



Messianic Passover Seder: "The Traditional Haggadah"

Definitions

Haggadah - Hebrew for "the telling". This Haggadah is the telling of the Passover story.

Seder - Hebrew for "arrangement" or "order". It refers to the order of a service.

Yeshua - The Hebrew name of Jesus.

The Leader of the Seder

It is tradition that the leader of the Seder wear white clothing, many wear a white robe called a Kittle. The leader in the Seder is playing the role of the Temple priesthood. Just like the priest wore special clothing when ministering in the Temple, the leader of the Seder likewise wears special clothing. Peter spoke of believers in *1 Peter 2:9* saying "*But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood*" NKJV.

Prayer For Putting On The Tallit (Prayer Shawl) *Numbers 15:38-40; Luke 8:43-48*

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-olam,

Asher kidshanu b'mitz'votav v'tzivanu, l'he-tah-tef b'tzi-tzeet. Aman

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe

Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to wear garments with fringes. Aman

The Lighting of the Passover Candles

Psalm 27:1 "The Lord is my light and my salvation" NKJV

Matthew 5:16 "let your light shine before others" ESV

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-olam, Asher natan lanu Yeshua ha-Mashiach,

ha-Pesach, ha-Or ha-olam. Aman

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, Who gave to us Yeshua the Messiah,
the Passover, the Light of the world. Aman

The Telling of the Passover Story (The Traditional Four Questions)

Exodus 12:1-28 and Luke 22:7-20

The Four Cups of the Seder

In the Passover Seder we drink four cups from the fruit of the vine (grape juice). The fruit of the vine is a symbol of joy and life. Each of the four cups reminds us of the first four "I will" in *Exodus* chapter 6.

1. The Cup of Sanctification - *Exodus 6:6 "I will bring you out" NKJV*
2. The Cup of Plagues - *Exodus 6:6 "I will rescue you from their bondage" NKJV*
3. The Cup of Redemption - *Exodus 6:6 "I will redeem you" NKJV*
4. The Cup of Praise - *Exodus 6:7 "I will take you as My people, and I will be your God." NKJV*

The First Cup - Cup of Sanctification *Exodus 6:6 "I will bring you out" NKJV*

Through the Exodus out of Egypt, God set apart (sanctified) the nation of Israel forever to be holy people unto Him by the blood of the lamb. *1 Peter 1:16* says "Be holy, for I am holy" NKJV.

Yeshua began his final Passover celebration in *Luke 22:17-18* where it says "(17) And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, Take this, and divide it among yourselves: (18) For I say unto you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine, until the kingdom of God shall come." KJV

(Lift the cup, say the blessing below, then drink.)

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-olam, Borey p'ree ha-gafen. Aman

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine. Aman

Urchats – Washing of Hands *Exodus 30:18-21; John 13:5*

This part of the Seder is a symbolic act in imitation of the priest who had to wash his hands and his feet in the laver before he offered the sacrifices or entered into the Holy Place (*Exodus 30:19*). It was at this time during the Passover meal that Yeshua washed the feet of his disciples in *John 13:5, 12-14*.

Psalms 24:3-4 "(3) Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord? Or who may stand in His holy place? (4) He who has clean hands and a pure heart" NKJV.

The Karpas (Parsley) *Exodus 2:23; Exodus 12:22*

The parsley reminds us of the hyssop used to place the blood of the lamb on the doorposts of Egypt. When we dip it in the salt water, we are reminded again of the tears shed in Egypt because of the suffering (*Exodus 2:23*). Our tears from slavery to sin has been wiped away by Yeshua and replaced with tears of joy.

(Dip the parsley into the saltwater, say the blessing below, then eat.)

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-olam, Borey p'ree ha-adamah. Aman

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, Who creates the fruit of the earth. Aman

Breaking The Middle Matzah *Exodus 12:8*

The matzah (unleavened bread) is called the bread of affliction. It recalls the hasty flight from Egyptian bondage when the Israelites bread was not given sufficient time to rise. In this part of the Passover Seder, we remove the middle matzah and break it in two. This one half of broken matzah is called the Afikomen. We wrap it in a white cloth and hide it temporarily. We will explain the Afikomen later in the Seder.

The Second Cup - Cup of Plagues *Exodus 6:6 "I will rescue you from their bondage" NKJV*

At this time in the Seder we recount the Ten Plagues that came upon Egypt. God sent plagues, one by one, yet with each plague, Pharaoh hardened his heart. The Egyptians became afflicted with discomfort and disease. Still, Pharaoh would not relent. With the tenth and most awful plague, God pierced through the hardness of Pharaoh's heart. So let us remember the great cost at which redemption was purchased. We will now dip a finger in the fruit of the vine and place a drop on our plates for each plague.

(We do not drink this cup because it represents plagues)

Let us all say the plagues together -

Blood! Frogs! Lice! Beasts! Cattle Disease! Boils! Hail! Locusts! Darkness! Death of the Firstborn!

Had God done no more than save us from Egypt (our slavery from sin), then "Dayenu", it would have been enough.

The Zero'a (Roasted Bone) *Exodus 12:3; 1 Corinthians 5:7; John 1:29*

The roasted bone represents the lamb that was sacrificed for the Passover Seder. *1 Corinthians 5:7* says that Yeshua is "our Passover Lamb" *ESV*. Yeshua was called "the Lamb of God" in *John 1:29*. In the book of Revelation, Yeshua is referred to as the "the Lamb" 29 times. The lamb had to be unblemished, just like Yeshua was unblemished.

The bone reminds us that during the crucifixion not one bone of Yeshua was broken (*John 19:31-36*), just like the Passover lamb in *Exodus 12:46*. We no longer eat lamb on the Seder plate for two reasons, (1.) there is no Temple to sacrifice the lamb and (2.) there is no need to sacrifice a lamb because Yeshua is now our Passover Lamb.

The Beitzah (Roasted Egg)

The roasted egg is a traditional symbol that represents the sacrifices made during the week long Feast of Unleavened Bread. The roasted egg was not commended in the Bible for the Passover, but was added after the first Temple was destroyed during the Babylonian exile. During this time they could no longer make sacrifices.

Therefore the egg was added to symbolize mourning, due to the lose of the Temple and the sacrificial system. But we no longer mourn because Yeshua is our sacrifice and our body is the Temple of God. So we no longer need the egg but we leave it on our seder plates to remind us that we no longer mourn. (We do not eat the egg.)

The Matzah (Unleavened Bread) *Exodus 12:15, 1 Corinthians 5:8*

For at least one thousand years before Yeshua was born, the sages instructed us to take three sheets of matzahs and wrap them in linen. Why three? No one knows, but we who are followers of Yeshua believe that it represents the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Paul said in *1 Corinthians 5:8*, "Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." *KJV*

(Lift up the matzah, say the blessing below, then eat.)

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-Olam, ha-motzee lechem meen ha-Arez. Aman

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, Who brings forth bread from the earth. Aman

The Marror "bitter herb" (Horseradish) *Exodus 12:8*

The marror (horseradish) symbolizes the bitterness of life in Egypt and the bitterness of slavery. *Exodus 1:13-14* says, "So they ruthlessly made the people of Israel work as slaves and made their lives bitter with hard service" *ESV*.

Some traditions have a second bitter herb on the Seder plate called the Chazeret (lettuce). As we eat the horseradish let us remember the bitterness of our old life of slavery to sin and how Yeshua has set us free from that slavery.

(Scoop some horseradish on a piece of matzah, say the blessing below, then eat.)

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-Olam, Asher v'tzivanu akhee-lat marror. Aman

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, Who commanded us to eat the bitter herbs. Aman

The Charoset (Apples & Nuts) *Exodus 5:7*

The charoset is the traditional reminder of the hard labor that the Israelites endured in Egypt while making their own mortar for the bricks. As believers in Yeshua, the charoset now reminds us that we do not have to labor for our salvation. Our salvation is by God's grace through faith in Messiah Yeshua (*Ephesians 2:8*). He has done all the work required.

(Scoop some charoset on a piece of matzah, say the blessing below, then eat.)

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-Olam, Asher natan lanu et derech ha y'shuah b'Mashiach Yeshua. Aman

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, Who has given us the way of salvation in Messiah Yeshua. Aman

An Extra Cup - Cup of Elijah *Malachi 3:1-3*

Built into the Passover is an understanding that there is more to the celebration than an acknowledgement of the past. There is the recognition that the redemption of the Israelites from the physical bondage of Egypt is a picture of the ultimate redemption which would come through the Messiah. *Malachi 3:1* says, "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight." NKJV. Yeshua said that John the Baptist had the spirit of Elijah when he said in *Matthew 11:14* "if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come" NKJV. So this cup is for the spirit of Elijah that paved the way for Yeshua's first coming and will also pave the way for Yeshua's second coming in the future.

The Afikomen (Hidden Matzah) *Luke 22:19*

The Afikomen that was broken literally means, "I came or the coming one". It is the Bread of Communion symbolizing the ultimate Passover sacrifice, Messiah Yeshua, who gave His body on the cross for the payment of our sins. It is a clear picture of Yeshua's body being pierced, bruised, and striped. Being wrapped in a white cloth and hidden away is a symbol of the burial and resurrection of Yeshua in *Matthew 27:59-60*. In *John 6:48* Yeshua says He is "the bread of life".

Luke 22:19 "And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." NKJV

(Lift up the Afikomen, say the blessing below, then eat.)

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-olam, ha-motzee lechem a'mi-ti min ha-Sha-ma-yim. Aman
Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth the true bread from Heaven. Aman

The Third Cup – Cup of Redemption *Luke 22:20; Exodus 6:6 "I will redeem you" NKJV*

The third cup is the Cup of Communion, symbolizing God's promise of redemption from slavery of sin. It was the cup Yeshua raised after supper in *Luke 22:20* saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you" NKJV. Just as the blood of the lamb brought salvation in Egypt, so it is only the atoning blood of Messiah that can provide salvation for us. They marked the doorpost of their homes with the blood of the lamb so that the death angel would pass over them. Yeshua's blood is now on the doorpost of our hearts giving us eternal life with the Lord.

(Lift up the cup, say the blessing below, then drink.)

*Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-olam,
Borey p'ree ha-gafen, ha-a'mi-ti bo-ray Brit Chadasha. Aman*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe,
creator of the fruit of the true vine, creating a New Covenant. Aman

The Fourth Cup – Cup of Praise *Exodus 6:7 "I will take you as My people, and I will be your God" NKJV*

With the Cup of Praise we lift up our cups for the final time and give praise to God. With this cup we praise God for the resurrection of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

(Lift the cup, say the blessing below, then drink.)

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech ha-olam, Borey p'ree ha-gafen. Aman
Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine. Aman

Next Year In New Jerusalem!

Revelation 21:2 "And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem" KJV