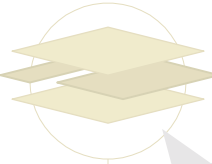


PASSOVER

Passover is the first of three Pilgrimage holidays, celebrating both the harvest and the Jewish liberation from Egypt. Passover celebrates the exodus and the beginning of Spring. Shavuot celebrates the first harvest and the receiving of the Torah. Sukkot celebrates God's protection of the Jews during the exodus, as well as the final harvest.

Matzah at once represents the bread of slavery and the bread of redemption.

The smaller piece represents the bread of affliction, and is eaten during the blessing over matzah.



The larger piece represents the Passover sacrifice. It is eaten at the end of the meal.

1 why do we eat only matzah?

4 why do we recline?



The four cups of wine represent the four stages of the exodus: freedom, redemption, deliverance, and release.



In ancient times, reclining was a sign of freedom.

3 why do we dip herbs twice?

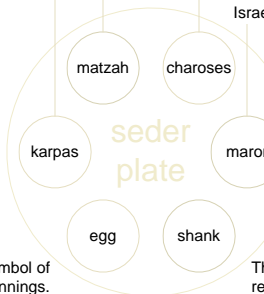
Jewish tradition includes ritual hand-washing before meals. On Passover, however, hands are also washed before dipping karpas in saltwater because in ancient times, people washed their hands before all dipping.



Charoses represents the mortar used by the Israelites as slaves.

2 why do we eat bitter herbs?

The greenery (typically parsley or celery) represents Spring.



Bitter herbs serve as a reminder of the hardships of slavery.

The egg is another symbol of Spring, and new beginnings. Traditionally, the Passover meal begins with eating the egg.

The shank bone represents the Paschal sacrifice. It is not eaten.



The door is opened to show loyalty to God and faith in God's protection. A glass of wine is poured for the prophet Elijah, who is invited into the house.



Traditions during the telling of the story of Passover include asking four questions and spilling wine for each plague as they are named.

- SEDER
- Kadish
- Wash Hands
- Karpas
- Afikomen
- Story of Passover
- Wash Hands
- Bless Bread
- Bless Matzah
- Bitter Herbs
- Remember Hillel
- Eat Meal
- Afikomen
- Grace After Dinner
- Hallel
- Finish Seder

