous brothers. Jacob had been told by his sons that Joseph was dead, that he had been killed by a wild beast, and Jacob grieved deeply for his beloved son.

Once in Egypt, Joseph was resold as a slave to Potifar, servant of Pharaoh and keeper of the palace. For many years Joseph languished in prison until, through an act of YAHWEH, he was able to display his wisdom to the butler of the king who, like Joseph, was a prisoner.

One day, after the king's butler had been freed and was restored to his post, Pharaoh was troubled by dreams that none of his wise men could interpret for him. It was then that the butler remembered Joseph, and he told the king about the imprisoned young Hebrew lad who had been successful in interpreting dreams.

Joseph was brought before the king, and he successfully interpreted Pharaoh's dreams. From that moment on Joseph rose in power and authority. Pharaoh said to him, "You shall rule over my house, and to you all my people will pay honor. Only I and my throne will be more exalted than you."

Having reached this position, Joseph was now determined to bring his father, Jacob, from Canaan down to the Land of Egypt. For a dreadful famine had engulfed the Land of Canaan, and only in the Land of Egypt was food plentiful. After many trying and agonizing episodes, Joseph finally revealed himself to his brothers. Soon thereafter, Jacob and his family moved to Egypt.

A special land was set aside for the family of Jacob, and it was named Goshen. In the land of Goshen, in the Land of Egypt, Jacob and his offspring lived in peace and prosperity.

Seventy persons had come down to Egypt with Jacob, and soon they increased and multiplied. It was as if the land was filled with the descendants of Jacob.

Before long, Jacob died and then Joseph died too. A new Pharaoh ascended the throne of Egypt. The new ruler viewed with apprehension the ever increasing number of Hebrews who were becoming mighty and influential. He chose to forget Joseph and all that he had done to save Egypt in the years of severe famine.

*and a stretched-out arm, with great terror, and with signs and wonders.*

We who have trusted Yeshua the Messiah, believe He is the Lamb, our Pass-over. Like the ancient Israelites, we know that it was YAHWEH, and not an angel, YAHWEH and not a seraph, YAHWEH, and not a messenger, Who achieved final redemption from sin and death. YAHWEH, through Yeshua, Who takes away the sin of the world.

**Isaiah 53:7** *He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.*

**John 1:29** *And on the day that followed, Yochanan saw Y'shua who was coming towards him, and said, "Behold the Lamb of Elohim, He who takes away the sins of the world.*

**Revelation 5:12** ...*"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, to receive power and riches, and wisdom and strength, and honor and glory and blessing"*

## Dayenu - It would have been enough!

דַּיְנוּ (dayenu)

How great is YAHWEH's goodness to us! For each of His acts of mercy and kindness we declare "dayenu" - it would have been enough.

Now please join me in our celebration of our blessing by shouting "DAYENU" after I read each of the following:

If He had merely rescued us from Egypt, but had not punished the Egyptians ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely punished the Egyptians, but had not destroyed their gods ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely destroyed their gods, but had not slain their firstborn ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely slain their firstborn, but had not given us their property ...

**Dayenu!**

If He had merely given us their property, but had not split the sea for us ...

## The Second Cup of Wine

(The cup of Judgment)

*(Each person his/her cup, refill if necessary, raise, holds, and recites while leaning to the left:)*

לדרוך אתה יהוה אלהנו מלך העולם  
בורא פרי הגפן

*baruch atah YAHWEH Elohanu melech ha-olam boray p'ree ha-gafen*

Blessed are You, YAHWEH our Elohim, King of the universe who creates the fruit of the vine. Amain.

## The Passover Lamb

**Leader:** The roasted shankbone on the table represents the lamb whose blood marked the houses of the children of Israel, signifying their obedience to YAHWEH's command.

*(If desired, each person at the table may hold and look at the shankbone)*

**Exodus 12:3, 5-8, 11, 13** *On the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. The animals you choose must be one year-old males without defect ....Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the door frames of the houses where they eat the lamb. That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs and bread made without leaven. This is how you are to eat it; with your cloak tucked into your belt, your sandals on your feet and your staff in your hand. Eat it in haste for it is YAHWEH's passover. The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.*

We are reminded by Moshe that it was YAHWEH Himself Who redeemed the children of Israel from slavery.

**Deuteronomy 26:8** *and YAHWEH brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand*

Pharaoh said to his people, "Behold, the children of Israel are too many and too mighty for us! Let us reconsider their position, lest they multiply even more and grow ever more powerful. Should a war come, it may very well be that they will join our enemies."

And so it was decreed that all Hebrews be carefully watched and their power curbed. Their newborn sons were to be drowned in the river so that the nation might not reproduce itself, and all adults were to become slaves of the king.

And so it happened that the children of Israel were forced into slavery, and for long hours each day they worked in the fields, gathering straw and then making the bricks to build the great monuments and pyramids that were to attest to the eternity of the Pharaohs.

But one Hebrew baby was hidden away among the reeds of the river. One day, when the king's daughter went down to the river's edge for her daily bath, she heard the cry of a young child and sent her handmaids to fetch it. And she loved the child and took him to the palace and called him Moses, meaning, "I drew him from the water."

Under the protection of the oppressor himself, Moses, the son of a Hebrew, grew into manhood. And as he grew, so did his sympathy for the condition of his suffering people.

In time, he renounced his royal privileges and became the leader of his fellow Hebrews, who were being crushed by the yoke of slavery.

To escape the wrath of the Egyptian tyrant, Moses fled to the desert of Sinai, and there, as he searched his soul, he discovered his mission in life. In the burning bush that would not be consumed despite the fiery flames that engulfed it, he found his destiny. This was surely a message from the Almighty, this was a call to return to his brethren. This was a message from Above declaring that he must dedicate his life to the liberation of his people.

And the children of Israel cried out to YAHWEH their God, and the God of their fathers, for their oppression was more than they could bear. And YAHWEH heard their cries and was sympathetic to their agonized plight. He then sent Moses to Pharaoh with a command:

שְׁלַח אֶת-עַמִּי וַיֵּעַב דָּנִי

*shah-lahkh eht-ah-mee v'yah-ahv doo-nee*

**LET MY PEOPLE GO!!!!** Let My people go that they may serve Me," demanded Moses in the name of YAHWEH. But Pharaoh refused, saying, "Who is your God that I should listen to Him? I know not your God. I will not let Israel go!" And the slavery of the Israelites continued and was intensified.

Moses appealed to YAHWEH and said, "Why have You sent me here? Ever since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your Name, he has added to the burdens of Your people and You have done nothing to rescue them!"

And YAHWEH answered, "I have heard the groaning of the children of Israel. I shall heed their cries. Go tell them, "I am YAHWEH! I will free them from the burden of the Egyptians, and I will remove from them the yoke of their bondage."

But Pharaoh did not relent and showed no remorse. And YAHWEH therefore visited upon him and all of Egypt ten terrifying plagues.

These are the ten plagues that YAHWEH sent upon the Egyptians. As we read each plague, place a drop of wine on your plate, shouting 3 times the name of the plague:

## The Ten Plagues

1 **דָּם**--(dom) Blood: (All: "Blood! Blood! Blood!) Leader: And YAHWEH said to Moses, "Say unto Aaron: 'Take your rod and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their rivers, over their streams, over their pools, and over their ponds, that they may become blood. And there shall be blood throughout all the Land of Egypt.

2. **צַפְרָדַּע** -- (tzifarde'ah) Frogs: (All: Frogs! Frogs! Frogs!) Leader: And YAHWEH said to Moses, "Say unto Aaron: 'Stretch out your hand with your rod over the rivers, over the canals, and over the pools, and cause frogs to come upon the Land of Egypt.

3. **כִּנִּים** -- (kinim) Lice: (All: Lice! Lice! Lice!) Leader: And YAHWEH said to Moses, "Say unto Aaron: 'Stretch out your rod and smite the dust of the earth, that it may become lice throughout all the Land of Egypt."

4. **עֲרוֹב**-- (arov) Flies: (All: Flies! Flies! Flies!) Leader: And there came great swarms into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses. And the whole land of Egypt was ruined because of the swarms.

5. **דָּבָר** --(d'ver) Cattle Plague: (All: Cattle! Cattle! Cattle!) Leader: YAHWEH

said to Moses, "Go tell Pharaoh: 'Let My people go, that they may serve Me! For, if you refuse ..... there shall be a very terrible plague among your cattle.

6. **שַׁחִין**--(sh'ch'in) Boils: (All: Boils! Boils! Boils!) Leader: And YAHWEH said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from the furnace, and let Moses throw it heavenward in the sight of Pharaoh. And it shall become fine dust covering the land of Egypt. And it shall cause boils to break out upon both man and beast.

7. **בָּרָד**-- (Barad) Hail: (All: Hail! Hail! Hail!) Leader: And Moses stretched out his rod toward heaven, and YAHWEH sent thunder and hail ... And the hail destroyed all that was in the field, both man and beast.

8. **אֲרָבָה**-- (Arb'eh) Locusts: (All: Locusts! Locusts! Locusts!) Leader: And Moses stretched out his rod over the land of Egypt, and YAHWEH brought an east wind upon the land, all that day and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts ... they covered the face of the whole earth.

9. **חֹשֶׁךְ**-- (Chosheck) Darkness: (All: Darkness! Darkness! Darkness!) Leader: And Moses stretched out his rod toward heaven, and there was deep darkness in all the land of Egypt for three days. They could not see one another, nor could they move from their places for three days, but all the children of Israel had light in their homes.

10. **מַכַּת בְּכוֹרוֹת**-- (Makat b'chorot) Death of the Firstborn: (All: Death! Death! Death!) Leader: And it came to pass at midnight that YAHWEH destroyed all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on the throne to the firstborn of the prisoner that was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the cattle.

And Pharaoh rose up and called Moses and Aaron and said: "Get up, and leave here, both you and the children of Israel, and go serve your God as you have demanded. It is our duty to recount YAHWEH's acts of deliverance, to read and study His Holy Word; to remember that just as YAHWEH brought us from slavery in Egypt, so —through Yeshua—He frees us from the slavery of sin and death. The more we meditate on these things, the more YAHWEH gives us insights, blessings and thankful hearts. All the glory and power belong to Him.

*Exodus 14:31 Thus Israel saw the great work which YAHWEH had done in Egypt; so the people were in awe of Him, and believed YAHWEH and His servant Moses.*