

March 11 2007

Passover

Deuteronomy 16: 1-8

When you think of Passover, what one word comes to mind? Passover = freedom

Will there be a Passover lamb eaten?

Because there is no lamb there is no Passover.
Therefore we will have a Seder meal service.

The Seder has four cups of wine: the cup of sanctification, the cup of wrath or plagues, the cup of redemption, and the cup of acceptance.

1. The first cup "kaddesh" sanctification is blessed and drunk.

"Blessed are you, L-ord our G-d, king of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine."

2. The washing of hands, the u-r'chatz.

3. The eating of herbs, the karpas.

Dip the herbs into salt water and eat.

4. The breaking of the bread the yachatz.

There are three pieces of bread, matzah, unleavened bread.

The middle piece is taken out and broken.

The larger piece is put back to be eaten latter.

5. The telling of the story, the maggid the story of the exodus.

Then drinking of the second cup of wine, the cup of wrath or plagues.

6. The washing of hands with a blessing, rachtzah.

7. The blessing over the bread, motzi.

"Blesses are you, L-ord our G-d, king of the universe, who brings forth the bread from the earth."

8. The blessed bread is eaten, matzah.

9. The bitter herbs are blessed and eaten, maror.

10. The matzah and the maror are eaten together, korech.

11. The meal is eaten, shulchan orech.

12. The hidden afikomen is found, ransomed, and then eaten, tzafun.

13. The grace after the meal, barech.

The conclusion of barech, is the blessing over the third cup, the cup of redemption.

14. The hallel, the reading of psalms 115-118.

The fourth cup is now filled; the door is opened for Elijah, and the coming of the messiah.

15. It is all finished, nirtzah. A song is sung and ends with the phrase, "next year in Jerusalem."