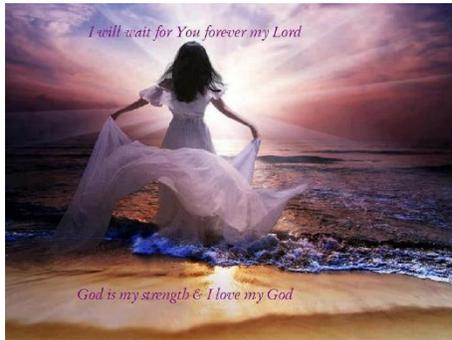


The Biblical Passover!

The Hebrew word is Pesach. Passover is a “shadow” of things to come and a sacredness that includes the understanding of the blood covenant with the mark of the firstborn, the judgment and **“the wedding feast”** of the bride. It is in memory of all generations that Yahuwah brought the children of Israel out of the bondage in Egypt and from the slavery of sin.



The Scripture clearly identifies the bride with Israel, Yahuwah's wife. The people of Israel, all 12 tribes, 12,000 from each tribe, are the first fruits of the harvest according to Revelation 7:4. That may not agree with some people, but so it is!

Revelation 7:4 (The Scriptures) „**And I heard the number of those who were sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand, sealed out of all the tribes of the children of Yisra'ël.**“

The eight-day festival of Passover is celebrated in the early spring, from the 15th through the 22nd of the Hebrew month of Nissan. It commemorates the emancipation of the Israelites from slavery in ancient Egypt. And by following the rituals of Passover, we have the ability to relive and experience the true freedom that our ancestors gained.



Pharaoh represents Satan, who would not allow to release Yahuwah's people from the bondage of slavery! Let's not forget that Satan is still the same today as at the time of Pharaoh. His goal is to steal, to kill and to destroy according to John 10:10.

Adam and Eve were originally created to be living forever, covered and protected by Yahuwah's glory. There was no separation until they disobeyed!

Love produces obedience and hatred is the result of disobedience. It was the pride of Satan that became hatred. This hatred was transferred from Satan to Eve and she passed it on to Adam. Love on the other hand is selfless and comes from our Heavenly Father!

Separated from YHVH His creation turned into hatred and selfishness. When the glory of Yahuwah left Adam and Eve and they knew what is good and what is evil, they realized that they were naked and tried to hide from his presence. They began to die.

Yahuwah covered their naked bodies with lambskin. Innocent animals had to die. That was a symbol of the first Passover.

Without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin, because the life is in the blood! We read in Leviticus 17: 11-12 – The Scriptures: **“For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your lives, for it is the blood that makes atonement for the life.”** “Therefore I said to the children

of Yisra'el, 'No being among you eats blood, nor does any stranger who sojourns among you eat blood.'"

Pesach (Passover) is the season of our redemption. This festival is being celebrated every year in order to be reminded of what Yahuwah Elohim has done for us through Yahusha, our Savior 2,000 years ago.

Israel was in Egyptian slavery for many years! When the people in their distress cried to Elohim, he called Moses to deliver them! Since Pharaoh refused to let the people go to hold a feast for their Elohim in the desert, Yahuwah brought 10 plagues over the land of Egypt until Pharaoh was forced to let them go.

During the 10th and the last plague all of the firstborn in Egypt died. This was the final blow, which compelled Pharaoh to release the Israelites.

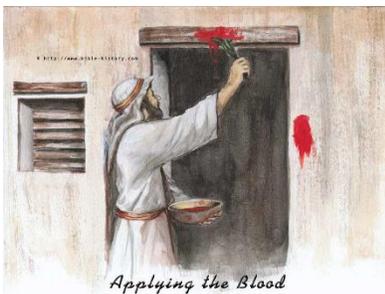


Yahuwah Elohim gave HIS people a way to escape this destruction of the firstborn. The blood of a flawless lamb took the place of the firstborn of every family. They received detailed instructions, which they had to follow during that night in order to save their firstborn (*see Exodus 12*).

On the 10th day of the month of Abib each family was to choose a ONE-year old, flawless, perfect male lamb and to keep it until the 14th day. During these days the family were able to build a personal relationship with this lamb, so it

became their very own or become attached to it.

On the evening of the 14th day of the first month (*the month of Nisan or Abib*) this lamb was slaughtered.



The blood of this lamb was applied to the two doorposts and the lintel of their houses! **The question is WHY? The blood of the Lamb meant protection from the destroying angel, who went through the Land of Egypt on that night.**

At all houses where the blood was applied, the angel of death passed over (*therefore the term Passover*). Thus the Israelites were protected through the blood of a substitute (*the Lamb*)!

When did YHVH strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt? It was at midnight!

Was that the 14th or the 15th day of the first month? This is something to think about as there are different opinions!

„And it came to pass, that at midnight Yahuwah smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of cattle.” *Exodus 12:29 – (Restoration study Bible)*

During that night they ate the roasted meat of the lamb. With the meat they should eat bitter herbs as a sign of the bitter days of slavery, which is now coming to an end.



From that time on they must eat unleavened bread (*Matzah*) for the next 7 days (*the Feast of unleavened bread*). During this night, before the Exodus, there was no time to wait for the bread dough to rise. So the Matzah is initially a sign of **the bread of their affliction in captivity.** This dry unleavened bread is one of the key symbols of the festival **“that thou mayest remember the day when thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of thy life.”**

Deuteronomy 16:3 RSB

At the same time the leaven is also a sign of the old life of bondage in sin, they need to leave behind in order to come into the Promised Land! For that reason each family removes the leaven from their home. Every traditional household in addition conducts a final search for leaven throughout the house, gathers it together and burn it, after which the house is kosher for Passover.

This Passover should be held every year (*not monthly or weekly*) as a commemoration of all generations to the end of the world.

Here is the command in Exodus 12:14 (RSB) **“And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to Yahuwah throughout your generations, ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever.”**

The Passover festival was not only to remind them of their liberation from Egyptian slavery, but also had a symbolic meaning looking forward to the sacrifice of Yahusha to free man from the curse of sin. The blood of the Passover lamb is pointing us forward to the shed blood of Yahusha, which brings us salvation from our sins and the penalty, which is eternal death.

The Passover lamb foreshadowed the death of Yahusha as just mentioned! All we have to do is read 1. Corinthians 5:7, Exodus 12:13 and John 1:29!



Just think about it. Yahusha was nailed to the execution stake (*Cross*) on the 14th day of the first month (*Abib or Nisan*), exactly at the same hour and the same day on which the Passover lamb was slaughtered (*John 19:31*), which was the middle of the week, not on a Friday as taught by religion!

Check it out for yourself, don't believe what I say, verify what you just heard! History and the Bible will prove it!

The previous evening (*Tuesday*) Yahusha celebrated Passover with His disciples!

Yahusha knowing that he would be crucified before the regular time for the Passover meal on Nisan 14, deliberately held it one day early. This was an emergency situation, as he was the lamb to be sacrificed at the appointed time. It was a Passover meal in intention, but without a lamb as He was the lamb. (*Luke 22:7-16*)

One of Messiah's last earthly acts was the celebration of the Passover. Gathering his disciples in a small room in Jerusalem, he led them in a Seder. **“I have early desired to**

eat this Passover with you before I suffer.” (Luke 22:15). *The main elements of the Seder in reference to Yahusha are as follows:*

1. Removing all Leaven!

On the eve of the Seder the whole house will be searched with great thoroughness for leftover pastry and leavened bread, because the premise has to be completely free from any leaven **before Passover**.

Even the smallest crumbs must be removed. It is about a complete separation from the “old leaven”.

Paulus told the Corinthian in 1. Corinthian 5:7 (*Restoration Study Bible*) „**Purge out therefore the old leaven that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Messiah our Passover is sacrificed for us.**”

Seven days unleavened bread must be eaten in commemorating the rapidity of the Exodus, when there was no time for bread baking with sourdough. This was also a symbol of the slavery of Egypt (the old leaven), from which it has now been freed.



The leaven is according to the apostle Paul a symbol for our sin and the bondage of sin. Through J'schua's death we are released from that power of sin, from the rule of leaven.

Look at Paul's words in 1. Corinthians 5:6-8 (RSB) „**Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Messiah our**

Passover is sacrificed for us. 8. Therefore let us keep the feast not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with he unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”

Lighting the candles!

The actual liturgy of the Seder begins with the lighting of candles by a woman!

Light is always the symbol of the presence of Yahuwah! In the New Testament Yahusha is called the light of the world. He Himself stated in John 8:12 (RSB) it states: “**Then spake Yahusha again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world, he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.**”

That the candle is being lit by a woman, is of the messianic view an image that Yahusha, the light of the world, was born by a woman and came this way into the world!



The four cups of wine by the Seder! The wine is a very important element of the Seder and symbolizes the joy of salvation!

During the Seder four cups of wine are drunk! These 4 cups are derived from Exodus 6:6-7. The liberation of Israel from bondage in Egypt is described with four different terms, after which the 4 cups were named:

It says in Exodus 6: 6-7 (RSB): **“Wherefore say unto the children of Israel. I am YHVH! And I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, And I will rid you out of their bondage, And I will redeem you with a stretched out Arm, and with great judgments, And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a Elohim.”**



1. The Cup of Sanctification!

Israel is being set apart to live for Yahuwah, to be His special people! The Cup of Sanctification – based on Yahuwah’s statement, **“I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.”**

2. The Cup of Judgment or deliverance!

This is based on Yahuwah’s statement, **“I will deliver you from slavery of Egypt”**.

The meaning for spiritual Israel, the followers of Yahusha is the deliverance from the bondage and penalty of sin by the blood of Yahusha.

3. The Cup of Redemption!

This is based on Yahuwah’s statement, “I will redeem you with an outstretched arm”
The meaning for spiritual Israel or the followers of Yahusha is that they are delivered from sin and eternal perdition through the blood of Yahusha as the true paschal lamb.

4. The 4th cup is the cup of acceptance or hope!

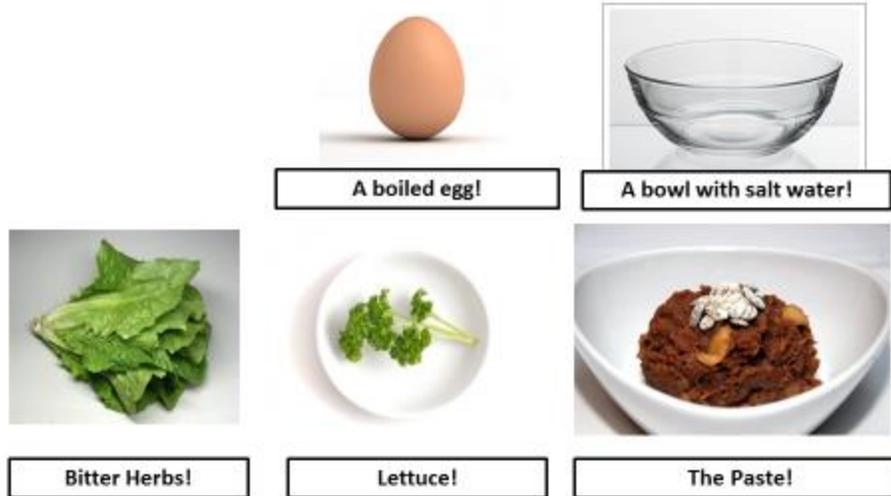
The Fourth Cup is connected in the traditional Passover Seder with the coming of Elijah the Prophet.

This cup envisions the time, when true Israel and all those who have joined, will worship YHVH in truth forever. It indicates the return of Yahusha and the completion of his kingdom.

Matzah

An important part, which is used for the Seder as I had mentioned before is the Matzah! Matzah is more than a commemorative food. It is called the ‘bread of affliction’ or a ‘poor man’s bread’. It remains flat symbolizing humility. Regular bread that rises and swells symbolizes arrogance. On Passover we remove all leavened bread (*and grain products*) from our homes, eating only the Matzah. We symbolize the removal of all arrogance and egotism turning instead to humility, appreciating a cause greater than ourselves.

The elements of the Seder Plate!



The Bitter Herbs!

Bitter herbs (maror) remind us of the bitterness of the slavery of our forefathers in Egypt. Fresh grated horseradish, romaine lettuce, and endive are the most common choices.

A bowl of salt water!

The saltwater represents the tears of our ancestors in Egypt. In reference to the Messiah, it also remind us of the bitter sufferings of our Savior here on earth.

A green vegetable, most often parsley! (These are called Karpas)

Karpas represents the initial flourishing of the Israelites during the first years in Egypt. It also symbolizes the new spring. One of the names for Passover is Hag Ha-Aviv or the "holiday of spring." The parsley reminds you of that bunch of hyssop, which the Israelites used at the 1st Passover to apply the blood of the lamb on the doorposts.

Charoset - Haroset: (symbolizing mortar)

A sweet, brown mixture representing the mortar used by the Hebrew slaves to build the storehouses or pyramids of Egypt. Charoset is traditionally made from chopped nuts, grated apples, cinnamon, and sweet red wine. Since this mixture is sweet, it is also a symbol for the joy of salvation and to be freed from this slavery!

A Boiled Egg!

A hard-boiled egg represents the holiday offering brought in the days of the Holy Temple. The meat of this animal constituted the main part of the Passover meal.

The Passover is also symbolically looking forward to the final redemption at the Second Coming of Yahusha, the Messiah.



Yahusha promised to celebrate Passover with His people at His Second Coming according to Scripture. (Revelation 15:3-8; 21:27; Luke 22:15-16)

„And he said unto them, With desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. 16. For I say unto you, I will not any more eat therefore, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of Yahuwah.” Luke 22:15-16 RSB

Now the question is how should the Passover be kept?

Let's look at John 13:1-15 (The Scriptures)

„1. And before the Festival of the Passover, יְהוֹשֻׁעַ knowing that His hour had come that He should move out of this world unto the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. 2 And supper taking place, the devil having already put it into the heart of Yehudah from Qerioth, son of Shim'on, to deliver Him up, 3 יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yahusha) knowing that the Father had given all into His hands, and that He had come from Elohim and was going to Elohim, 4 rose from supper and laid aside His garments, and having taken a towel, He girded Himself. 5 After that He put water into a basin and began to wash the feet of the taught ones, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded. 6 And so He came to Shim'on Kěpha, and he said to Him, “Master, do You wash my feet?” 7 יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yahusha) answered and said to him, “You do not know what I am doing now, but you shall know after this.” 8 Kěpha (Peter) said to Him, “By no means shall You wash my feet, ever!” יְהוֹשֻׁעַ (Yahusha) answered him, “If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me.” 9 Shim'on Kěpha said to Him, “Master, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head!” John 13:10 יְהוֹשֻׁעַ said to him, “He who has had a bath does not need to wash, except his feet, but is clean altogether. And you are clean, but not all of you.” 11 For He knew who would deliver Him up, so He said, “You are not all clean.” 12 So when He had washed their feet and taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? 13 “You call me Teacher and Master, and you say well, for I am. 14 “Then if I, Master and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. 15 **“For I gave you an example, that you should do as I have done to you.”**



John 13:17 “If you know these teachings, blessed are you if you do them.” The Scriptures

Yahusha is the Passover lamb, for that reason we do not eat real lamb at this festival. According to his own words the unleavened bread (*matzah*) represent His body.

John 6:51 “I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live forever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which

I will give for the life of the world.“

The cup or wine represents the renewed covenant in His blood that was sacrificed for the forgiveness of our sins, for without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. (Hebrews 9:22)

The Matzah and the wine is not being “changed” into the actual body of Yahusha as taught by the Catholic Church. These are simply symbols representing His body and blood. This is to be understood metaphorically. He wants to live in us through His word, the Torah (*His teachings*). He is the bread of Life and we live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of Yahuwah according to Matthew 4:4!

In the words of YHVH is strength and power!

We read in Psalm 33:8-9 (RSB) **“Let all the earth fear Yahuwah: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe! 9. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.”**

We too live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of Yahuwah, both believers and unbelievers.

The Bible says in Matthew 5:45 **“For he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.”**

Matthew 26:26 **“And as they were eating, Yahusha took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat, this is my body.”** (RSB)

Then it states in 1. Corinthians 11:24 **“...this do in remembrance of me!”** (RSB)

Matthew 26:27 (RSB) **“And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it.”**

Matthew 26:29 **“But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”** RSB

In 1. Corinthians 11:26 Paul added these words: **“For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Master’s death till he come.”** (RSB)

“Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. 2 Blessed is the man to whom יהוה (YHVH) imputes no crookedness, And in whose spirit there is no deceit. !” *Psalm 32:1-2 The Scriptures*

“Blessed are the perfect in the way, Who walk in the Torah of יהוה (YHVH)

2. Blessed are those who observe His witnesses, who seek Him with all the heart!”

Psalm 119, 1-2 The Scriptures

Why are these people blessed? **Because it is talking about eternal life, Peace and Joy!**

Here is what the Scripture is promising us: **„Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things, which Elohim hath prepared for them that love HIM (SEE Isa 64:1).”** *1. Corinthians 2:9*



**Then Scripture states in Matthew 26:30:
“And having sung a song, they went out
to the Mount of Olives.” *The Scriptures***