

Haggadah

(Passover Program)

with
Thom and Tresta Neil



Haggadah

הַגָּדָה שֶׁל פֶּסַח

(Passover Program)

The “Haggadah” (הַגָּדָה - the telling) is the text read during a Passover Seder (סֵדֶר - ordered meal). A traditional Jewish Haggadah takes HOURS and HOURS, but for your entertainment and enjoyment, the process has been extremely shortened!

Please join us in singing well-known tunes illustrating concepts taught at traditional Seders dating back to Biblical times.

Also prepare to do the things that are underlined and repeat the blessing that are in *italics* with the leaders as we go through each symbolism of the Passover and the Exodus. Think about the symbolism of eating and drinking while going through the Passover.

We thank you for your attendance and hope you enjoy learning more about some of the traditions at the time of Christ and learn the symbols and importance of the bread and water today. But most importantly, come closer to Christ who redeemed us all from the bonds of death and pain.

Let Us Rejoice!

Preparation

It takes quite a bit of preparation for a proper Passover Seder. The house is super cleaned SPOTLESS and in very specific ways (think tradition of Spring Cleaning). Things are arranged with specific purposes and traditions in mind. Jews take this ceremony VERY seriously. It's a time for remembering blessings, trials, family, the purpose of life, and gratitude to our Creator for everything we are and have. The following song is an overview of the Seder.

Our Passover Things

(to the tune of "My Favorite Things")

Cleaning and cooking and so many dishes
Out with the chametz, no pasta, no knishes
Fish that's gefilted, horseradish that stings
These are a few of our Passover things.

Matzo and karpas and chopped up charoset
Shankbones and kiddush and Yiddish neuroses
Tante who kvetches and uncles who sing
These are a few of our Passover things.

Motzi and maror and trouble with Pharaohs
Famines and locusts and slaves with wheelbarrows
Matzo balls floating and eggshell that clings
These are a few of our Passover things ...

When the plagues strike
When the lice bite
When we're feeling sad
We simply remember our Passover things
And then we don't feel, so bad!

Introduction

Yom Tov (יום טוב) - Lighting Passover Candle

Mother Lights the Candle

with both hands she draws the warmth towards her face

Praised be Thou, O Lord our God, whose presence fills the Universe, who has sanctified our lives through Thy commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of the Passover Festival.

Praised art Thou, Who has chosen us, exalted and sanctified us through Thy commandments. Out of Thy love, Thou has given us appointed seasons for rejoicing, the time of our freedom, a sacred remembrance of the departure from Egypt. Praised art Thou, O Eternal, Who sanctifies Israel and the festive seasons, Who has preserved us and sustained us and brought us to this season. May thou bring us to enjoy in peace other seasons, that we may rejoice in the building of thy Kingdom on Earth and exalt in thy holy service. We give thanks to thee for our deliverance and for the redemption of our souls. Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe.

(Optional: Sing Hymn 95, “Now Thank We all Our God”)

Part ONE

Kadesh (קדש)

Sanctify the Name of God

Fill First Cup of Juice

“Praised be Thou, o Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, Creator of the Fruit of the Vine”

Recline & Drink the “Cup of Blessings”

Part TWO

U'rechatz (וִּרְחַץ)

Washing Hands

The Hands Washed (without a blessing)

Part THREE

Karpas (כַּרְפָּס)

The Greens Eaten

Dip the Greens in the Salt Water

*Praised art Thou, O, Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe,
Creator of the Fruit of the Earth.*

Eat the Greens

Part FOUR

U'chatz (וִּחַץ)

Hide the Afikomen

Father breaks the middle Matzah in two,
Wrap half in a napkin. We call this "Afikomen."
Pass it to the person on his right. Return the other
half to the middle of the stack

Maggid (מגיד)

The Passover Story

Open door ~ lift plate of matzah

This is the bread of affliction which our ancestors ate in the land of Egypt. All who are hungry, let them come and eat. All who are needy, let them come and celebrate the Passover with us. This year we are here, next year may we be in the Land of Israel (symbolic of being with God again). Yesterday we were slaves, today we are free.

Put matzah down and leave uncovered ~ shut door

Fill the second cup of juice

The Four Questions asked by the Youngest

(Ma Nishtana - מָה נִשְׁתַּנָּה)

1 - *Why, on all other nights, do we eat either leavened bread or matzo, but tonight we eat only matzah?*

2 - *Why, on all other nights, do we eat all kinds of vegetable, but tonight we eat bitter herbs?*

3 - *Why, on all other nights, do we not make a point of dipping at all, but tonight we make a point of dipping twice?*

4 - *Why, on all other nights do we eat either sitting up or reclining, but tonight we all make a point of reclining?*

The Four Types of Children (described in Exodus 13)

Retell the Story of Oppression: (read together as a whole group)

The sons, families and followers of Jacob, about 70 persons in all, left the land of Canaan to find work and better land to farm in Egypt. At that time Joseph, Jacob's son, had become a senior advisor to Pharaoh, the ruler of Egypt. Both Joseph and Pharaoh welcomed the Israelites to Egypt warmly.

Over the next 430 years the Israelite families grew in numbers from hundreds to hundreds of thousands. New Pharaohs ruled Egypt and eventually became cruel to the Israelites, making them all slaves and imposing hard work on them. The Israelites cried out to God for help. God heard their cries and remembered the covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

And God said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmaster; for I know their sorrow...and I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go... and I will stretch out my hand and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof; and after that he will let you go." (Exodus 1-3)

God raised up a humble shepherd named Moses. Moses told Pharaoh that God wanted his people to be free, Pharaoh refused, so God brought plagues to the land of Egypt. Jewish traditions and ceremonies are all about remembrance. The plagues remind us how badly God wanted them out of Egypt, and how far He was willing to go to get Pharaoh to concede and free His people.

As we sing this song, place you finger into the drink for each of the plagues, place the droplet onto your napkin.

The Ten Plagues

(to the tune, "This Old Man")

Then God sent plague number one,
Turned the Nile into BLOOD!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, "Let them GO!"

Then God sent plague number two,
Jumping FROGS all over you!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, "Let them GO!"

Then God sent plague number three,
Swarms of GNATS from head to knee!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, "Let them GO!"

Then God sent plague number four,
Filthy FLIES! Need we say more?
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, "Let them GO!"

Then God sent plague number five,
All the LIVESTOCK up and DIED!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, "Let them GO!"

Then God sent plague number six,
BOILS and sores to make you sick!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, "Let them GO!"

Then God sent plague number seven,
HAIL and lightning down from heaven!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, “Let them GO!”

Then God sent plague number eight,
LOCUSTS came and they sure ate!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, “Let them GO!”

Then God sent plague number nine,
Total DARKNESS all the time!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
They told Pharaoh, “Let them GO!”

Pause for narration

Then God sent plague number ten,
Pharaoh’s SON DIED so he gave in!
All the people in Egypt were feeling pretty low
Finally, Pharaoh LET THEM GO!

“Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the mighty? Who is like unto Thee, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders? The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.”

Dayenu (דיינו)

(dī-AY-nū means, “It would have been enough”)
repeat twice after each of the three lines is spoken

Day da-ye-nu, day da-ye-nu, day da-ye-nu, da-ye-nu, da-ye-nu!

Passover Symbols

1. Shank-bone (פֶּסַח), Pesach Lamb (Sin Offering)
2. Matzah (מַצָּה), the Unleavened Bread (Burnt Offering)
3. Maror (וּמְרוֹר), the Bitter Herbs (Peace Offering)

Cover the matzo, raise the cup of juice

Praise be Thou, O Eternal our God, King of the Universe, Creator of the Fruit of the Vine.

Recline and Drink the Second Cup - The “Cup of Mercy”

(optional: Sing “Redeemer of Israel” Hymn 6)

Part SIX

Rachtzah (רַחֲצָה)

The Hands Washed (with a blessing)

Praised art Thou, O Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe, Who sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us concerning the washing of the hands.

Wash the hands

Part SEVEN

Motzi (מוֹצִיא)

Blessing Over the Matzah

Father breaks and proffers a piece of the top and broken middle matzah to his family (do not eat it)

Praised be Thou, O Eternal our God, King of the Universe, Who brings forth bread from the earth. Praised be Thou, O Eternal our God, King of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with commandments and asks us to eat matzah or unleavened bread.

Recline and Eat the Matzah

Part EIGHT

Maror (מָרוֹר)

The Bitter Herbs

Dip the bitter herbs in charoset

Blessed art Thou, Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe, Who sanctifies us with His commandments, and asks us to eat Maror (ma-ROAR) or bitter herbs.

Eat the bitter herbs

Part NINE

Korech (פוֹרֵךְ)

Hillel Sandwich - a Reminder of the Temple Days

Take the matzah with the bitter herb and top with the Pascal Lamb
or the charoset

Just a Tad of Charoset (to the tune of “Spoonful of Sugar”)

Chorus:

Just a tad of charoset helps the bitter herbs go down,
The bitter herbs go down, the bitter herbs go down.
Just a tad of charoset helps the bitter herbs go down,
In a most unpleasant way.

(Narrator speaks), Chorus

(Narrator speaks), Chorus

Eat a sandwich of bitter herbs and charoset on matzah

Part TEN

Shulchan Orech (שֻׁלְחַן עוֹרֵךְ)

The Meal is Served and Eaten

Eat, Connect, and Discuss the Passover

Part ELEVEN

Tsafun (צָפוּן)

Finish the Meal with the Eating of Afikomen

Afikomen is revealed

Father barter and pays “the price”

Parents share and eat the afikomen together

Part TWELVE

Barech (בָּרַךְ)

Blessing After the Meal

Fill the third cup of juice

Praised is He of whose bounty we have partaken, and through whose goodness we live. Praised art Thou, O Eternal our God, Ruler of the Universe, who nourishes the whole world in goodness, grace, loving kindness, and compassion. “He gives food to all flesh, for His mercy is everlasting.” Because of his enduring goodness, we have not lacked sustenance, and may we not lack it in the future - this for His great name’s sake. For He is the universal nourisher and Provider, beneficent toward all, and preparing sustenance for all living things of his creation. Praised art Thou, O Eternal, Who provides food for all.

Recline & Drink the Third Cup - The “Cup of Redemption”

Cup of Elijah

The door is opened, Cup of Elijah is filled, everyone rises

We invite the spirit of Elijah into our homes and into our hearts. May our hearts be united in God’s service and sanctified by His will. May our families be bound together eternally because we as parents turn to our children and we as children, turn to our parents.”

Sing Hymn 300, “Families Can Be Together Forever”

The door is closed and all are seated.

Part THIRTEEN

Hallel (הלל)

Psalm of praise

Fill the fourth cup of juice

Say, “Hallelujah”

Special Reading of Psalms 118:3-14

Raise the fourth “Cup of Hope and Freedom”

*Blessed are Thou, O Eternal our God, King of the Universe,
Creator of the fruit of the vine.*

Recline and Drink the Fourth Cup of Wine -
The “Cup of Hope and Freedom”

Sing “Chad Gadya” (חַד גַּדְיָא)

Part FOURTEEN

Nirtzah (נִרְצָה)

Conclusion of the Seder

“Next Year in Jerusalem! Next year may we all be free.”

*Let us Rejoice At the wonder of our deliverance
From bondage to freedom
From agony to joy
From mourning to festivity
From darkness to light
From servitude to redemption*

Closing Prayer

Blow out the Candle