

Passover Haggadah (telling)

"Next year in Jerusalem!"



Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 1:2)

"And if ye be the Messiah's then ye are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." (Galatians 3:29)

"Remember that you were at that time separate from Christ, excluded from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenant of promise, having no hope and without God in the world, but now in Christ Jesus you who formerly were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ." (Ephesians 2:12-13)

Now this day will be a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations you are to celebrate it as a permanent ordinance. (Exodus 12:14)

We are instructed to keep the first day of Unleavened Bread as a "memorial" of the exodus from Egypt. It is one of God's reminders. God rescued Israel from Egypt and told His people to keep the festival as a remembrance of their salvation from bondage and slavery. But it was more than just a remembrance. It was also a rehearsal for something wonderful to come, an appointed time on God's calendar.

Fourteen hundred years after the exodus from Egypt, Yeshua (Jesus) went to Jerusalem with His disciples to keep the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread. He always kept the Father's appointed times. He and His disciples had been to Jerusalem to keep the Passover many times before this occasion. But this time was different. *As they neared Jerusalem, Yeshua said, "My time is near; I am to keep the Passover." (Matthew 26:18)* The appointed time was going to be fulfilled in a marvelous and unexpected way.

In Jerusalem, He kept the Seder meal with His disciples. He took the unleavened bread and the customary Passover cup and instructed His disciples to do so henceforth in remembrance of Him. According to John's chronology, on the day of the slaughter of the Passover lambs, He became the Passover Lamb. At the time when Israel slaughtered their Passover lambs in remembrance of their great salvation from

Egypt, Yeshua was crucified, and His blood was applied as a mark of salvation on all who would believe in Him. Therefore, when believers keep Passover, we have two things to remember. We remember the historic salvation from Egypt as the Torah commands us. But we also remember the salvation granted us through the sacrifice of Yeshua. The two remembrances are not mutually exclusive. They naturally complement one another.

Every year we keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread in remembrance of Yeshua. After all, Messiah Himself told us to keep the festival in remembrance of Him: *And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me."* (Luke 22:19)

Was it just breaking bread and drinking the fruit of the vine that He had in mind? Probably not. There was a specific context, and the context was Passover. In Luke He said, *"I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover (Pesach) with you before I suffer; for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God."* (Luke 22:15–16)

The commandment to do "this" in remembrance of Yeshua is not a commandment just to take a cup and some bread. The specific "this" to which Yeshua referred was the Passover Seder meal. It is not one cup but the traditional cups of Passover. It is not any bread; it is the unleavened *matzah* bread of Passover. What could be more appropriate for a disciple of Yeshua to do than to keep the festival of Passover in remembrance of Him, just as He told His disciples?

Tonight is a very special night. We are going to have a dinner celebration called a Passover Seder (order). This is a meal with special foods, practices, and Scripture readings that remind us of two very special true stories. The first story is how God delivered Moses and the Hebrew people from Egyptian slavery. The second is how Yeshua (Jesus) died for our sins. If you listen carefully you will see how the two stories are so much alike.

Now we will start the Passover Seder as Mother lights the candles.

May we reflect to the nations around us that we are Your redeemed people; a holy and set-apart people.

Take the fourth cup.

In Messiah Yeshua's name:

Baruch ata Adonai Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, borei p'ri hagafen.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine.

Drink from the fourth cup.

The cup of the Kingdom, the cup of hope, also looks to the future, to the return of Messiah as declared by the prophet Elijah. So with this cup we look to the time in which our final redemption will come and we will be truly sanctified, delivered, and redeemed.

The Lord has today declared you to be His people, a treasured possession, as He promised you, and that you should keep all His commandments; and that He will set you high above all nations which He has made, for praise, fame, and honor; and that you shall be a consecrated people to the Lord your God, as He has spoken. (Deut 26:18-19)

In this scripture we see that an inherent part of being the Lord's chosen one is to be a *"holy people...to your God."* To be His means to be like Him, to reflect His image, and to *"keep all His commandments."* (Deut 7:6, 26:18)

May the LORD rule over us forever. May the LORD be blessed in Heaven and in the earth. May the LORD sustain us and enable us to do His work. May the Lord allow us to see the day of Messiah's return. May He who makes peace in His heights grant peace to us and to all people. In His name we pray. Amen.

May we also pray for the peace of Jerusalem as He desires. (Psalm 122:6) And with the Jewish people who long for their Messiah we say:

Reader: This would have been more than enough, but Yeshua was resurrected showing His power over death and confirming a new covenant promised to Israel.

All: Dayenu!

Reader: This would have been more than enough, but Yeshua promises to return and take us unto Himself as His bride so that we might be with Him for eternity. He did all this when He didn't have to, except that He loves us and for this we are forever grateful.

Sing Dayenu!

Elijah – Is he here yet?

The Scriptures tell us that a prophet like Elijah was to come and announce the arrival of the Messiah. But this type of prophet has already come, for it is written about John the Baptist: *“This is the one that was spoken of by Isaiah the Prophet, saying, ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness, make ready the way of the Lord.’”* (Matthew 3:3)

However, Messiah is coming again! Could it be possible that there will again be an “Elijah-like prophet” who precedes the second coming of Messiah?

Whether or not this will happen, we do not know for sure, but there is a long-standing tradition to anticipate the arrival of Elijah so let's run to the door to see if he is here.



The Fourth Cup: The Cup of the Kingdom

“I am the Lord, and I will take you for My people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the Lord your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.” (Exodus 6:7)

Adonai, You have indeed called us forth. You have chosen us. You have redeemed us. You have lavished Your grace upon us and have given us Your Torah, and You have called us to shine Your light.

In Messiah Yeshua's name, Blessed are You, Lord our God, who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to be a light to the nations.

May You bring light into our hearts and minds as we honor and remember Your Son, the Light of the world, Yeshua the Messiah.

Light is the symbol of the divine. As it is written, The Lord is my light and salvation.

Light is the symbol of the divine in man. As it is written, the spirit of man is the light of the Lord.

Light is the symbol of divine law. As it is written, the Commandment is a lamp and the law is a light.

Light is a symbol of Israel's mission. As it is written, I the Lord have set thee for a covenant of the people, for a light unto the nations.

Seder Plate

This special plate is called a Seder plate. Each of the foods symbolize some part of the Passover story. This story is not only a story of physical deliverance from bondage, it is also a story of spiritual deliverance. Every part of Passover paints a picture of that redemption. There are three foods God tells us to eat this night and other foods have been added by men to help us remember Passover.

*“That same night they are to eat the **meat** roasted over the fire, along with **bitter herbs**, and **bread made without yeast**.”* (Exodus 12:8)

- 1) The **shank bone** of a lamb symbolizes the lamb eaten before they fled Egypt. It is a reminder of how the blood sacrifice of the original Passover lamb spared the people from the plague of the death of the firstborn. As the Lord spoke to Moses commanding the people to *“...slay the Passover lamb and take hyssop and dip it into the blood which is in the basin and apply some of the blood to the top and to the two sides of the doorway.”* (Exodus 12:21)

- 2) The **matzah** is made with no leaven to remind us the Hebrews left Egypt in a hurry. The bible tells us that leaven is like sin and represents our old nature. We are told to celebrate the Passover, “...*not with the old lump of dough that is corrupted with leaven, but with a new lump of dough in sincerity and truth, the truth of our new nature in Messiah.*” (I Cor 5:6-8)
- 3) The **bitter herbs** represent the bitterness of bondage.
- 4) The **Haroset** is mixture of apples, nuts, grape juice, and cinnamon. This represents the mortar the Israelites used to build the Egyptian cities and the sweetness of a better world.
- 5) The **karpas** symbolizes the new life for the Hebrews. The non-bitter vegetable is dipped into saltwater representing the tears of slavery.

The Four Cups

There are four times that we will drink wine (grape juice) during this meal; two times before dinner and twice after dinner. These four cups represent four expressions of redemption mentioned in the Bible.

"Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. Then I will take you for My people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. (Exodus 6:6-7)

- The first cup is called the Cup of Sanctification
- The second, the Cup of Deliverance
- The third, the Cup of Redemption
- The fourth, the Cup of the Kingdom



Dayenu (“It Would Have Been Enough.”)

Reader: It would have been enough if He had delivered us from Egyptian slavery, but He did far more than this. He destroyed their gods and gave us their possessions. Then he divided the sea and brought us through on dry ground

All: Dayenu!

Reader: This would have been more than enough, but then He brought us to Mt. Sinai and gave us His Torah that we might come to know the will of the LORD and the fullness of Kingdom living.

All: Dayenu!

Reader: This would have been enough, but then He supernaturally provided bread from heaven, living water from the Rock and made our clothes to last throughout the wilderness journey.

All: Dayenu!

Reader: This would have been more than enough, but then He brought us into His promised Land that we might possess it and enjoy its milk and honey.

All: Dayenu!

Reader: This would have been more than enough, but at the appointed time, He brought forth the promised Messiah, the true bread from Heaven, Yeshua, the prophet like Moses.

All: Dayenu!

Reader: This would have been more than enough, but Yeshua’s sacrificial death, of which the Passover lamb was a foreshadowing, gives us deliverance from eternal death and a freedom from spiritual slavery.

All: Dayenu!

We read from the Gospel of John:

"I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh." (John 6:51)



The Third Cup: The Cup of Redemption

And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins." (Mathew 26:27-28)

Take the third cup.

In Messiah Yeshua's name:

Baruch attah Adonai, Elohenu melekh ha olam bo're p'ri hagafen

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

Drink from the third cup.

Please fill your neighbor's fourth cup but don't drink yet.

We keep The Lord's Supper in remembrance of His sacrifice for us. Yeshua the Messiah became our Passover Lamb, symbolized here by the unleavened bread and the fruit of the vine. Blessed is the Lord our God!

The Hallel (Psalms 113-118)

It is a very old tradition to sing these Psalms for Passover.

We read at The Last Supper from Matthew: *"But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."* **After singing a hymn**, they went out to the Mount of Olives. (Mathew 26:29-30)



The First Cup: The Cup of Sanctification

Please fill your neighbor's cup at this time. The cup is filled by someone else to symbolize that each person is royalty this night.

This first cup is the **Cup of Sanctification**. Sanctification means to be set apart. We are to be a set apart people for God. God told the people, *"I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."* (Exodus 6:6) In the same way God has redeemed us from sin, set us apart, when we accept Yeshua as our Lord.

Take the first cup.

In Messiah Yeshua's name:

Baruch attah Adonai, Elohenu melekh ha olam bo're p'ri hagafen.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

Drink from the first cup as you lean to your left; symbolizing the freedom we now have. We are free to serve God.

Was the Torah given to slaves or to free men? The Israelites had been freed from Egypt. They were not free to do as they pleased. They would soon receive instructions for how to live at Mt. Sinai and become a sanctified people. They were free to serve the Lord.

But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth. (2 Thessalonians 2:13)

Eating of the Karpas (Dipping Vegetables)



We dip the karpas (celery or parsley) into the saltwater and **eat of it**. The vegetable is said to symbolize the lowly origins of the people; the

saltwater symbolizes the tears shed as a result of the slavery. May we also remember the tears Messiah shed over His people and how we were once a slave to sin.



The Matzah (Unleavened Bread)

This bread is called unleavened bread. See how flat it is; it has no leavening in it. The Hebrews had to leave very fast and they were unable to wait for their bread to rise. In the Bible leavening is a symbol of sin, so unleavened is a symbol of having no sin.

This bread is also a portrait of Yeshua, who had no sin. He is the bread of life. Yeshua said, *"I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread which comes down out of heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread also which I will give for the life of the world is My flesh."* (John 6:48-51)

Yeshua was broken for us and was hidden in the belly of the earth for three days and three nights. Tonight we break the Matzah and hide it to help us remember His great sacrifice for our sins. We wrap the matzah to represent how Yeshua was wrapped in linen for His burial. Later we will send the kids looking for the hidden bread. A prize will be given to the child that finds it. It can be likened to those who went searching for Messiah at the tomb. We will eventually eat of this matzah as He commanded us.

Remove the middle piece of matzah and break it in two. Place the smaller part between the two whole matzot. Wrap the larger piece in linen for the Afikomen. The Afikomen is then hidden.



The Passover Story

When you enter the land which the LORD will give you, as He has promised, you shall observe this rite. And when your children say to you, 'What does this rite mean to you?' you shall say, 'It is a Passover sacrifice to the LORD who passed over the houses of the sons of Israel in Egypt when He smote the Egyptians, but spared

forever it endures, and through His great goodness, we have never lacked, may we never lack, for food for all of eternity. For the sake of His great name, because He is God who feeds and sustains, and benefits all, and prepares food for all of His creatures which He has created, blessed are you Lord, who feeds all, Amen

Please fill your neighbor's third cup but don't drink yet.



Hunt for The Afikoman (The Coming One)

Dinner is finished but our Seder is not over. The children can look for the Afikoman. Whoever finds it can bring it to me for a prize. This reminds me of a parable the master spoke of.

The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. Mathew 13:44

Yeshua is our treasure. At Passover we read from Luke: *"And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, 'This is My **body** which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.'"* (Luke 22:19)

Everyone takes a portion of the afikomen and eats the entire afikomen.

In Messiah Yeshua's name:

Baruch attah Adonai, Elohenu melekh ha olam, asher kidshanu bemitzvotav vitzivanu alahkelat matzah.

Blessed are You, Lord, our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to eat unleavened bread in remembrance of Messiah Yeshua.

Everyone takes a small piece of matzah, dips it into the mixture of bitter herbs and eats it.



Eating the Haroset

Now we will eat the bitter herbs on the matzah again, this time with the Haroset.

The Haroset symbolizes the mortar used by the Jews in building during their slavery. This mixture symbolizes how the sweetness of Yeshua can overcome bitter sin.

In Messiah Yeshua's name:

Blessed are You, Lord, Our God, King of the Universe, who has ordained that we celebrate the Passover. Help us, God, to remember the two stories of how You give freedom to Your people, first the freedom from Egypt, and now our freedom from sin through Your precious Son, Yeshua.

Everyone takes a small piece of matzah, dips it into the mixture of bitter herbs and Haroset and eats it.



Enjoy the special Passover dinner.

*"When you have eaten and are **satisfied**, you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land which He has given you."* (Deuteronomy 8:10)

He took the seven loaves and the fish; and giving thanks, He broke them and started giving them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. And they all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up what was left over of the broken pieces, seven large baskets full. (Mathew15:36-37)

Say grace after the meal:

Blessed are you Lord our God, King of the Universe, who feeds the entire world with His goodness, with grace, with kindness, with mercy. He gives food to all flesh, His kindness

our homes " And the people bowed low and worshiped. (Exodus 12:25-27)

A long time ago, before Jesus walked the earth, the Hebrew people who believed in the one true God, lived in Egypt. A new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph or the God of the Hebrews. This king treated the Hebrew people harshly and made slaves of them and forced them to work very hard. The Hebrews grew in number and Pharaoh was concerned that they might turn against the Egyptians. Pharaoh was worried about the Hebrews becoming too plentiful, so he ordered the soldiers to kill all the Hebrew baby boys. One Hebrew mother decided to hide her baby boy from the soldiers. Knowing she could not hide him no longer, she put the baby in a basket covered with tar and pitch and placed it amongst the reeds in the river. It was there that Pharaoh's daughter discovered the basket with the baby boy inside.

When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the boy was crying. And she had pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women that she may nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go ahead." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Then Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him. The child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. And she named him Moses, and said, "Because I drew him out of the water." Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up, that he went out to his brethren and looked on their hard labors; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. So he looked this way and that, and when he saw there was no one around, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. (Exodus 2:6-12)

Moses feared for his life and ran from Pharaoh to the land of Midian until God appeared to him there in a burning bush and spoke to him.

"...I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob" Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. The LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have given heed to their

cry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. So I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey..." "I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt." (Exodus 3:6-10)

And afterward Moses and Aaron came and said to Pharaoh, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, 'Let My people go that they may celebrate a feast to Me in the wilderness.'" But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and besides, I will not let Israel go." (Exodus 5:1-2)

Moses told Pharaoh if he didn't let the people go great plagues would come upon Egypt. Pharaoh did not listen and God sent ten horrible plagues:

- 1) The water in Egypt was turned to blood; the Nile River, the streams, and all water in containers became blood.
- 2) The land was covered with frogs.
- 3) The land was covered with lice.
- 4) The land was filled with swarms of flies.
- 5) A plague killed the Egyptian livestock. The livestock of the sons of Israel were unharmed.
- 6) Boils/sores broke out on man and beast.
- 7) Heavy hail fell killing man and beast.
- 8) Locusts covered the ground, consuming all plants.
- 9) Three days of darkness, so heavy it could be felt, descended upon the Egyptians. The sons of Israel had light in their dwellings.

After nine of the ten plagues God told the Hebrew people that each man was to choose a one-year old healthy male lamb for his family on the tenth of the month. On the fourteenth of the month, they would kill the lamb and smear the blood on the doorposts of their homes where they would eat the fire cooked lamb. They were to eat the lamb with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. The meal was eaten with their sandals on and their staffs in hand. The people needed to be ready to leave Egypt in a hurry. This is what they did to prepare for the tenth and final plague, the death of the firstborn.

Drink from the second cup as you lean to your left; symbolizing the freedom we now have. We are free to serve God.



Eating the Matzah (Unleavened Bread)

Break off a piece of Matzah and pass the plate.

As we read earlier: *"Now this day will be a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations you are to celebrate it as a permanent ordinance. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread..."* (Exodus 12:14-15)

In Messiah Yeshua's name:

Baruch attah Adonai, Elohenu melekh ha olam, asher kidshanu bemitzvotav vitzivanu alahkelat matzah.

Blessed are You, Lord, our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to eat unleavened bread.

Eat the unleavened bread.



Eating the Bitter Herbs

*"That same night they are to eat the meat roasted over the fire, along with **bitter herbs**, and bread made without yeast."* (Exodus 12:8)

This symbolizes the bitterness of slavery and the bitterness of our sin. The bitter vegetable should be eaten together with matzah. Let us also remember the bitterness of the crucifixion Yeshua Jesus went through for our sins.

We will be using horseradish to represent the bitter herb.

In Messiah Yeshua's name:

Blessed are You, Lord, Our God, King of the Universe, who has commanded us to eat of the bitter herbs.

A few similarities between the two Passover stories:

- 1) Just as the people were to select their lamb on the tenth of Nisan, so did those in Jerusalem select the “lamb of God” as they shouted, “Hosanna to the son of David”.
- 2) Just as the lamb was set aside for four days to make sure it was without blemish, so was the Master on public display in the temple to verify His unblemished life.
- 3) Just as the lamb was sacrificed at 3:00 p.m., so was Yeshua at the same hour.
- 4) Just as the blood of the lamb applied to the doorposts saved the Israelite’s firstborn, so does the blood of Yeshua on the cross save us.



The Second Cup: The Cup of Deliverance

Please fill your neighbor’s cup at this time.

“I am the Lord, and I will deliver you from their bondage.”

Let us all think and act as if we had been rescued from Egypt. God has brought us from slavery to freedom and from sorrow to joy.

In Messiah Yeshua’s name:

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who delivered us and our ancestors from Egypt, and has brought us to this night.

Take the second cup.

In Messiah Yeshua’s name:

Baruch attah Adonai, Elohenu melekh ha olam bo’re p’ri hagafen.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

For I will go through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments -- I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live; and when I see the blood I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. Now this day will be a memorial to you, and you shall celebrate it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations you are to celebrate it as a permanent ordinance. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, but on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses; for whoever eats anything leavened from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel. On the first day you shall have a holy assembly, and another holy assembly on the seventh day; no work at all shall be done on them, except what must be eaten by every person, that alone may be prepared by you. You shall also observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your hosts out of the land of Egypt; therefore you shall observe this day throughout your generations as a permanent ordinance. In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening. Seven days there shall be no leaven found in your houses; for whoever eats what is leavened, that person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is an alien or a native of the land. (Exodus 12:12-19)

Now it came about at midnight that the LORD struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of cattle. Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians, and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was no home where there was not someone dead. Then he called for Moses and Aaron at night and said, "Rise up, get out from among my people, both you and the sons of Israel; and go, worship the LORD, as you have said. (Exodus 12:29-31)

The sad and frightened Egyptians insisted the Hebrew people hurry and leave the country “... ‘for otherwise,’ they said, ‘We will all die!’” (Exodus 12:33)

So the people took their dough before the yeast was added, and carried it on their shoulders wrapped in clothing. They baked it into

hard bread called matzah. When Pharaoh let the people go, God led the people around by the desert road toward the Red Sea. The Israelites left Egypt.

By day the Lord went ahead of them in a pillar of cloud to guide them on their way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so that they could travel by day or night. (Exodus 14:21)

When the King of Egypt was told that the people had fled, Pharaoh and his officials changed their minds about them and said, "What have we done? We have let the Israelites go and have lost all our slaves!" (Exodus 14:5)

Pharaoh took 600 of the best chariots, along with all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them to go after the Israelites. The Egyptians, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots, horsemen and troops, chased the Israelites and caught up with them as they camped by the sea. (Exodus 14:6-7)

As Pharaoh got closer, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to God. (Exodus 14:10)

Moses told the people, 'Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance God will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still. Then God said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on. Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground. (Exodus 14:13-16)

The angel of God, who had been traveling in front of Israel's army, withdrew and went behind them. The pillar of cloud also moved from in front and stood behind them, coming between the armies of Egypt and Israel. Throughout the night the cloud brought darkness to the one side and light to the other side; so neither went near the other all night long. Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night God drove the sea back and turned it into dry land. The Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. (Exodus 14:19-22)

The Egyptians chased after them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea. God looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion. He made the wheels of their chariots come off so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! God is fighting for them against Egypt." (Exodus 14:23-25)

Then God said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen." Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and God swept them into the sea. The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen- the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived. (Exodus 14:26-28)

That day God saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians. "And when the Israelites saw the great power the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant." (Exodus 14:31)

God said that Passover was a day to be celebrated for the generations to come. He said it was to be a festival to God every year, to remember that our fathers were once slaves in Egypt, but now we are free.

Can you see the symbolism of the first Passover and Yeshua? When John the Baptist was baptizing people and he saw Yeshua coming he said, "Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)

Yeshua had the Passover Seder with His disciples on the eve of His death. The next day Yeshua was beaten with a whip and at 3:00 p.m. was crucified on the cross for our sins. The blood shed on the cross was similar to the blood on the doorpost of the homes in Egypt. When we come to faith in Yeshua, we have passed over from death to life.