

The Feast of Passover

The Feast Days of the Lord

Spring	Summer	Fall
1. Passover	4. Pentecost	5. Trumpets
2. Unleavened Bread		6. Day of Atonement
3. Firstfruits		7. Tabernacles (Sukhot)

Jewish Holidays (Holy Days)

1. The Holy Days were given to us by God as appointments between Himself and His people. (Leviticus 23:2)
2. The holy days look backwards and forwards.
3. These are the "Lord's feasts" and so should be celebrated by all people who belong to Him. (Leviticus 23:2)
"Speak to the Israelites and say to them: 'These are my appointed feasts, the appointed feasts of the LORD, which you are to proclaim as sacred assemblies.'"
- Leviticus 23:2

How Important is the Passover?

1. Jesus' family went to Jerusalem every year for it.
"Every year His parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover." - Lk 2:4
2. Jesus celebrated it His last night before the cross.
"Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, 'Go and make preparations for us to eat the Passover.'"
- Luke 22:7
3. Jesus is called our Passover Lamb.
"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." - 1 Cor. 5:7
4. Paul told us to continue in this celebration.
"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 Corinthians 5:8

What Must Be Done to Prepare for the Passover?

Special dishes; yeast removed; chair for Elijah; Mother lights candle

The Meal Begins

1. It begins with First Cup – the Cup of Freedom or Sanctification
2. Three loaves of Unleavened Bread – the middle loaf is broken in half and the half is hidden away. (The Afikomen)

3. The Questions are Asked:
 - Why is this night different from all other nights?
 - Why do we eat unleavened bread?
 - Why do we eat bitter herbs only on this night?
 - Why do we dip the food twice?
 - Why do we recline at the table?
4. The symbolic food is eaten (appetizers).
Horseradish – tears and sorrow; Salt water – tears and the Red Sea; Shank bone – blood of the Lamb; Egg – fertility (new life because of the Exodus); Chopped apple; Bitter herbs –
5. The Second Cup – Cup of Deliverance –
 - Poured out as a reminder of the plagues and then consumed.
6. The Washing of the Hands with a Blessing.
7. The Actual Meal is Served and Eaten.
8. The Afikomen is brought out (found), broken into pieces for each person around the table, and eaten.

The Matzah:

9. The Third Cup – the Cup of Redemption.
The picture of this cup?
 - Bride chosen for a Hebrew man by his parents
 - He would pay a price and make a promise.
 - He would offer a cup of wine as a commitment to her.
 - If she would take the cup and drink from it, she was saying yes.
 - He would go back to his father's house to prepare a place for her.
 - He didn't know the day or hour he would return.
 - He would return with a shout and he would take her to live with him.
10. The Fourth Cup – The Cup of Expectation or the Cup of Elijah and the heralding of the Messiah.
"I tell you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it anew with you in my Father's kingdom." - Matthew 26:29

We Learn that . . .

1. The Holy Communion service as we know it today came out of the celebration of Passover.
2. Christians should celebrate the Lord's Holidays – (appointments).
3. How you celebrate these appointments is up to you!
"Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day."
- Colossians 2:16

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