

THE PASSOVER MEMORIAL SERVICE

Preface:

This is simply to be a guideline explaining the structure of one of the most solemn services Almighty Yahweh has set down in the Sacred Scriptures, of all His annual seasonal Feasts.

Passover is the ONLY annual night service recorded in Scripture. Information of the first Passover can be found in the Book of Exodus chapters 12 & 13, which is “a night to be much remembered.”

In the New Testament we received the New Ordinance of the Passover. Messiah instructed His disciples the night He was betrayed, introducing Himself and confirming the promise, in His Blood, of the New Covenant. These new symbols/emblems, replace the Passover lamb, with Yahshua’s precious life. Yahshua the Messiah becoming the ultimate Passover sacrifice, putting aside the earthly priesthood, and all its sacrificial obligations for us in Him. He became our One and Only High Priest.

In careful Biblical study, we will find many prophecies which point toward Yahshua the Messiah, as becoming the “LAMB of Yahweh Who takes away the sins of the world.” Time and space is not available to go through them all, but we are willing to help anyone on this subject. Also, see our in-depth booklet called [Passover: A Memorial for All Time](#)

Introduction to the Service:

The Passover service is to be observed the evening of the 14th day of the first moon/month after the *abib* is confirmed. See [Biblical Timekeeping](#) on the back of the [YAIY Calendars](#).

The Biblical day starts in the evening (sunset). Passover is to be observed the night of the 14th day, not the night after the 14th day, because that would then be the evening of the 15th Day, which is a Holy Day, separate from the Passover being the 1st Day of the seven *Days of Unleavened Bread*. See the ministudy on [Why Passover Is NOT a High Day](#).

Note: It is also very significant to understand Yahshua died the very day, and time — afternoon of *Abib* 14th — Abraham was told to prepare a special sacrifice, in which Yahweh inaugurated His First Covenant, with a promise to Abraham, and his Seed.

The cutting of the Abrahamic Covenant appears to have taken place on the 14th. Read Genesis 15:7-21 and notice the cutting took place before sunset in verse 12. That same night, years later, Israel (estimated to be as many as 2 million men, women and children) marched out of Egypt starting from the 14th going into the 15th, finally leaving completely. And on the 15th, 40 years later, Israel was established in the promised land (Josh. 5:11-12).

As much as we are to observe and partake of the Passover on the night of the 14th, confessing in heartfelt thanksgiving that Yahshua the Messiah is our personal Savior —

see our ministudy on [Why Be Baptized into Yahshua's Name?](#) — so we are to remember, and observe the High Day of the 15th (1st Day of Unleavened Bread) where we move forward learning more about this New Covenant for His people. Not just a promise of land, and freedom, but the promise of eternal life for us today. We, as Israel of old, are seeking to be more in line with Yahweh's ways of living, removing false ways and teachings from our lives, being truly unleavened. The last and 7th Day of the days of unleavened bread is also a set apart High Day, concluding and pointing to spiritual perfection and completeness in its number. A number representative of Yahshua.

The starting time of the evening Passover service must be arranged by each local congregation and is not to be taken as a social gathering. IT IS A SOLEMN ASSEMBLY. On arrival members are to quietly get seated, open their Bibles, read, and meditate on sections of Scripture pertaining to the evening's service, until the service is started by an opening prayer. As in all services, there is to be one speaker, reader, or prayer leader at a time, unless there is a hymn to be sung by the assembly.

Remember, Yahweh is not the author of confusion.

Body of the Service:

1st Readings : Isaiah Chapters 52 & 53 (A prophecy of the sufferings of Messiah)
John 11:55-57; 12:1, 9-19 (Messiah's arrival near Jerusalem)

2nd Readings Luke 22:7-16 (Preparation for the Passover)
Luke 22:24-30 (Messiah rebukes jealousy)

3rd Reading John 13: 1-20 (The foot washing: an act of serving one another)

After this is explained the congregation leave the hall or room and separate, male & female, into assigned rooms and engage in the service of washing each others feet. When all is completed, the assembly return to their seats.

4th Readings 1st Corinthians chapter 11 (This sets the heart of the Passover service)

Parallel Accounts are found in Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:17-20.

A prayer for the blessing of the unleavened bread, a symbol of His broken Body, for our healing, then it is to be broken, and distributed to the baptized members only.

After a short pause, a prayer for the blessing of the fruit of the vine ([grape juice](#)), a symbol of His Blood, for the forgiveness of all our sins, which also is to be distributed to the baptized members only in attendance.

5th Readings John chapter 14 (Messiah's farewell discourse to His disciples)

John chapters 15 & 16 (Messiah's words on the way to Gethsemane)

6th Reading John chapter 17 (Messiah's prayer)

7th Readings Mark 14:26; Matthew 26:30-39; Luke 22:39-46.

In Conclusion:

All members should be urged on returning home after the service, to read the complete narrative Messiah went through that day up to His death on the stake. You will also note that on Passover night He requested His disciples to WATCH AND PRAY, yet they fell asleep! Why did He ask them to do that on this particular NIGHT? Is it not strange that a few isolated Jewish sects still observe this night as "THE NIGHT OF WATCHING?" An appropriate hymn should be sung by the assembly. With a final departing prayer lead by a selected member.

An important consideration we all should have in mind, is that after the partaking of the Symbols of our Savior's Body, which is unleavened, our own physical bodies should not eat anything leavened from then on, permitting us to enter the seven days of Unleavened bread. Our bodies cleared of leavening as our physical homes should be. Some may say this is too physical. But we ARE PHYSICAL, yet we must learn spiritual lessons.

For from the Passover night (Ex. 12:8) we are instructed not to take in, but to put out all leaven from our houses. It is a preparation day to clean, cast out, and be ready to enter those days of unleavened bread. Let us not be accused of dishonoring our Savior's Body, by taking this lightly.

Please note the texts above are only guidelines for the service, where many parallel texts could be used.

Presented by: Yahweh's Assembly in Yahshua
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