

*THE FEAST OF  
PASSOVER  
Haggadah*

**"In Honor of The Blood of The  
Lamb!"**

The Way Fellowship

Passover 2015

*THE FEAST OF PASSOVER*

***Passover Celebration***

**Welcome**

**"In Honor Of The Blood Of The Lamb!"**

**Leader:** It is with much joy and excitement that we welcome all of you to be a part of this Passover Celebration! Let us celebrate this day the Lord's great salvation through Jesus, the Messiah, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

## **1. Searching for Leaven – Preparing Our Hearts for the Passover**

**Leader:** Normally within Jewish homes preparations are made several days before the Passover to clean out all yeast from the home. Finally a ceremonial search is made with a candle and a feather. All food containing yeast is burned up in a fire in the morning before the Passover begins. God's command to Israel was very strict, **"For seven days you are to eat bread made without yeast. On the first day remove the yeast from your houses, for whoever eats anything with yeast in it from the first day through the seventh must be cut off from Israel."** (Exod 12:15) **"Eat unleavened bread during those seven days; nothing with yeast in it is to be seen among you, nor shall any yeast be seen anywhere within your borders."** (Exod 13:7)

**Reader 1:** Yeast is a symbol of sin and its corruptive influence. Paul wrote in First Corinthians, **"Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough? Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Therefore let us keep the**

**Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth." (1 Cor 5:6-8)**

**All:** "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." (Ps 139:23-24) "Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." (Ps 51:7,10)

**Reader 2:** Yeast causes the dough to rise, which shows the effect of sin to make us proud and puffed up. Paul warns Gentile believers in Romans 11, "If some of the branches have been broken off, and you, though a wild olive shoot, have been grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root, do not boast over those branches. If you do, consider this: You do not support the root, but the root supports you." (Rom 11:17-18)

**Leader:** Let us take time right now before we partake of this Passover meal to also humble ourselves and repent of any sin within our lives.

**Leader:** Let us all confess together Revelation 1:5-6, "To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. "

## **2. Lighting the Candles – Welcoming the Presence of the Lord**

**Leader:** Just as Yeshua as the light of the world, was born into the world by a woman, the actual Passover meal now begins with a woman, usually the

wife in the house, lighting two candles to set apart the evening as a celebration before God.

*["The Mother"lights the two candles and recites the blessing.*

Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the universe who has set us apart by His word, and in whose Name we light the festival lights.

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who sent Your Son, our Lord Jesus the Messiah, to be the Light of the World and our Passover Lamb. Amen!

**Leader:** Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12) Let us all pray together and invite the presence of the Eternal to our celebration!

## Lets us say together

**All:** Father God "Send forth your light and your truth, let them guide me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell." (Ps 43:3) May your glory be in our midst this evening! May your presence also be in every Jewish home when they celebrate this meal about your Son! Reveal your light and your truth to them! Send forth your Holy Spirit to lead them into all truth. May we allow Your Holy Spirit to work in our lives, empowering us and equipping us. May we allow the light of Messiah to shine from us into the darkness. Amen.

## 3. The First Cup – The Cup of Sanctification

**Leader:** The four cups that we will drink tonight are in memory of the first four "I will" in Exodus chapter 6,

"Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the LORD,

The First Cup *[lift the first cup]* – the Cup of Sanctification,

'I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.'

The Second Cup [*lift the second cup*]- the Cup of Deliverance, **'I will free you from being slaves to them'**

The Third Cup [*lift the third cup*]- the Cup of Redemption, **'I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment.'**

The Fourth Cup [*lift the fourth cup*] – the Cup of Praise,

**'I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God.'**

"Wine in Scripture is a symbol of joy. So these four cups that we will drink throughout the meal tonight express a fourfold joy of the Lord's complete redemption in His blood. Hallelujah! Let us all fill the first cup now. but don't drink it yet!

**Leader:** The first cup is the cup of sanctification. Through the Exodus out of Egypt, God set the nation of Israel apart forever to be a holy people unto Him by the blood of a lamb.

**Reader 1:** "How great you are, O Sovereign LORD! There is no one like you, and there is no God but you, as we have heard with our own ears. "And who is like your people Israel — the one nation on earth that God went out to redeem as a people for himself, and to make a name for himself, and to perform great and awesome wonders by driving out nations and their gods from before your people, whom you redeemed from Egypt? "You have established your people Israel as your very own forever, and you, O LORD, have become their God." (2 Sam 7:22-24)

**Reader 2:** As believers in Yeshua we can also rejoice this day because we who "were separate from Messiah, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. But now in Messiah Jesus, we who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Messiah." (Eph 2:12-13) We have not replaced

Israel but Scripture says that we have been grafted in among them, and with them "now share in the nourishing sap from the olive root." (Rom 11:17). Thus we are no longer gentiles as Paul writes that we are now citizens of Israel through Messiah Yeshua.

**Reader 1:** "For I tell you that Messiah has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: 'Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing hymns to your name.' Again, it says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.' " (Rom 15:8-10).

**Leader:** Tonight as former Gentiles who believe in Jesus we can now rejoice together as God's people Israel in this Feast! The middle wall of separation is broken down. We rejoice together over God's great salvation.

**Reader 2:** Let us read about the Passover in the Upper Room, "When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table. And he said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.' After taking the cup, he gave thanks and said, 'Take this and divide it among you. For I tell you I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.' " (Luke 22:14-18)

**Leader:** Let us all like Jesus did in the Upper Room, lift the first cup, the Kiddush, towards heaven and give thanks to the Eternal,

**Reader 1:** Baruch Ata Adonai, Eloheynu Melech Haolam, Boreh Pri Hagafen!

"Blessed are You, our Eternal God, King of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

Blessed are You, our Eternal God, King of the universe, who has chosen us from all peoples, and has exalted us above all tongues, and sanctified us by His commandments. And You have given us in love, Our Eternal God, Sabbaths for rest, appointed times for gladness, festivals and seasons for joy; this day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the season of our Freedom in love, a holy convocation, as a memorial of the departure from Egypt and a reminder

of the sacrifice of Yeshua the Messiah for us; for You have chosen us, and sanctified us above all peoples, and Your holy appointed times You have caused us to inherit in love and favor in joy and gladness.

Blessed are You Eternal One, who sanctifies the Passover. Amen!

**Leader:** The Bible says about Israel, "I will bless those who bless you. And I will curse those who curse you." (Gen 12:3) Let us all drink the cup of sanctification with joy and give praise to God for the people of Israel that He redeemed out of Egypt, and sanctified unto Himself to give the world salvation.

**All:** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

**Leader:** Let us all drink.

**Reader 2:** "This is what the LORD says: 'Sing with joy for Jacob; shout for the foremost of the nations. Make your praises heard, and say, 'O LORD, save your people, the remnant of Israel.' " (Jer 31:7)

**Leader:** Let's praise the Lord for the calling and election of Israel that God has preserved them to this day as a testimony of His faithfulness.

**Leader:** The Bible says, "For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?" Let us bless Israel tonight on their most holy night and let us all say three times, "O LORD, save Your people, the remnant of Israel!"

**All:** "O LORD, save Your people, the remnant of Israel!"

O LORD, save Your people, the House of Israel!

O LORD, save Your people, the House of Judah!"

## 4. Washing of the Hands – Ministering to One Another

**Reader 1:** "Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart." (Ps 24:3-4)

**Leader:** The next part of the Passover meal is the Urchatz, the washing of the hands. 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 of Holies. It was at this time during the Passover Meal that Jesus washed the feet of His disciples.

**Reader 2:** "Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him." (John 13:3-5)

**Reader 1:** "When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. 'Do you understand what I have done for you?' he asked them. 'You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.'" (John 13 v. 12-15)

**Reader 2:** 'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.' " (John 13 v. 34-35)

**Leader:** Later on during the Seder, Jesus prayed the prayer in John 17 for the unity of His disciples.

**Reader 1:** "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me." (John 17:20-21)

**Leader:** The apostle Paul says that we have been called to provoke the Jewish people to jealousy. Israel will know that the Father sent Jesus by love and unity among those who believe in Him. Let us follow the example Jesus gave us and serve one another by holding the bowl of water for the person next to you on your left while they symbolically wash their fingers and then serve them the towel while you pray for them and bless them.

*[The leader serves the bowl of water and towel to the person to the left. The bowl and towel are then passed around the table.]*

**Leader:** Let us pray this night in agreement with Jesus for the unity of His Body that we lay down our lives for one another. Let us especially pray for the believers in Israel, both Jews and Arabs that they be united in love into one and will provoke Israel to jealousy!

**Lets pray:**

**Reader 2:** "Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart." (1 Pet 1:22)

## 5. The Green Vegetable – New Life out of Tears

**Leader:** The fruit of the vine we drank was red in color, representing the blood of the Passover lamb. The greens [lift it up] represent the spring season, with new life out of death. It is also a symbol of the hyssop, which was used to place the blood of the Passover lamb upon the doorposts and the lintel of the Jewish homes in Egypt. The salt water [lift it up] represents the tears shed in Egypt because of the

suffering. Tears were part of the redemption story in Egypt and it will be so as well in the last days.

**Reader 2:** "The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God." (Exod 2:23)

**Reader 1:** Acts 14:22 says, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God."

**Leader:** Let us dip the greens in the salt water, reminding us of the new life that came out of the suffering in Egypt, and say the blessing together.

**[Each person takes a sprig of greens from the Seder plate and dips it into the salt water.]**

**All:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the earth.

**Leader:** Let's all eat the greens. **[All eat the green vegetable.]**

**Reader 2:** Ps 56:8 says, "put my tears into your bottle; are they not in your book?" (NKJV)

**Leader:** No other people have suffered as the Jewish people have. Just a generation ago, during the Holocaust, six and a half million were murdered in the midst of "Christian" Europe. Today the Jewish people are targeted again. This time by Islamic terror attacks where Jews are murdered or maimed for life.

**Reader 1:** "Oh, that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears! I would weep day and night for the slain of my people." (Jer 9:1)

**Leader:** Let us ask God for tears of compassion just as Jesus wept over Jerusalem and pray for protection over the Jewish people this day but not just for the Jewish people but for the persecuted body of Christ which is persecuted for the gospel and their faith in Christ Jesus.

**Lets Pray:**

## **6. Breaking the Middle Matzo – Yeshua Broken for the World**

**Leader:** The breaking of the middle matzo is the next part of the traditional Seder observed in every Jewish home at Passover. This custom so amazingly portrays the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus the Messiah. Many believe that it was brought into the traditional Jewish Passover celebration by the Early Jewish believers! After the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem in 70 AD, when no Passover lambs could be sacrificed anymore, the Jewish people, as a substitute for the lambs, just took this part of the Seder Meal from a widespread custom among the early believers.

**[The leader lifts up the matzo tash.]**

**Leader:** There are three sheets of matzos in this compartment that interestingly is called the Unity. The middle one is broken in half, hid away and later on retrieved at the end of the Seder as the most important part of the meal. The half of the middle matzo that is hid is called the "Afikomen." It is the only Greek word used in the Passover ceremony. The word literally means, "I came!" One Rabbinical tradition says that the three matzos represent the priests, the Levites and the Israelites. Another tradition says that they represent Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. But Jewish tradition today gives no explanation to why the middle one should be broken and hid away. Neither why a Greek word meaning "I came" is used for it! Rabbinical tradition says that the Afikomen now represents the lamb in the ceremony and that **everyone must** eat of it as the last part of the meal so that its taste is the last part from the Passover that lingers in the mouth. The Bible says, "For Messiah, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed." (1 Cor 5:7) Can the symbolism be more obvious?

We now take out the middle matzo.

**Leader:** **[Holding up the matzo]** The matzo is a clear picture of Messiah. First of all the matzo, according to rabbinical decree today, has to be striped. **[Point out the stripes!]**

**Reader 1:** "The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed." (Isa 53:5b NKJV)

**Leader:** Secondly, see how the matzo is pierced. **[Hold the matzo in front of the candles so that everyone can clearly see the holes!]**

**Reader 2:** "But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities." (Isa 53:5a)

**Leader:** Thirdly the matzo is unleavened bread - bread without yeast, which is a symbol of sin. See how flat it is!

**[Show how flat the matzo is!]**

**Reader 1:** "He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth." (Isa 53:9)

**Leader:** Fourthly, the matzo is called, "the bread of affliction." We see how it is burnt in the oven.

**[Show how the matzo is burnt.]**

**Reader 2:** "Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted." (Isa 53:4)

**Leader:** *Finally, the matzo is broken in half*

**[breaks the matzo in half],** just as the body of Jesus was broken for us. The larger half, the Afikomen, is wrapped in a white napkin **[wrap the Afikomen] and hid away. [Hide it under the pillow. The other smaller part of the broken matzo is placed back into the matzo tash.]**

**Reader 1:** "Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away." (Mt 27:59-60)

**Leader:** Let us give thanks to the Father for Jesus's death for us being broken on the tree for us!

*[Worship song.]*

**Leader:** It was when Jesus broke the matzo in the home of the disciples from Emmaus, that they recognized Him.

**Reader 2:** "When Jesus was at the table with them, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and began to give it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him." (Luke 24:30-31)

**Leader:** Let us pray that When they celebrate Passover the Jewish people's eyes of will be opened to recognize Jesus as the Messiah that was broken for them, the Passover Lamb that was slain!. Let us as Christians go and shine the light of Christ into the world and share the gospel of the kingdom with all we meet, for the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Let us pray that God will send workers into the field to bring in the harvest.

**Reader 1 leads us in prayer for workers**

## **7. The second Cup - Recounting the Story**

**Leader:** *[lifts up the plate with matzo]* The leader of the Seder in every Jewish home at this time in the Passover celebration lifts up the plate with matzo and says, "This is the bread of affliction, which our forefathers ate in Egypt. May those who are hungry and those in distress participate in the Passover with us."

**Let us all say together:**

**All:** May the people of Israel and all people all over the world come to know the true liberty Jesus Messiah purchased for them.

**Leader:** Let us pour the second cup now but do not drink it yet! This is the cup of deliverance.

**[All pour the second cup.]**

Before we drink of this cup, we will first recount the story of the deliverance out from Egypt. The Jewish people are encouraged to tell in great detail about God's mighty acts to set them free. It begins with a child asking the famous "four questions," "*Why is this night different from*

*all other nights*"

**Reader 2:** "And when your children ask you, 'What does this ceremony mean to you?' then tell them, 'It is the Passover sacrifice to the LORD, who passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt and spared our homes when he struck down the Egyptians.'" (Exod 12:26-27)

## **THE FOUR QUESTIONS**

**[The youngest person(s) now asks**

**"the four questions."]**

1. *Why is this night different from all other nights? On other nights we eat leavened or unleavened bread, but on this night we eat only unleavened bread.*

2. *On other nights we eat all types of vegetables, but tonight only bitter herbs.*
3. *On other nights we do not dip even once. On this night we dip twice.*
4. *On other nights we eat sitting or reclining but on this night we recline.*

**Leader:** "I am glad you asked. These are the answers to your questions":

**Reader 1:** We were slaves in Egypt under Pharaoh, and our God brought us out with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. If God had not brought us out, we would still be slaves today in Egypt. This meal is a story of God's love and justice and care for all who are poor and oppressed. The matzo reminds us of the haste in which our ancestors left Egypt, for the dough had not time to rise.

**Reader 2:** As believers in Jesus this reminds us of how Jesus set us free from the bondages of Sin and death, for whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. For Christ was offered up once and for all as the perfect sacrifice for our sins.

It also reminds us that Jesus will return again swiftly as a thief in the night and every eye will see Him. Therefore we seek to live holy lives ready for His coming.

**Reader 1:** The bitter herbs, the Maror, remind us of the bitterness of the bondage of slavery.

**Reader 2:** As believers we remember how we were slaves to sin before Jesus set us free.

**Reader 1:** We dip twice this night, first in salty water as a sign of our tears, and secondly in the Haroset, the sweet apple mixture, to season the taste of bitterness with the sweetness of hope in God.

**Reader 2:** As believers in Jesus we remember that He has turned our tears into joy and given us an eternal hope.

**Reader 1:** Reclining is a symbol of a free man who can eat in leisure. So this night we recline to the left to remind us of our freedom.

**Reader 2:** Jesus has set us free indeed by His blood. In trusting Him we are secure!

## THE STORY OF THE EXODUS

**Leader:** Let us recount the story of the Exodus to tell about God's mighty acts.

**Reader 1:** To avoid a terrible famine, God through Joseph led our ancestors to the land of Egypt to find food. Many years later, a Pharaoh arose in Egypt who did not know Joseph. He oppressed the children of Israel, forcing them into slavery.

**Reader 2:** From the burning bush, God called Moses to lead the Exodus of His people. There were many plagues visited upon the Egyptians to force them to free Israel.

**Reader 1:** Finally, after ten great plagues, Pharaoh allowed the people freedom, though he changed his mind many times. It was only the death of the firstborn of the sons of Egypt that brought deliverance.

**Leader:** It was at this time that the Passover Meal was eaten. God passed over the houses of the Israelites, not destroying their first born when He saw the blood of the Passover lambs upon their doors. During our meal we must imagine that night and the danger of our firstborn as if we were there ourselves. The angel of death passed over because of the sacrificed lamb, but the sons of Egypt were destroyed.

**Reader 2:** God has also passed over us and freed us from His judgment by the Passover Lamb, our Messiah's sacrifice Jesus our paschal lamb.

**Reader 1:** Though Pharaoh let the people go, he changed his mind one more time. He sent his armies to recapture our ancestors. It was then that God opened up the Red Sea so that Israel could pass through. Pharaoh's men followed, but drowned when the waters returned. The Exodus from Egypt was complete; Israel was free.

**Leader:** Let us all confess together:

**All:** all who have called upon the name of the Lord Jesus Christ are free from the bondages of Sin and Death and are clothed in His righteousness for we have been washed clean in the blood of the Lamb.

## THE TEN PLAGUES

**Leader:** At this time in the Seder meal the Jewish people recount the ten plagues that came upon Egypt and they dip a finger in this second cup, the Cup of Deliverance one time for each plague.

**Reader 2:** When men defy the will of God, they bring pain and suffering upon themselves. Egypt received the judgment of God for defying God's command.

**Reader 1:** We also know that the plagues demonstrated the defeat of the false gods of Egypt for these gods were meant to protect Egypt from these plagues.

**Reader 2:** Because all people are created in God's image, we mourn for the destruction they suffered. We mourn for all who, in turning from God's ways, reap the sad fruit of destruction and loss.

**Leader:** The Psalmist said, "My cup overflows." A full cup symbolizes fullness of joy; but when people turn from God, as Pharaoh did, we cannot be full of joy. Therefore, our joy is diminished as we recall the plagues God used for our freedom. We will now dip a finger in the fruit of the vine and place a drop on our plates for each plague. Let's all say together:

**All: Blood!** [*Dip the little finger in the cup and drop some wine on the plate.*]  
**Frogs!** [*Dip again.*] **Gnats!** [*Dip*] **Flies!** [*Dip*] **Pestilence!** [*Dip*] **Boils!** [*Dip*]  
**Hail!** [*Dip*] **Locusts!** [*Dip*] **Darkness!** [*Dip*] **Slaying of the Firstborn!** [*Dip*]

## THE BOWLS OF GOD'S WRATH

**Leader:** The ten plagues that came upon Egypt will be acted out on a larger worldwide scale in the last days to accomplish a greater exodus for all of God's children. Let us read from the Book of Revelation about God's last great deliverance when the anti-Christ and his empire will be judged, just like Pharaoh was judged in Egypt.

**Reader 1:** "Then I heard a loud voice from the temple saying to the seven angels, 'Go, pour out the seven bowls of God's wrath on the earth.' The first angel went and poured out his bowl on the land, and ugly and painful sores broke out on the people who had the mark of the beast and worshiped his image." (Rev 16:1-2)

**Reader 2:** "The second angel poured out his bowl on the sea, and it turned into blood like that of a dead man, and every living thing in the sea died." (v. 3)

**Reader 1:** "The third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. Then I heard the angel in charge of the waters say: 'You are just in these judgments, you who are and who were, the Holy One, because you have so judged; for they have shed the blood of your saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink as they deserve.' And I heard the altar respond: 'Yes, Lord God Almighty, true and just are your judgments.' " (v. 4-7)

**Reader 2:** "The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and the sun was given power to scorch people with fire. They were seared by the intense heat and they cursed the name of God, who had control over these plagues, but they refused to repent and glorify him." (v. 8-9).

**Reader 1:** "The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and his kingdom was plunged into darkness. Men gnawed their tongues in agony and cursed the

God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, but they refused to repent of what they had done." (v. 10-11)

**Reader 2:** "The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East. Then I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet. They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty." (v. 12-14)

**Leader:** "Behold, I come like a thief! Blessed is he who stays awake and keeps his clothes with him, so that he may not go naked and be shamefully exposed." (v. 15).

**Reader 1:** "Then they gathered the kings together to the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon." (v. 16)

**Reader 2:** "The seventh angel poured out his bowl into the air, and out of the temple came a loud voice from the throne, saying, 'It is done!' Then there came flashes of lightning, rumblings, peals of thunder and a severe earthquake. No earthquake like it has ever occurred since man has been on earth, so tremendous was the quake." (v. 17-18)

**Reader 1:** "The great city split into three parts, and the cities of the nations collapsed. God remembered Babylon the Great and gave her the cup filled with the wine of the fury of his wrath. Every island fled away and the mountains could not be found. From the sky huge hailstones of about a hundred pounds each fell upon men. And they cursed God on account of the plague of hail, because the plague was so terrible." (v. 19-21).

**Leader:** The book of Revelation is the story of the victory of the Lamb over the Beast and his kingdom. Just as Pharaoh and his armies were drowned in the Red Sea, the antichrist and his armies will be destroyed.

**Reader 2:** "But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur." (Rev 19:20).

**Reader 1:** The Apostle Peter wrote, "you... through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials." (1 Pe 1:5-6)

**Leader:** Let us praise God for his great salvation ready to be revealed in the last time!

## THE THREE SYMBOLS OF PASSOVER

**Leader:** Rabbi Gamaliel, the teacher of the Apostle Paul, taught that in recounting the Passover story, one must be certain to mention three things: the **unleavened bread**, the **bitter herbs** and the **Passover lamb**.

**Reader 1:** [Holds up Matzo] Unleavened bread reminds us that our ancestors left Egypt in haste. The dough had no time to rise.

**Reader 2:** [Holds up the horseradish root, or onion, or bitter lettuce] Bitter herbs recall the bitterness of slavery in Egypt, as Scripture says, "They made their lives bitter with hard labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their hard labor the Egyptians used them ruthlessly." (Exod 1:14)

**Leader:** [Holds up the bone] This bone reminds us of the lamb whose blood protected the children of Israel from the slaying of the firstborn, which came upon the Egyptians.

**Reader 1:** "Tell the whole community of Israel that 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 year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. 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 doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. (Exod 12:3,5-7)

**Reader 2:** "That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with bitter herbs, and bread made without yeast. 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; it is the LORD'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." (Exod 12:8,11,13)

**Leader:** Moses reminds us that it was the Lord Himself who redeemed the children of Israel from slavery. "So the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror and with miraculous signs and wonders." (Deut 26:8). Let us confess together:

**All:** We who have trusted in Jesus, the Messiah, believe He is the Lamb of God, our Passover. Like the ancient Israelites, we know that it was God Himself, who achieved final redemption from sin and death. God Himself through Jesus, who takes away the sin of the world.

**Leader:** Since the Temple in Jerusalem no longer stands; lambs are not sacrificed at Passover because the Bible forbids this to be done anywhere else. This bone *lifts up*

*the bone* remains to remind us of the sacrificial lamb.

**Reader 1:** "Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, 'Father?' 'Yes, my son?' Abraham replied. 'The fire and wood are here,' Isaac said, 'but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?' Abraham answered, 'God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.' And the two of them went on together. (Gen 22:7-8)

**Reader 2:** "When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son." (v 9-10)

**Reader 1:** "But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, 'Abraham! Abraham!' 'Here I am,' he replied. 'Do not lay a hand on the boy,' he said. 'Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.' " (v 11-12)

**Reader 2:** "Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, 'On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.' " (v 13-14)

**Leader:** On the Mountain of the Lord Yeshua, as the Lamb of God, died during Passover at 3 in the afternoon, exactly when the Passover lambs were slaughtered in the temple. Surely on the Mountain of the Lord, the Lord himself provided the sacrifice that took our place.

**Reader 1:** "Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away." (2 Cor 3:15-16) Let us pray for revelation to Israel and all people that Yeshua is the Lamb of God!

**[Reader 1 leads in prayer. All pray for a revelation of Jesus as the Lamb of God.]**

**Leader:** At this time Ps 113 and 114, the first part of the Hallel Psalms, are recited in the Seder. Let us stand up and recite Psalm 113 together.

Psalm 113

**Leader:** Praise the LORD. Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.

**All:** Let the name of the LORD be praised, both now and forevermore.

**Leader:** From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised.

**All:** The LORD is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens.

**Leader:** Who is like the LORD our God, the One who sits enthroned on high,

**All:** Who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?

**Leader:** He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap;

**All:** He seats them with princes, with the princes of their people.

**Leader:** He settles the barren woman in her home as a happy mother of children.

**All:** Praise the LORD.

**Leader:** Let us all say together:

**All:** HALLELUJAH for the great redemption, which God has accomplished for us, redemption at an awesome price; in Egypt - the death of the firstborn; redemption from sin - the death of God's own Son. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16 NKJV)

**Leader:** Let us praise the Lord together for His great salvation and drink the second cup – the Cup of Deliverance!

**All:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

*[All drink the second cup and PRAISE THE LORD!]*

## **8. The Dipping of the Matzo – Through Much Suffering**

**Leader:** Now lest us all wash our hands in preparation for eating the Passover elements. Let us all symbolically dip our fingers in the bowl of water. Please pass the bowl around the table.

**[All dip fingers in the bowl of water and then pray]**

**All:** Blessed are you Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has commanded us to lift up holy hands!

**Leader:** We have heard about the three elements, let us now eat of them. First the matzo. All leaders, please lift the matzo container now.

**Reader 1:** Baruch Ata Adonai Eloheynu Melech Haolam Hamotzei Lechem Min Ha'aretz.

**Leader:** Let all of say together:

**All:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

**Leader:** We now break small pieces of the upper and the middle matzo from the Unity and give to everyone around your table. ...Let's all eat the matzo.

**[All eat the matzo.]**

**Leader:** As it is commanded in the Bible, let us remember the bitterness of slavery in Egypt by eating the Maror, the bitter herbs. **[Leader lifts the Maror and shows it to everyone.]**

We also remember the bitterness Jesus tasted for our redemption by agony, torture and death. This was the time during the meal when we read about Jesus, "And having dipped the bread, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon." (John 13:26)

Let us all say together.

**All:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe who has commanded us to eat the Maror.

**Leader:** We now break pieces of the bottom matzo from the Unity. Dip each piece in the bitter herbs and give to everyone around your table. ...Let's all eat the Maror!

**[All eat the bitter herbs.]**

**Leader:** **[Leader lifts the sweet apple mixture and shows it to everyone.]** The Haroset, the sweet apple mixture, has the same color as the bricks the Israelites made for Pharaoh. It reminds us that because of the hope we have in God the most bitter suffering can be turned into something sweet.

Let us now eat what is called the "Hillel Sandwich" named after one of the famous rabbis in the time of Yeshua. You break one piece of matzo and dip it in the bitter herbs. Then you break another piece of matzo and dip it into the sweet apple mixture. Combine both pieces into a "sandwich" and eat it. **[Leader illustrates it for everyone.]**

**[Each person makes a "sandwich" using the maror and the haroset.]**

## **9. The Offering – Ministering to God's People**

**Leader:** **[The Leader holds up the egg.]**

The roasted egg reminds us of the Temple in Jerusalem and the voluntary peace offering, called the "Hagigah," which was given on the second day of Passover. Jesus has given us peace with God. He has also brought peace by reconciling both Jew (House of Judah) and Gentile (House of Israel) in Him.

**Reader 2:** "For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace, and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility." (Eph 2:14-16)

**Reader 1:** "He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you [Gentiles] are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people [Israel] and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Messiah Yeshua himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit." (v. 17-22).

**Reader 2:** "In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Messiah, which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one

body, and sharers together in the promise in Messiah Yeshua." (Eph 3:4-6)

**Leader:** Let us now pray for all who believe in Jesus that more Christians will have their eyes opened to the revelation that we have not replaced Israel, but have been grafted into the commonwealth of Israel.

**[Leader leads in prayer. All pray.]**

**Reader 1:** The Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 15, "For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings." (Rom 15:26-27)

**Reader 2:** Yeshua said to the woman at the well in Samaria, "You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews." (John 4:22)

**Leader:** As we have seen in this celebration here tonight, salvation has come to us from the Jews. We don't have to sacrifice a peace offering here tonight, for the price has already been paid by Yeshua the paschal lamb. For John said behold the lamb who takes away the sins of the world.

## 10. The Dinner – It Is a Feast!

**Leader:** The kingdom of heaven is often likened in Scripture with a feast. "On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine — the best of meats and the finest of wines. On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from all the earth. The LORD has spoken. In that day they will say, 'Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation.'" (Isa 25:6-9)

"People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God." (Lk 13:29)

"And he said to them, 'I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. For I tell you, I will not eat it again until it finds fulfillment in the kingdom of God.'" (Lk 22:15-16)

Exod 12:14 says about the Passover, "So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD."

## Meal served

### 11. The Afikomen – "This Is My Body Broken for You!"

**Leader:** We now come to the communion part of the Seder meal. At this time it is a tradition that the children go and look for the Afikomen, the broken middle matzo that was hid away. The child who finds the Afikomen receives a prize.

[An Israeli shekel is an excellent reward if you have one!]

**[A child comes up and finds the white napkin with the Afikomen and gives it to the Leader who holds it up. The leader gives the child a shekel or local currency.]**

**Reader 1:** Yeshua said, "I tell you the truth, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." (Luke 18:17)

**Leader:** The Afikomen that has been broken and hidden away in a white linen napkin and now is taken out again, is a clear symbol of the resurrection of Yeshua.

**[The leader takes out the Afikomen and holds it up.]**

The Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians chapter 15, "Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain.

"For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Messiah died for our sins according to the Scriptures," the Afikomen was broken, "that he was buried," the Afikomen was wrapped in a white linen cloth and hid away,

"that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures." (1 Cor 15:1-4) Now the Afikomen, which literally means, "I came," has been retrieved again. Let us give thanks to God that the Messiah has come and that He rose from the

dead and is alive today!

**Reader 2:** "And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'" (Luke 22:19)

**Leader:** Let us receive the Messiah now as we share the Afikomen. I now send the Afikomen around the table. Each one of you, break a piece of the Afikomen, but do

not eat it yet. **[All break a piece of the Afikomen.]**

**Reader 1:** "The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Messiah? For we, though many, are one bread and one body; for we all partake of that

one bread." (1 Cor 10:16-17 NKJV)

**Reader 2:** "For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Yeshua on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He

had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.' " (1 Cor 11:23-24 NKJV)

**Leader:** Let us all do this in remembrance of Him as He commanded us. Let us "partake of that one bread", the broken middle matzo, and give praise and thanks to Him for giving His life for us.

**[All thank God for the broken body of Yeshua, the Bread of Life that has given us life and then eat of the Afikomen! Worship song.]**

**Leader:** The rabbis teach that after the destruction of the Temple, the Afikomen has taken the place of the Lambs that were sacrificed in the Temple and that it is the most important part of the Seder. Its taste should be what you remember from the meal. Let us now take some time and pray that, just as the Afikomen is found and eaten at the end of the Seder, Jesus in the last days will be revealed to His own people, who eat the Afikomen tonight without knowing what it represents.

***[Reader 1 leads in prayer. All pray!]***

## **12. The Third Cup - "This Is My Blood Shed for You!"**

**Leader:** Let us pour our cups for the third time this evening.

**[All fill the cups 1/3 full.]**

**Leader:** *[Lifting the cup]* This is the Cup of Redemption. It was this cup, the cup "after the supper" that Yeshua identified as the new covenant in His blood.

**Reader 2:** Paul wrote, "In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." (1 Cor 11:25-26)

**Leader:** It is the Afikomen and the third cup that has remained from the Passover meal as communion. What the Church has called "The Last Supper" was not a regular supper but a Jewish Passover Seder. This is the meal that our Savior commanded us to eat and remember Him! It is all about Him.

**Reader 1:** "Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Messiah?" (1 Cor 10:16)

**Leader:** Let us all take the cup like Messiah did and thank the Father for the new covenant in Jesus's blood! Let's all say together:

**All:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine. Thank You for the New Covenant in the Blood of Your Son!

**[All drink the cup and take time to give thanks to God for salvation in the blood of Yeshua.]**

## **13. The Cup of Elijah**

### **The Last Day's Outpouring of the Holy Spirit**

**Leader:** One chair at the Seder table in every Jewish home is always empty. It is reserved for the prophet Elijah. At this time in the Seder the cup of Elijah is poured and a child goes to the door and opens it to look for the prophet.

**[Pour the cup of Elijah at the demonstration table while a child goes to the door and opens it. The door is left open.]**

**Reader 1:** The prophet Malachi wrote, "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse." (Mal 4:5-6)

**Leader:** It has been the hope of the Jewish people for centuries that the prophet Elijah would come at Passover to introduce the Messiah to Israel. A song that is sung during the meal says, "Elijah the prophet, Elijah the Tishbite, Elijah the Gileadite, May he come quickly, in our days, with the Messiah, the son of David."

**Reader 2:** Already in the time of Yeshua, the disciples asked Him, "Why then do the teachers of the law say that Elijah must come first?" (Matt 17:10) Jesus confirmed this teaching saying, "To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things." (v. 11)

**Reader 1:** Before Jesus's first coming, John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way for Him. When he saw Jesus he told the people, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ...the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel." (John 1:29,31).

**Leader:** Even though John the Baptist was one fulfillment of the promise of Elijah, the final fulfillment is yet future. It is connected to the second coming of

Yeshua and "the great and dreadful day of the LORD." The prophetic ministry of Elijah will point the Jewish people to their Messiah,

Yeshua by healing the deep wound between the fathers – the Jewish people, and the children - the church. Israel will finally be brought to jealousy over "their children" and the church will repent from all anti Semitism and begin to honor "their fathers." If this healing between Israel and the church does not take place, the land of Israel will be destroyed with a curse on the "great and dreadful day of the Lord."

**Reader 2:** "The harvest is past, the summer has ended, and we are not saved.' Since my people are crushed, I am crushed; I mourn, and horror grips me. Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wound of my people?" (Jer 8:20-22).

**Leader:** While the door is open let us pray for the last days' prophetic ministry of restoration that will introduce the Jewish people to their Messiah.

**[Leader leads in intercession for the ministry of Elijah to be raised up. Afterwards the child closes the door.]**

## 14. The Fourth Cup The Cup of Praise

**Leader:** Let us all pour the fourth cup. *[All pour the fourth cup.]*

**Leader:** The fourth cup is the Cup of Praise symbolizing the last promise by God, "I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God." This speaks of the final end time salvation of Israel when the Lord will gather the Jewish

people again to Himself and be their God and we all shall be gathered in the rapture to meet Yeshua in the air.

**Reader 1:** "For the Israelites will live many days without king or prince, without sacrifice or sacred stones, without ephod or idol. Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days. (Hos 3:4-5)

**Reader 2:** "And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: 'The deliverer will come from Zion; he will turn godlessness away from Jacob. And this is my covenant with them when I take away their sins.' " (Rom 11:26-27)

**Reader 1:** "For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up

together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage each other with these words." (1 Th 4:16-18)

**Leader:** The salvation of Israel is sealed in the blood of Yeshua. In anticipation of the glorious future in God's kingdom when all Israel is saved and we will all sit at one table at the feast in the New Jerusalem and drink the cup anew with Yeshua, let us stand up and drink the fourth cup, the Cup of Praise!

**All:** Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine. **[All drink the fourth cup.]**

**Leader:** Let us thank God for His deliverance of His people and pray for God to protect His people, both the House of Judah and the House of Israel and those grafted in the Church. That God will deliver and save them during the tribulation which is to come upon the whole earth. A time which has never and will be ever experienced again.

## **15. Next Year In Jerusalem – Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem**

**Leader:** The final part of the Seder is the singing of the second half of the Hallel psalms, which is Psalms 115 – 118. This is also the way Jesus ended His last Passover

with His disciples.

**Reader 1:** "When they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives." (Mt 26:30)

**Leader:** It says in Ps 118, "The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes." (Ps 118:22-23) Jesus sang these words just hours before He fulfilled them as the leaders of His people rejected Him! Our Seder is now complete. We have retold the ancient story of salvation and deliverance and made it our own. We have seen how it all points to Yeshua, Jesus, - the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

If you have not received His eternal salvation through His shed blood by believing in Him and receiving Him into your heart as Savior and Lord, there is no better time to do that than right now.

**Reader 2:** "He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God." (Jn 1:11-12)

**Leader:** The Seder concludes with the traditional saying that has been repeated every Passover for two thousand years by the Jewish people: "Lashanah haba'ah b'Yerushalaim!" "Next year in Jerusalem!" Let us pray for the regathering of the Jewish people back to Jerusalem to welcome their Messiah.

**Reader 1:** "For I tell you [Jerusalem], you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'" (Matt 23:37-39)

**Reader 2:** "Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love you." (Ps 122:6 NKJV)

**Leader:** Let us close in prayer and thank God for sending His Son Jesus and for the sacrifice He made for us and that others will know him.