



# Life in Messiah

International

## MESSIAH IN THE PASSOVER

### Suggested program

The celebration of Passover is both joyous and solemn. While it is a time of family reunions and good food, God also calls it a holy convocation – a time when we remember how awesome and powerful is our God.

Passover, the oldest of the Jewish holidays, marks the beginning of the Jewish religious calendar. (The civil calendar begins in the fall with Rosh Hashanah.) The Jewish calendar is based on the lunar cycle, so Jewish holidays seldom fall on the same date on the Roman calendar. Because of this fact the connection with Easter is often overlooked. (Up until the council of Nicaea in 325, Easter was officially celebrated at Passover time.)

The theme of Passover is redemption. It is a time of remembering God's provision for His people, Israel, through the sacrifice lamb. The elements in the **Seder** (Traditional Jewish Passover Meal) serve as a reminder of deliverance from bondage by God's mighty hand.

The purpose of this evening is not only to retell the story of the Exodus from slavery in Egypt, but to make spiritual application to the believer's life today. As we look to the symbols on the Seder table, let us marvel anew at the grace of Jehovah in providing redemption for us through the blood of His Son, our Savior, Messiah Jesus - God's once-for-all Passover Lamb!

### Elements of the Seder Plate:

- 1) **Lamb Shankbone** – It symbolizes the paschal lamb sacrifice eaten by the Jewish people before they left Egypt.
- 2) **Boiled Egg (Betzah)** – It reminds us of the sacrifices brought to the temple.
- 3) **Parsley (Karpas)** – During the Seder it is dipped into salt water which represents the tears shed by the Jewish people.
- 4) **Horseradish (Maror)** – The bitter taste is to remind us of the slavery in Egypt.
- 5) **Haroset** – Enslaved Jews used mortar to build Pharaoh's construction projects. This mixture represents that mortar. It is sweet to take the sting out of the maror. The maror is dipped in the haroset during the Seder.

## Order of Service

### 1) **Bedikat Chametz** – (Searching for Leaven)

Signifies that all bread products and leaven (chametz) have been removed and the house is now prepared for Passover

**Song: Create in Me a Clean Heart**

Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
And renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence, O Lord,  
And take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,  
And renew a right spirit within me.

### 2) **Call to Worship** – Focuses our hearts to God and the purpose of the celebration

### 3) **Birkat Ha-ner** – (Blessing Over the Candles)

Separates (sanctifies) the evening as a celebration unto God

### 4) **Kaddesh** – (Blessing of the Meal)

Separates (sanctifies) this meal as a memorial to God's miracles of the Passover in Egypt

**"Four Cups"**: Explains the four cups that will be used

1<sup>st</sup> Cup – The Cup of Sanctification

2<sup>nd</sup> Cup – The Cup of Deliverance

3<sup>rd</sup> Cup – The Cup of Redemption

4<sup>th</sup> Cup – The Cup of Praise

"The Cup of Sanctification" – drinking of the 1<sup>st</sup> cup

### 5) **Urchatz** – (Washing the Hands)

Ritual cleansing in preparation to eat

### 6) **Karpas** – (Eating of Greens)

Symbolizes renewal through rebirth

**Song: Bless the Lord, O My Soul**

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
And all that is within me,  
Bless His holy name. (Repeat)

He has done great things.  
He has done great things.  
He has done great things.  
Bless His holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
And all that is within me,  
Bless His holy name.

**7) Yachatz** – (Breaking the Matzoh)

Remembers the bread of affliction  
Hiding the “afikoman” to be shared later

**8) Maggid** – (Recounting the Exodus Story)

Four Questions: recognizes the difference of this celebration  
Four Sons: symbolizes different attitudes to God’s salvation

**Song: El Shaddai**

El Shaddai, El Shaddai,  
El Elyonna Adonai.  
Age to age You’re still the same,  
By the power of the name.  
El Shaddai, El Shaddai,  
Erkahnkana Adonai.  
We will praise and lift You high,  
El Shaddai. (Repeat)

Ten Plagues: recounts the plagues God brought on Egypt  
Dayenu: Recounts God’s many acts of kindness

**Song: Dayenu**

Da-dayenu, da-dayenu, da-dayenu,  
Dayenu, dayenu, dayenu.  
Da-dayenu, da-dayenu, da-dayenu,  
Dayenu, dayenu.

The Three Essentials: Pasach/Matzoh/Maror  
2<sup>nd</sup> Cup - The Cup of Deliverance: commemorates deliverance  
from Egypt

**9) Rachtzah** – (Washing the Hands)

**10) Motzi, Matzoh, Maror, Korech (Eating the elements)**

Motzi: blessing the matzoh  
Matzoh: eating the matzoh  
Maror: eating the matzoh with bitter herb  
Korech: eating combination of matzoh, maror and haroset  
Eating the egg: symbolizes destruction of Temple

**11) Shulchan Orech** - (Table is spread)

Eat the meal  
Remember the Passover meal of Messiah

## **Song: Via Dolorosa**

### **12) Tzaphun - (Retrieving the Afikoman)**

Introduces first element of Communion

### **13) Barech - (Blessing for the Meal)**

3<sup>rd</sup> Cup – The Cup of Redemption: commemorates God’s plan of redemption, second element of Communion

Elijah’s Place: recognizes work and warnings of Elijah

### **14) Hallel - (Songs of Praise)**

Psalms 115-118, 136 continues to affirm faith in God

4<sup>th</sup> Cup – The Cup of Praise: exalts God for His salvation from Egypt and from sin

### **15) Nirtzah - (Our Observance Is Accepted)**

Completes Seder

Next Year in Jerusalem: calls for Messiah’s speedy return

## **Songs: 1) Once Again**

#### **Verse 1**

Jesus Christ, I think upon Your sacrifice  
You became nothing poured out to death.  
Many times I’ve wondered at Your gift of life  
And I’m in that place once again.  
I’m in that place once again.

#### **Chorus:**

Once again I look upon the cross where You died.  
I’m humbled by Your mercy and I’m broken inside.  
Once again I thank You, once again I pour out my life.

#### **Verse 2**

Now You are exalted to the highest place,  
King of the heavens where one day I’ll bow.  
But for now, I marvel at this saving grace,  
And I’m full of praise once again.  
I’m full of praise once again.

#### **Bridge:**

Thank You for the cross, thank You for the cross,  
Thank You for the cross, my friend.  
Thank You for the cross, thank You for the cross,  
Thank You for the cross, my friend.

## **2) Worthy is the Lamb**

**Verse 1:**

Thank You for the cross Lord  
Thank You for the price You paid  
Bearing all my sin and shame  
In love You came  
And gave amazing grace

**Verse 2:**

Thank You for this love Lord  
Thank You for the nail pierced hands  
Washed me in Your cleansing flow  
Now all I know Your forgiveness and embrace.

**Chorus:**

Worthy is the Lamb  
Seated on the throne  
Crown You now with many crowns  
You reign victorious  
High and lifted up  
Jesus Son of God  
The Darling of Heaven crucified  
Worthy is the Lamb  
Worthy is the Lamb

This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations  
to come you shall celebrate it as a festival  
to the Lord – a lasting ordinance  
Exodus 12:14

# *Life in Messiah*

**Pointing to the Full, Free, Forever life available only through Messiah Jesus**

Life in Messiah is an evangelical ministry dedicated to seeing God's purpose fulfilled: Jews and Gentiles being made one in the Body of Messiah (see Ephesians 1). Founded in Chicago in 1887, the work has spread to various places in the U.S. and overseas, including Israel, France and Mexico at this time.

Life in Messiah staff help Christians to:

- understand the Jewish roots of our faith, and God's plan for the Jewish people.
- share their faith in Messiah Jesus with their Jewish friends.
- identify and combat anti-Semitism.
- have an informed support of the State of Israel.

In reaching out to Jewish people, Life in Messiah staff:

- live in Jewish communities.
- demonstrate the love of Messiah Jesus.
- seek opportunities to give evidence from Scripture why we believe *Yeshua* (Jesus' Hebrew name) is Israel's promised Messiah.
- disciple those who trust in Jesus so they will grow in their faith, and become active members of local congregations where the Bible is taught.

If you are interested in receiving a sample literature packet, or would like to learn more about Life in Messiah's training programs or opportunities for ministry, contact:

**Life in Messiah International**  
**P.O. Box 5470**  
**Lansing, IL 60438**  
**Phone: (708) 418-0020 Fax: (708) 418-0132**  
**[www.LifeInMessiah.org](http://www.LifeInMessiah.org) Email: [office@LifeInMessiah.org](mailto:office@LifeInMessiah.org)**