

# **“Last Supper” Passover Meal**

**Seder (Order)**

**Candle Lighting**

**The First Cup**

**Handwashing**

**Karpas**

**Blessing of Bread**

**The Meal**

**Ancient Customs**

**The Four Questions**

**The Passover Story**

**Song: Dayenu**

**The Second Cup**

**The Seder Plate**

**Songs: Psalm 113 and 114**

**The Third Cup**

**The Fourth Cup**

**The Great Hallel**

## The Seder Plate

**Z'ro'a** (a roasted bone): To represent the Passover Lamb.

**Baytzah** (roasted egg): An ancient symbol of suffering.

**Maror** ("Bitter herb"): From Exodus 12:8 – "They shall eat the flesh in that night, roasted with fire, and matzah. They shall eat it with bitter herbs." Sometimes a second bitter herb, called **Chazeret** is placed on the plate.

**Charoset** – A mix of apples to be a symbol of the mortar used to make bricks in Egypt.

**Karpas** (A green vegetable): Symbolizes when the Israelites first when to Egypt they flourished. It also represents the hyssop that applied the blood of the lamb on the doorposts and lintels.

## The Four Cups

Various traditions have different names for the Four Cups, but traditionally they represent the promises that God made to the Israelites in Exodus 6:6-8, "*Say therefore to the Israelites, 'I am the LORD, and I will free you from the burdens of the Egyptians and deliver you from slavery to them. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. I will take you as my people, and I will be your God. You shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has freed you from the burdens of the Egyptians. I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD.'*"

## The Four Questions

Asked by the youngest child, they highlight "Why is this night different from all other nights?"

- 1) On all other nights, we eat either bread or matzoh, why tonight do we eat only matzoh?
- 2) On all other nights, we eat all types of herbs, why tonight, do we eat only bitter herbs?
- 3) On all other nights, we don't dip our vegetables at all; why tonight do we dip them twice?
- 4) On all other nights, we eat sitting up at the table; why tonight do we eat reclining?

### Other Customs:

**Elijah:** Today, special honor is given to the Prophet Elijah because of his association with the coming of Messiah. A chair, left empty, may be set out in his honor. A special cup is poured and left untouched. Before the evening concludes, someone will go outside to see if perhaps he is waiting to come in to announce the coming of Messiah.

**Afikomen:** Perhaps instituted by early Jewish believers in Jesus, the Afikomen now represents the Passover Lamb. Today, near the beginning of the Seder, the middle of the 3 pieces of Unleavened Bread is taken and broken in two, with the larger one---called the Afikomen---put away in a linen cloth and "buried" under a cushion or elsewhere. In many traditions, it is hidden and found later by the children. The Afikomen is brought back out and eaten at the end of the Seder Meal.