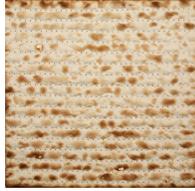




Ceremonial Foods

On a large serving or Seder plate place the following: a dish of salt-water, horseradish, green herb (e.g. parsley), a bone from the lamb, a boiled egg and haroseth. The wine and matzah are set near the Host.



Unleavened bread, Matzah: called "bread of affliction" because it recalls the unleavened bread prepared for the hasty flight by night from Egypt. The bread is broken during the Seder reminding us Jesus's words, "this is my body."



Bitter Herbs, the horseradish: Recalls the bitterness and harshness of slavery the Jews endured. As Christians, we recall the bitterness of the slavery of sin.



The **Roasted Lamb Bone**: A reminder of the Temple Sacrifice and the first Passover Lamb whose blood was put upon the doorposts of Israelites homes in Egypt. Jesus was our Passover Lamb who takes away the sins of the world once and for all.



A **Green Vegetable**, such as parsley: symbolizes the growth and fertility of the Jewish people in Egypt. For Christians it represents our new life and growing in our faith.



The **Haroseth**, a mixture of apples, nuts, cinnamon, and honey: Represents the mortar the Israelites were forced to make under Pharaoh's taskmasters. It The sweetness reminds them of the hope they had in freedom. For us, it reminds us that even in the toughest circumstances they are sweetened by our hope in God.



Salt Water: recalls the sweat & tears shed by the Israelites slaves and also recalls the splitting of the Red Sea and destruction of Pharaoh's army.



A **Roasted Egg**: Serves as a symbol of life and new beginnings.



Ceremonial Foods



During the Seder guests drink Four Cups of wine or grape juice. These cups are based upon the following:

"... I have heard the groaning of the Israelites... and I have remembered my covenant. Therefore, say to the Israelites: 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm... I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God.'" --Exodus 6:5-7

1. **Cup of Sanctification:** "I will bring you out." God separated Israel as His chosen people. As Christians, we are called out – to be separate from the world around us.
2. **Cup of Deliverance:** "I will free you." During this time in the ceremony the focus is on the plagues and telling the story of Israel's deliverance (Exodus 12). We all have a story too. Here, we remember and share the things He has done for us – He delivered us from the slavery of sin.
3. **Cup of Redemption:** "I will redeem you to myself". The third cup reminds the children of Israel that they are His chosen, redeemed people by the blood of Lambs. This Cup of Redemption, taken after the meal, is where Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper. He said this is a new covenant. It was at this point in the Seder we are to remember *His* blood shed and *His* body broken for us when we eat the Bread and drink the Wine. He Redeemed us.
4. **Cup of Restoration:** "I will take you as my people and I will be your God." This cup looks forward to the great feast we will one day share in Heaven with Jesus. He did not drink from this 4th cup on that night. He is waiting to do that with us at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb in the Kingdom to come.