

Passover: Seder



Scriptures

- Deuteronomy 18:15
- John 1:29
- Exodus 12:8
- I Cor. 5:7
- Exodus 6: 6-7
- Matthew 7:29
- Exodus 12:34
- Isaiah 53:4
- Matthew 26:23
- Malachi 4:5
- Matthew 17:10-13

Main Points

- Seder means order of service.
- Only 3 elements are commanded by Scripture: lamb, bitter herbs, and matza.
- Other elements were added by sages and rabbis to help us appreciate what God did for His people.
- Jesus is the fulfillment of Passover. In Jesus, you have been grafted into the commonwealth of Israel.
- The order of service comes from the Haggadah, which means the telling.
- As you go through the Seder, think about all the things from which Jesus has delivered you.
- The woman of the home lights the candles, because she sets the spiritual tone of the home.
 - o She says, “Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, King of the universe, Who sanctifies us with thy commandments and has commanded us to kindle the holiday lights.
 - o Jesus has brought us into freedom. The pillow the leader leans on accents the freedom that we have been brought into.
- The wine: four cups that accent the 4 expressions of deliverance in Ex. 6:6-7
 - o Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth the fruit of the vine.
- Ritual purification-the leader washes hands as a sign of sanctification and for cleanliness.
- Parsley dipped twice in saltwater. The saltwater represents the tears that the children of Israel cried in Egypt. The parsley represents the youth of Israel as a nation, young and green. The second dip: The parsley can also represent Egypt going through the Red Sea.
- Matzah (unleavened bread)-represents the obedience to God to leave when called to leave, in haste. The stripes on the Matzah remind us of the stripes of Jesus by which we are healed.
 - Blessed art thou, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who brings forth the bread from the earth.

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- o The matzah was broken and was dipped in the bitter herbs. Jesus identified Judas as the betrayer as they dipped together in the herbs.
- Bitter herbs—ground horseradish.
- Charoset is a sweet apple mixture of apple, walnuts, brown sugar, cinnamon, and honey, mixed with horseradish. Charoset symbolizes the mortar Israel used to make their bricks while slaves in Egypt. Now that we are free, even our hard labor has been made a joy, so that is why it is a sweet mixture.
- Dip matzah in the charoset and experience the joy of freedom.
- Egg (symbol of sacrifice)-reminds us of the sacrifices that took place in the temple in Jerusalem. Because we sin every day we need a sacrifice every day—the chicken lays an egg every day, so the egg is a reminder of that.
- To remind us of the meat of the sacrifice, the shank bone of a lamb is placed on the plate.
- Elijah’s plate-empty plate and cup of wine for him, because Elijah will come and announce the coming of the Messiah.
 - o Jesus declared John the Baptist, as the Elijah that announced his coming.
 - o Traditional Jews are still looking for the Messiah, and Elijah’s announcement of his coming, so a place is set for him at the table.
- Jesus, the final Deliverer has come!
- Passover is the season of freedom and deliverance.
- Ask Jesus to bring you into a whole new level of freedom. Receive your freedom and deliverance today.
- Chag Sameach means Happy Holidays. A Jewish greeting during this season.

Discussion Questions

1. Imagine yourself as a Jew in Egypt during the time of Moses. What types of thoughts do you have as you progress through the meal, understanding its full meaning? What particular part of the Passover celebration supper spoke to your heart most powerfully? Write a few thankful thoughts to God, your deliverer.
2. Is there an area of bondage in your life in which you need freedom? Name it and begin to ask God and thank God for the freedom He desires to give you. The Passover Lamb—Jesus--was slain once and for all for your freedom. He wants to set you free today. Continue to pray through each area. Like the Egyptians who were destroyed in the Red Sea, let Him wash away the chains that keep you in bondage.
3. Does seeing the Seder reenacted create in you an interest in celebrating Passover for yourself or your family? Plan now to include some aspects of the Jewish celebration into your own observance of Passover. Let us know if it made a difference in your life, by visiting our website and leaving a testimony, or dropping us a line.