



*A Messianic Passover
(Pesach)*

*By
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The Passover meal should be celebrated on the 14th of Nisan toward the evening just before the 15th of Nisan, or on the 14th of Iyyar, a month later (Numbers 9:6-11). The meal then extends into the first day of the feast of Unleavened Bread which is a Sabbath (a day of rest). The Bible allows another time of celebration a month later for those who couldn't celebrate in the month of Nisan. It is important that believers in the Messiah Yeshua (Jesus) celebrate it even if we can't observe it on the correct day. Also, we know the exact days now so it isn't necessary to observe holidays for two days as some do.

Passover and the feast of Unleavened Bread lasts for 7 days with the 1st (the 15th of Nisan) and 7th days being Sabbaths (days of rest) which are associated with the feast of Unleavened Bread. We eat no leaven during these 7 days. We could have a special family meal during the 7 days of Passover, but the actual Passover celebration should be on the day God told us to celebrate it if we can. **If you can't do it on the right day, it is still important that believers in Messiah keep it.** We should make every effort to keep it on the right day if we can.

They are God's feasts, God's appointed times. Also, since we know the exact date the moon reappears over Jerusalem, we know the exact date of the first of Jewish months and the Passover and other holidays can be celebrated on the correct day.

The Jewish calendar has a set number of days which doesn't coincide with the actual first day of the Jewish month. **The first day of Jewish months is the first sliver of the New Moon;** that is the ancient new moon. God wants it celebrated on the right day. Most of Judaism doesn't celebrate God's feasts on the right day because they set the first days of Jewish months¹ without actually sighting the first sliver of the moon. **They celebrate God's feasts on the wrong day!** Also, make sure you understand the usage of God's real name; see the explanation on page 26.

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Most people find it easier to use and understand the New King James Version than the Complete Jewish Bible. So, this Haggadah mostly uses the New King James Version. The Complete Jewish Bible has a more authentic translation, but sometimes the New King James Version is better because it gives us a word for word translation.

¹ https://www.chabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/2100146/jewish/The-Jewish-Month.htm

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***The items with an asterisk and bolded should be done (we don't have to do it exactly; it is just a ritual). The other ones could be skipped if so desired.**

Introduction

In the 2nd century, they celebrated their Messianic Passover on the 14th of Nisan.² We should try to celebrate the Passover on that day because that is the day God told us to celebrate it. Because some of us live in a Gentile world, we might have no choice, but to celebrate it on another day. Believers in the Messiah Yeshua (Jesus) are to celebrate the Passover.

Shaul (Paul) tells us to celebrate the Passover in 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 CJB:

"For our Pesach lamb, the Messiah, has been sacrificed. So let us celebrate the Seder not with leftover hametz, the hametz of wickedness and evil, but with the matzah of purity and truth."

The word hametz refers to anything around the house that may contain leaven. Hametz in the above verse is referring to getting rid of the sin in our lives. The Seder is the ceremony order for Passover. Matzah is the unleavened bread we eat during Passover. The matzah here is referring to living without the impurities of sin.

In other words, Shaul says to get rid of sin and be a new person (we are made new by the Messiah Yeshua). The Messiah Yeshua is our Passover Lamb and He sacrificed Himself for us. Guard, keep the Passover and also be free from sin, wickedness, and evil. Be pure and do what is right and good.

Don't forget to remove any leaven from your house before the Passover. We are not to eat anything with leaven for 7 days. Not eating anything with leaven is a reminder we are to remove sin from our lives. We will be talking about removing the leaven from our houses during the Seder (the ceremonial ritual).

It is the process of leavening that God is talking about. It takes time to leaven bread. This could be symbolic of the sin we allow in our lives over time. Removing the leaven is then symbolic of removing these wrong things we have made part of our life. Baking soda is rock and is not leaven. Any bread making that requires extra effort would be wrong. Use your best judgement.

We are commanded as believers in Yeshua (Jesus' real name) to keep the Passover. The word "celebrate" in 1 Corinthians 5:8 is translated "keep" in the New King James referring to the command in Exodus 12:24 NKJV. "And you shall observe this thing as an ordinance for you and your sons forever." The words "and you shall observe" in Exodus 12:24 are the Hebrew words "ushmartem" which means "you all shall keep or guard". The "shmar" which is bolded is the Hebrew word "shamar" which means to keep or guard. We are to keep; **we are to guard** the Passover.

So, we are not only to keep the Passover, but we are to **GUARD** the Passover. We also have early writings showing messianic believers from the 2nd century keeping the Passover. Keeping God's feasts was made illegal by the church of the Roman Empire who replaced true practice with their own feasts and observances mixed with pagan practice back in the 4th century during the reign of Constantine.³ It is a known fact that the Roman church is full of idolatry and still is.

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peri_Pascha

³ <http://messianicfellowship.50webs.com/nicea.html>

Background Information

When beginning this Passover Seder, begin with the introduction and decide whether you will do the short Seder or the long Seder. I have several Pesach/Passover Seder guides and they are all different. I wrote this guide for my own use. While it is only a guide, I took some thought to put together something I could use. If you are using my guide, feel free to change how you observe Passover or to make additional comments during your observance and make this guide fun and interactive.

The rabbis and messianic rabbis intended for the Passover to be instructive, interactive, and for the whole family. The Bible instructs us that Passover is observed during twilight toward the end of the day on the 14th of Nisan and we are to tell the Exodus story during the Passover celebration. We should also tell the story of Yeshua coming as the Messiah and giving Himself for us at the time of Passover as our Passover Lamb. Yeshua actually died for us at the time the Passover lambs were being slaughtered. We should include correlations in our observance to Yeshua.

The unbelieving Jewish people observe an incomplete Passover which doesn't include their Messiah. That is why we celebrate a Messianic Passover which includes our Messiah Yeshua. Perhaps some of us have been observing a Passover Seder similar to this one for many years and truly enjoy all its rich insights.

It is amazing that many of the standard modern Jewish activities appointed by the rabbis have correlations to the Messiah Yeshua! Yeshua said the scriptures point to Him. "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me;" John 5:39 CJB. In modern times, the Jews believe in Jewish commentaries like the Mishna and Talmud instead of the Bible. They say the words and sayings of men are more binding than God's word. We don't believe that.

We are to observe the feast of Unleavened Bread and not to eat leaven for 7 days. The feast of Unleavened Bread begins on the 15th of Nisan in the evening right after the twilight of the 14th (so the Passover celebration which begins on the 14th toward evening typically extends into the 15th of Nisan; remember, the Jewish day starts in the evening). The 1st and 7th days of the feast of Unleavened Bread are days of rest. Both Jews and Gentiles in Israel could observe the Passover in ancient times. "And if a stranger dwells among you, and would keep the Lord's Passover, he must do so according to the rite of the Passover and according to its ceremony; you shall have one ordinance, both for the stranger and the native of the land;" Numbers 9:14 NKJV.

It has always been God's desire that Israel would be a light to the world and include the Gentiles. "Then I will say to those who were not My people, 'You are My people!' And they shall say, 'You are my God!'" Hosea 2:23. Therefore, Messianic believers include Jews and Gentiles who believe in their Messiah Yeshua. Together we are called Messianic Jews or Messianic Believers; it has been God's desire for all men to come to the knowledge of the truth. Yeshua is the Jewish Messiah to the world. Yochanan (John) said Yeshua is, "the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world;" John 1:9 NKJV. Gentiles are fully accepted into the Messianic community.

As with any spiritual activity, there is the temptation to make the ceremonies a law and solemnize them. Passover is a remembrance ceremony just as the remembrance ceremony of what Yeshua (Jesus) did for us, which is sometimes called communion. Yeshua quoted Isaiah and said, "And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men;" Matthew 15:9.

It is not so important how we observe the feasts, but that we follow God's instructions. Having some sort of prepared plan **gives honor to God**. This is one of the many plans that are available. This Seder including the dinner lasts about two hours. You can shorten it if you like and just use the parts which have an asterisk and are bolded.

Also, some believe Yeshua observed the Passover the year He died. Yochanan (John) is clear that Yeshua actually died at the time of the **preparation** for the Passover. "It was about noon on Preparation Day for Pesach. He said to the Judeans, "Here's your king!" They shouted, "Take him away! Take him away! Put him to death on the stake!" John 19:14-15 CJB. The New King James also says it was the preparation day. "Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover;" John 19:14 NKJV. Yeshua was tried before the Passover.

Yeshua was literally our Passover Lamb that year just as Shaul refers to Him in 1 Corinthians 5:7 ("Passover Lamb"). Some have trouble with the idea He didn't observe the Passover that year. They also say He observed His remembrance ceremony (communion) at the Passover. He actually did that the evening before. Yeshua said, do this in memory of Him, so we should have a remembrance ceremony as part of our Passover ceremony. While I understand their feelings, telling the truth is more important. Yeshua actually died as our Passover Lamb for us at the time the Passover lambs were being prepared for the Passover.

We observe Passover because it is a feast for those who believe in our Messiah and not just a feast for unbelieving Jews. It is our feast; the Messiah gave Himself for us at the time of the Passover and we become a completed Jew or Gentile because we believe in the Messiah Yeshua. "And you are complete in Him;" Colossians 2:10 NKJV. After we believe in the Messiah, we then receive the Holy Spirit which helps us to keep God's commandments. Kefa (Peter) says, "You shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit;" Acts 2:38 NKJV. Yeshua said in John 14:26 NKJV, "But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you."

Originally, Passover celebrated God's deliverance for the children of Israel; **without Israel we would not have the holy scriptures or the Messiah**. Passover is a foreshadowing of the time when some 1450 years later, Yeshua our Messiah would come, die, and rise from the dead to deliver us from sin. The Israelites and Gentiles that accompanied the Israelites were set free from the slavery of the Egyptians. "A mixed multitude went up with them also, and flocks and herds — a great deal of livestock;" Exodus 12:38 NKJV. We know that Gentiles assimilated into Israel at the time. For example, Caleb was not an Israelite, but was allowed to represent the tribe of Judah as one of the spies. He was a Kenizzite (Numbers 32:12) and assimilated into the tribe of Judah.

The early believers in the Messiah were all Jewish at first. They were obedient to the command to welcome the Gentiles into the believing community. Just as a mixed multitude left Egypt, we are both Jew and Gentile believers together in the Messiah; a group called Messianic Jews.

There is often confusion among Christians about observing Jewish feasts because some have been taught a version of faith that was created by the Roman Empire. Remember, Yeshua (Jesus' actual name) was Jewish, all his apostles (the first messianic messengers) were Jewish and all the early believers in the Jewish Messiah were Jewish. Again, the Roman church took over what was first a movement by God started by the Jewish Messiah Yeshua and made it into a Roman church. Then they made it illegal to celebrate God's feasts and substituted their own non-biblical feasts in place of what God wanted celebrated. This all happened in the 4th century (300s AD) with Constantine.

The feasts referred to in the Bible are God's feasts. "The feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts;" Leviticus 23:1 NKJV. As you can see, the Bible says, "feasts of the Lord;" and **God says these are His feasts**. That's why early believers in the Messiah continued to observe them. God's feasts point to what He has done, is doing, and will do. As we go through the Passover Seder, we will see many correlations. It is proper and important to make these instructive correlations about the Messiah Yeshua.

It's not good practice to base doctrine on one scripture so guess how many times the word for Sabbath rest (the feasts of God have days of rest) is mentioned in the New Testament portion, 62 times.⁴ Are you surprised? Also, most believers agree that the 10 commandments are to be kept and one of the 10 Commandments refers to the weekly Jewish feast of Shabbat. So, we are not basing our belief to keep God's feasts on only one scripture and there is also more historical evidence in the New Testament portion of the Bible.

Other reasons to celebrate God's feasts are: to remember the works of God, to remind us how God has blessed man, how the God of the universe cares about us, to remind us of who God is, to bring us closer to God, to fellowship with other believers, to mark the seasons and times of the year, they connect us with the believers of the past, they can be "pictures" of what God has done, is doing, and will do, and they often accompany good food. We need food and why not have some good food?

Some say they don't want to observe old outdated feasts, but what could possibly be wrong with the things I just mentioned? Is there something wrong with bringing us closer to God? If they are God's feasts, why aren't believers keeping them?

I mostly use the New King James Version (NKJV) of the Bible instead of the Complete Jewish Bible because most of us can understand the English in the New King James Version better.

⁴ The number of times the Greek word referring to Shabbat is used in the New Testament portion, 62. From: <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/Lexicon/Lexicon.cfm?strongs=G4521&t=KJV>. The Hebrew word for Shabbat is used 108 times in the Old Testament portion. From: <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/Lexicon/lexicon.cfm?strongs=H7676&t=KJV>

We will be using God's correct name as it has been found in over 1,721 manuscripts to date.⁵ God said this would be His name forever as it says in Exodus 3:15. See page 26.

It is a good idea to substitute better names when reading the scriptures.

Jesus → Yeshua (His real name). Christ → Messiah (Messiah means the anointed one, with oil).

Preparing the Passover Plate

We will need some symbolic foods when celebrating the Passover. They could be put on a regular plate and made ready into pieces. Some people have a special plate like the one below. We will be eating this symbolic food during the ceremony. Remember it's not about following a precise ritual. This is a remembrance ceremony. We are commanded to keep the Passover. Yeshua was our Passover Lamb who died for us.

We will need for our Seder plate:

- * Maror (מרור) — a bitter herb, often horseradish or something spicy.
 - * Zeroa (זרוע) — is a bone symbolizing the sacrificial lamb; it can be a lamb shank bone or chicken bone.
 - * Charoset (חרוסת) — is a sweet apple, date, or fruit mixture
 - * Chazeret (חזרת) — a bitter vegetable.
 - * Karpas (כרפס) — another bitter vegetable.
 - * Beitzah (ביצה) — a hardboiled egg.
- *Also, before beginning, put 3 pieces of matza between 4 napkins or use your matza tosh.
- * We should also have an extra place setting for Elijah that remains unused until later.
 - * A cup with water and a bowl to catch water when washing hands.
 - * Wine or grape juice on each table and we will have a meal in the middle of the ceremony.
 - * Extra matza for tables; you can make your own, just no leaven and pierce with a fork.
 - * We should also have a small prize or money for the child who finds the afikomen.



The Seder Plate

⁵ <https://www.nehemiaswall.com/>

What to Expect during the Passover Seder (ceremonial dinner)

- Lighting candles; usually two candles; If you have a tablecloth, put something under the candles.
- A Seder plate or regular plate for putting the Seder items on it. You could have a couple of ordinary plates for each end of the table.
- Four cups of wine or grape juice (for the children or those who don't drink wine). Pour just a little bit of wine or grape juice each time.
- Some small bowls with salt water for each person or you can pass around a small bowl of saltwater.
- If you plan to do the symbolic handwashing you can do it by the sink or have a bowl big enough to catch some water and pour a few drops over your neighbor's hands. You should have towels available; the children can do this.
- The four questions
- Matzah. You can make your own matza.⁶
- The matzah tosh or a napkin to hold some matzah in three places.
- The Exodus story and the story of Yeshua giving Himself for us as the Lamb of God
- A few songs
- Some great food
- A little bit of ceremony and some Hebrew
- Some smoozing (casual talk) and kibitzing (advice)

The Meaning of Passover

In the Tanakh it says:

"Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, **I will pass over you**; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt. So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance." Ex 12:13-14 NKJV

Shaul (Paul) said, "The Spirit of God dwells in you;" 1 Cor. 3:16 NKJV.

As believers in the Messiah we also have a sign. The Holy Spirit is given by God and is like a sign in our earthly house (our bodies) that we receive through the sacrifice of the Messiah Yeshua.

It is a good idea to substitute better names when reading the scriptures.

Jesus → Yeshua (His real name). Christ → Messiah (Messiah means the **anointed one**, with oil)

Rabbi Shaul said about the Passover in the Brit Chadashah (New Testament):

"Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore let us **keep the feast**, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth". 1 Cor 5:7-8 NKJV

⁶ Combine 1 cup of flour, up to 1/4 teaspoon salt for taste, 1 teaspoon oil, 1/2 cup water. Roll out, make holes with a fork, set the oven to 500 degrees and bake for about 8 minutes or until done and just a few brown spots appear. You can pull out early and finish on an oven rack to make the stripes. It's great fresh; store to keep soft is so desired.

Yeshua the Messiah was literally our Passover sacrifice and died at the time the lambs were being prepared. We are to guard, keep the Passover.

We are commanded by the Messiah not to make ritual into law. Be relaxed, we don't have to be perfect and we don't have to cover everything in this Seder. Cover what the Bible tells us to cover.

Removing the Leaven

During the days before the Passover it is customary for the house to be cleaned and all food containing leaven is removed from the house. The removing of leaven symbolizes the removal of wrongdoing from our lives. Flour does not have extra leaven in it.

Removing anything with leaven helps with the problem of forgetting not to eat anything with leaven. The commandment is to not eat leaven. It is a good idea to clean the cupboards and store anything with leaven in it or just get rid of it (they had smaller houses years ago and couldn't store away things with leaven). If you have a small apartment you can give those things to your neighbor.

Before the Passover dinner, some item containing leaven can be hid and a search is then made for it by the family. That is then also removed. This can symbolize that we should search our hearts so that we can remove any and all wrongdoing from our lives.

Removing sin from our lives and following God's instructions brings blessing.

Psalms 1:1-3 NKJV:

"Blessed is the man
Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly,
Nor stands in the path of sinners,
Nor sits in the seat of the scornful;
But his delight is in the law of the Lord,
And in His law he meditates day and night.
He shall be like a tree
Planted by the rivers of water,
That brings forth its fruit in its season,
Whose leaf also shall not wither;
And whatever he does shall prosper."

We are free to do what we want, but true freedom comes from doing what is right. When a person does what is wrong, they become a slave to that behavior.

Rabbi Shaul (Paul) said:

"We should no longer be slaves of sin." Romans 6:6 NKJV

"Do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts." Romans 6:12 NKJV

Yeshua (Jesus) said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed. John 8:34-36 NKJV

We will be telling two stories tonight.

1) The story about God setting His people, Israel, free so they could serve Him and worship Him.
Without the Jews we would have no Bible and no Messiah.

2) We will also be telling the story about God coming in the person of Yeshua to set His believers free from sin so that we can serve God.

We will say the titles out loud. So below we say "Nerot," then what it means and the other information.

Nerot. (lights) – Lighting the candles done by the mother

It is through a woman that we were given the light of the world, the Messiah Yeshua, and so it is only fitting that we begin the Seder by a woman lighting the candles as a symbol of God's presence. We welcome God's presence at this time (remember, ritual is not necessarily bad, but it is not a commandment).

As we will be saying many blessings, the explanation on using God's true name is on page 26. We should be acquainted with how to say His name correctly.

Say the blessing and light the candles.

Barukh Attah Yĕ-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,
 asher kideshanu bemitzvotav ve-tsivanu lehiyot or
 le-goyim v'natan-lanu et Yeshua Meshicheinu or ha-olam. Amen.

Blessed are You, Yĕ-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe,
 Who sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to be a light
 To the nations and who gave to us Yeshua our Messiah, the light of the world. Amen.

Say a prayer welcoming God's presence and the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Kadesh. (holy) Pour the first cup (drink later)

Pour just a little wine in your cup

The 1st cup, the cup of sanctification – "I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians." Ex. 6:6 NKJV

We will be covering some verses in Exodus 6 and other pertinent (relevant) verses.
 God brought Israel out of Egypt and made them a separate holy people for His purposes.
 Through the Messiah, we are made a separate holy people for the purposes of God.

Kiddush (sanctification) over the cup

Barukh attah Yĕ-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,
 Borei peri ha-gafen.

Blessed are You, Yě-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe,
 Creator of the fruit of the vine.
 (do not drink the cup yet)

Say a prayer about sanctification – being set apart holy

Shehecheyany Blessing

Barukh attah Yě-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,
 She-hecheyany v'ki-yemanu v'higianu lazman ha-zeh

Blessed are you, Yě-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe,
 who has kept us alive and sustained us and has brought us to this special time.

Drink the cup.

(Don't bother leaning to the left as some do unless you want to. This was done since most people are right handed, leaning to the left is supposed to be less impinging. It's an extra command; royalty used to eat this way.)

Blessing over the Children

Place a hand on the head of each child and bless them or bless them as a group.

Boys – Ye'simkha Elohim ke'efrayim ve'khi'manasheh

May God make you like Ephraim and Manasseh.

May God help you to be like Yeshua.

Girls – Ye'simeikh Elohim ke'Sarah, Rivka, Rachel, v'Leah

May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel, and Leah.

May God help you to be like Yeshua.

Urehatz. Symbolic washing of hands

Just pour a few drops over your hands. (3X is just extra ceremony)

We help each other pour a little water over our right and left hands and have towels ready. The children could help with the towels.

It is good to remember to serve each other. Yeshua washed the feet of his disciples before Passover as an example to them.

Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. John 13:16

Shaul said, "Through love serve one another." Gal 5:13

It is fitting that we remember the words of our Messiah to serve one another at this time.

Karpas. (greens) Dipping of a vegetable in salt water

A vegetable and the salt water symbolizes the lowly beginning of the Jewish people and also our shortcomings through sin that brings pain into the world

Dip one of the greens with salt water and eat it. The salt water represents our tears.

Shaul (Paul) said, "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23 NKJV
Through the Messiah we are made God's children and are forgiven (John 1:9, 3:1-2). God will one day take away all our pain and tears.

"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." Rev. 21:4 NKJV

Also, at this time we should remember all that Yeshua went through by dying for us so that we could be freed from sin.

"But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us;" Romans 5:8. NKJV

We are thankful for Israel being set free from slavery so they could serve God.
Although we are very sad that Yeshua had to go through all that He did, we are thankful for all that He has provided for us and setting us free from sin so we could serve God.

Yachatz. (divide) –pour a cup at this time and drink later.

(If you are doing a short Seder, you will not be pouring all the cups. Don't worry about it.)

Breaking the Matzah

Three matzot have been put in the matzah tosh (a matzah bag) or in napkins; at this time the middle piece is broken and the larger piece is hidden while the children close their eyes. Put in a clean napkin or baggie; keep clean, we will eat it later or we can just eat the matza placed on the tables. Later, the children will search for the broken piece and the one who finds it will get a prize.

Perhaps the three pieces of matzah that are put in a matzah tosh or napkins represent Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Or, perhaps it represents the Father, Yeshua, and the Holy Spirit.

*The middle piece symbolizes Yeshua being broken for us.

Maggid. (storyteller)

We start telling our story with some instruction.

The youngest child is often given the opportunity to recite the 4 questions. Remember, the ceremony is a family activity and we should try to keep it interesting.

You could sing the Mah nishtanah at this time or another song if you like.

The four questions:

1) Why is it that on all other nights during the year we eat either bread or matzah, but on this night, we eat only matzah?

We eat only matzah because we had to flee the Egyptians. It reminds us to be quick to accept spiritual things that affect our lives greatly. It is important to accept Yeshua the Messiah while we can.

2) Why is it that on all other nights we eat all kinds of herbs, but on this night only bitter herbs? Because at one time we were slaves and our lives were bitter. This should remind us that sin is slavery and can bring difficult circumstances into our lives.

3) Why is it that on all other nights we do not dip our herbs even once, but on this night, we dip them twice? The bitter herbs (karpas) remind us of our tears in Egypt and the tears that sin can bring into our life. The bitter herbs remind us that Yeshua the Messiah died for us. The charoset reminds us of the cement Israel used to create bricks. Through Yeshua we can break down the walls that keep us from God.

4) Why is it that on all other nights we eat either sitting or reclining, but on this night, we eat in a reclining position? As God's people we can relax, be at peace, and have joy.

We remember Israel's freedom from slavery in Egypt so they could serve God. "For you are a holy people to the Lord your God, and the Lord has chosen you to be a people for Himself, a special treasure above all the peoples who are on the face of the earth;" Deuteronomy 14:2 NKJV.

We remember our freedom from slavery to sin because of the Messiah Yeshua. Yeshua has made us His people. "But you are a chosen people, the King's cohanim, a holy nation, a people for God to possess!" 1 Peter 2:9 CJB

It is God's will that we escape the traps of the devil and sin. "In humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will;" 2 Timothy 2:25-26 NKJV.

This is a remembrance ceremony that is intended to instruct us. So, we all get to be involved.

Everyone, repeat after me

We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, but Yě-hō-VáH our God brought us out from there by a mighty and outstretched arm.

We were all slaves to sin, but through Yeshua we are set free.

If we were not set free, we all would still be slaves.

The parable of the four sons (This section is intended to help the children understand about having a good attitude.)

1) The wise son – wants to know more about God

God's commandments are, "More desirable than gold, than much fine gold, also sweeter than honey." Psalm 19:11 CJB

2) The wicked son – doesn't want to understand

God says that those that don't believe in Him are fools. "Fools say in their hearts, 'There is no God.'" Psalm 14:1 NKJV

3) The simple son – doesn't understand why we bother with the things of God. God will judge us someday for what we do. There will be no excuses. "A person does not live on food alone but on everything that comes from the mouth of ADONAI." Deuteronomy 8:3 CJB

4) The son who doesn't know enough – we must all make an effort to know God. Why understand anything; we need to learn and understand about life or we will end up in trouble. "Above everything else, guard your heart (thoughts that make us who we are); for it is the source of life's consequences (what happens in our life). We should all want to know more and make a continual effort to understand spiritual matters and the holy scriptures.

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." 2 Tim 2:15 NKJV

Talking about Rehoboam, "And he did evil, because he did not prepare his heart to seek the Lord." 2 Chron 12:14 NKJV

According to the Talmud God will ask us four questions:

- 1) Were we honest? Were we not only truthful with others, but true to follow God?
- 2) Did we study the scriptures? Have we shown spiritual growth?
- 3) Did we build up and encourage our family? Do we bring blessing with us or problems?
- 4) Have we hope? Do we live with a hope for a good life through God and a wonderful eternal life?

Ask, what other things can you think of?

* Did we accept the Messiah Yeshua and believe He rose from the dead (Acts 2:38; Romans 10:9).

* Do we follow God's commandments? John 14:15

* Do we keep God's feasts? Leviticus 23:1

* Do we compromise the truth? Ephesians 4:14-15; Revelation 2:10

* Are we willing to be bold for God and the Messiah? Matthew 10:33

Telling the Story

(We are to tell the story of Israel and Yeshua the Lamb of God)

Moses was a kingly leader in Egypt. Exodus 2:5-10

Moses had to escape Egypt and went to Midian. Exodus 2:15

God revealed Himself in the form of a man in a burning bush. Exodus 3:1-6

(Angels look like young men. The Bible says God was speaking to him. Three angels came to see Abraham (they looked like men and they ate together). One of them was God (יהוה).

God sends Moses back to Egypt to free the Israelites. Exodus 3:9-10

Moses returns to Egypt and God demonstrates His almighty power against the gods of Egypt. Exodus 7:1-11:4

The blood of the lamb was put on the lintels and doorposts to protect the people from the destroyer on the night of the Passover. Exodus 12:21-23

Israel leaves Egypt and is pursued by Pharaoh. God protects Israel from Pharaoh. Ex. 13:17-14

Israel goes through the sea to freedom and to the mountain of God, Mt. Sinai. Ex. 19:1-2
 God supernaturally provides for Israel with water, manna, and quail. Ex. 16:13-15, 17:6

Yeshua was like Moses

“I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.” Deuteronomy 18:18 NKJV

Yeshua was born in Bethlehem and was in the kingly line of David. There are two lineages in the New Testament portion. The one in Luke traces Mary's husband Joseph. Matthew traces Mary's lineage of whom was born Yeshua. Some of the Hebrew manuscripts of the Bible show another man by the name of Joseph being Mary's father. It reads in the Hebrew for Matthew 1:16, "Yosef avi Miryam," which means Joseph father of Mary. The Hebrew manuscripts of the New Testament can help us at times to understand the Bible better.

Yeshua's family escaped to Egypt to protect Yeshua and then returned. Matthew 2:13-22

Yeshua declares He is the Messiah and He backed up His words with healings and miracles. He did many miracles sometimes healing everyone in the town He went to. Yochanan said, "And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written." John 21:25

He feeds thousands miraculously by creating food just like God provided food for Israel in the desert. Matthew 14:13-21; 15:29-39

Yeshua becomes the Passover Lamb, shedding His blood, and dying at the time the Passover lambs were being prepared. "Now it was the Preparation Day of the Passover, and about the sixth hour. And he said to the Jews, " Behold your King!" But they cried out, "Away with Him, away with Him! Crucify Him!" John 19:14 NIJV

Yeshua gives His life so that we can be set free from sin. Galatians 1:4

Through Yeshua, God supernaturally provides the gift of the Holy Spirit to each believer. Acts 2:38-29

The Messianic Covenant and the Holy Spirit is first given on the same day as the giving of the law at Mount Sinai – Shavuot (Pentecost). Acts 2:1-4; " One of the Hebrew titles for the holiday is Zman Matan Torah—"the season of the giving of the Law," as the rabbis believed that the Torah was given on the day of Pentecost.⁷

The Ten Plagues

We should remember the suffering of the Egyptians.

There is also suffering in the world because of sin (wrongdoing).

We don't like that the Egyptians had to suffer just as we are saddened by all the suffering in the world because of sin.

First, we spill 3 drops from our second cup and say:

Dam va'esh v'timerot ashan

Blood and fire and thick smoke

⁷ <https://www.chosenpeople.com/site/the-giving-of-the-law-the-giving-of-the-spirit/>

After we mention each plague, we spill a drop of wine. This lessens our joy and is to remind us of the suffering of the Egyptians. Also, we should remember suffering in the world for their rejection of God and their sin. We put a drop of wine on our plate for each plague.

Blood	Frogs	Lice	Swarms of flies, beetles	Sickness on cattle
Boils	Hail (mixed with fire)	Locusts		Darkness
Death of the firstborn				

We will now talk about what Yeshua our Messiah had to go through:

Yeshua's Suffering, Death, Burial, and Resurrection

Yeshua reveals His coming death at the hand of the Gentiles. Mark 10:33-34

Yeshua's location is revealed to the Roman appointed leaders by Judas. Luke 22:1-6

Yeshua stands before the Roman appointed High Priest.⁸ Luke 22:54

The Roman appointed leadership did not go into the area because they were to eat the Passover meal. John 18:28

Yeshua is sent to the Roman Prefect Pilate and then to the Roman appointed King Herod⁹ and then back to Pilate. Luke 23:1, 6-7, 11

They release a robber instead of Yeshua. Luke 23:16-18, 25

Yeshua is beaten by the Roman sympathizers and the Romans. Luke 22:63-65; 23:11, 16

The Roman soldiers struck him and mocked him and put a crown of thorns on His head. John 19:1

Yeshua reveals He is giving Himself and they would have no power over Him unless He allowed them. John 19:11

The Roman appointed leadership planned accusations against Yeshua to have Him put to death. Matthew 26:59, 27:1; Luke 23:23

The Roman appointed Chief Priests say they have no king, but Caesar. They reveal their true loyalty. John 19:15

Yeshua carries His crucifixion stake.

The Romans crucified Yeshua.

Yeshua was speared by the Romans instead of His legs being broken. Water and blood came from where Yeshua was speared. Blood is needed for atonement (Leviticus 17:11).

It was the preparation day. **"Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day,** that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath." John 19:31 NKJV (preparation day is before the Passover; the Sabbath in this verse is the day of rest associated with the 1st day of the feast of Unleavened Bread that begins in the middle of the Passover meal.)

He died and was buried before the Passover meals were about to begin, but rose again the 3rd day. **(The Passover meal extends into the 1st day of Unleavened Bread which is a Sabbath.)** John 19:42, 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

⁸ "The Roman conquest of Judea and subsequent Herodian rule, the office of high ... of Jerusalem one of their first acts was the appointment of a new high priest." - <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/high-priest>

⁹ "In Rome, Herod was unexpectedly appointed King of the Jews by the Roman Senate." – https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herod_the_Great

Dayeinu (song) or sing another song

Ilu Hotzi-anu Mi-mitzra-yim Da-yeinu

If He had brought us out from Egypt,

It would have been enough

Dayeinu

It would have been enough

If God had just freed Israel, it would have been enough.

If God had only given us His commandments so we could live right, it would have been enough.

Yet, God through His mercy, sent us the Messiah Yeshua so we could be set free from sin.

Say a prayer thanking God for our deliverance and for all He has done through Yeshua.

The 2nd Cup (Deliverance) – “I will rescue you from their bondage.” Ex. 6:6 NKJV

We have already poured the cup.

God rescued Israel from bondage and believers in Messiah from the bondage of sin.

Pray over the second cup

Barukh attah Yě-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,

Borei peri ha-gafen.

Blessed are You, Yě-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe,

Creator of the fruit of the vine.

Drink the second cup.

Rachtzah. (washing)

This is another ritual washing of hands. We already did that so we won't do it again.

Motzi Matza (blessing the bread)

Lift up the matzah tosh or the matza in napkins and say the blessing

Barukh attah Yě-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,

Ha-motzi lechem min ha-aretz.

Blessed are You, Yě-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe,

Who brings forth bread from the earth.

Next, we break the bottom matzah into pieces for everyone.

Some of the matza supplied at the tables can be used at this time.

Baruch attah Yě-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,

Asher kideshanu bemitzvotav ve-tsivanu al achilat matzah

Blessed are You, Yě-hō-VáH our God King of the universe,

Who sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to eat matzah.

God commanded them to eat unleavened bread during the 7 days of Unleavened Bread.
We are commanded to eat unleavened bread for the 7 days. So, we should all eat some unleavened bread each day.

We eat matzah because Israel didn't have time for the bread to rise and they needed to flee the Egyptians.

We eat matzah because we all need to accept the Messiah and we must do it now while we can.
 "But this I say, brethren, the time is short." 1 Cor 7:29 NKJV
 "Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." 2 Cor 6:2 NKJV

Maror. (bitter herb)

God commanded the eating the of bitter herbs at the Passover meal.

Baruch attah Yě-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,
 Asher kideshanu bemitzvotav ve-tsivanu al achilat maror

Blessed are You, Yě-hō-VáH our God King of the universe,
 Who sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to eat maror.

We eat the bitter herb to remember the suffering of our people, Israel, the suffering in the world because of sin, and the suffering of our Messiah Yeshua who gave Himself for us.

Take a piece of lettuce and put some horseradish on it and eat it.

Korech. (wrap – a sandwich)

Eating the Hillel Sandwich – Hillel was a Rabbi who lived at the time of Herod

We take a piece of matzah and on one side we put charoset and the other maror.
 We begin eating on the maror side (the bitter herb) and end with the charoset.

This is to remind us that although Israel's slavery was bitter it led to the coming of the Messiah.
 Although our slavery to sin was bitter; our freedom and redemption through Yeshua is sweet.

The Shank Bone

Although we don't roast lamb anymore, we remember how God set us free.
 Israel was released from the captivity of Egypt on Passover.

Yeshua is the lamb of God who gave himself as our Passover.
 "The next day, Yochanan saw Yeshua coming toward him and said, "Look! God's lamb! The one who is taking away the sin of the world!" John 1:29 CJB.

This prophecy about the Messiah by Isaiah was written some 600 years earlier.

"He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth" Isaiah 53:7 NKJV.

The Jewish people expected the Messiah to come and suffer for us. Isaiah 53:1-12

The Jewish people also expected the Messiah to be God.

Yeshua was in the line of David and His name is Adonai Tzidkenu, our Righteous Yě-hō-VáH (יהי, in the text).

"The days are coming, 'says ADONAI,' when I will raise a righteous Branch for David. He will reign as king and succeed, he will do what is just and right in the land. In his days Y'hudah will be saved, Isra'el will live in safety, and the name given to him will be ADONAI Tzidkenu [ADONAI our righteousness];" Jeremiah 23:5-6 CJB.

The Egg

Hold up the egg and say, "This is to remember our sadness at the loss of the Temple

Now through Yeshua we are temples of the Holy Spirit. We don't need to despair any longer, but our tears have turned to joy through Yeshua.

Dip the egg in salt water and give everyone a piece. This is to remind us of the sadness of the loss of the Temple and that sin once ruled our lives.

We now are now temples of the Holy Spirit which helps us to keep God's commandments.

"Your body is a temple for the Ruach HaKodesh" (Holy Spirit) "who lives inside you. So use your bodies to glorify God;" 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 CJB.

Shulchan Orech. (set the table) The prayer before eating the Passover meal.

Baruch attah Yě-hō-VáH Eloheinu melekh ha-olam,
Asher kideshanu bemitzvotav ve-tsivanu al achilat pesach.

Blessed are You, Yě-hō-VáH our God King of the universe,
Who sanctified us with His commandments and commanded us to eat Pesach.

We are commanded to keep Pesach (Passover)

"For our Pesach lamb, the Messiah, has been sacrificed. So let us celebrate the Seder (Pesach) not with leftover hametz (bread with leaven symbolizing sin), the hametz of wickedness and evil, but with the matzah of purity and truth." 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 CJB.

Eat the Passover meal! Enjoy!

Barech. (blessing – after the meal) This is the blessing after the meal.

The prayer after the meal said by the Jews is the “Birkat Hamazon” and is a long prayer.

We will just say the following short prayer:

Blessed are you, Yĕ-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe, who nourishes the whole world in goodness, with grace, kindness, and compassion. He gives bread to all flesh, for His mercy endures forever. And through His great goodness we have never lacked, nor will we lack food forever, for the sake of His great Name. For He is God, who nourishes and sustains all, and does good to all, and prepares food for all His creatures which He created. Blessed are You, Yĕ-hō-VáH, who nourishes all. Amen.

Tzafun. (hidden)

After the meal, if the afikoman hasn't been found yet, the children can look for it.

Reward the child who found it. Keep it wrapped, we will be using it.

Eating the Afikoman – as we do the following, the leader will hold up the Afikoman, show the matzah being buried with their hand or under a napkin, and show the piercing and stripes.

The matzah was broken, buried and is now restored just like our Messiah died, was buried and rose from the dead.

Hold the afikomen horizontally with your hand over it and say, Yeshua our Messiah died for us. We hid the afikomen and that is like His burial.

We now hold up the afikomen which stands for His resurrection.

The matzah is pierced. The Messiah was pierced by a spear for us. Isaiah 53:4-5; John 19:34

The matzah has stripes on it. The Messiah was whipped. John 19:1

Kefa said that by Yeshua's stripes we are healed. 1 Pet 2:24

The Remembrance of Yeshua Ceremony

Eating the Matzah at this point symbolizes what Yeshua did for us through His death. So, we are beginning the commanded remembrance ceremony.

Yeshua told us whenever we do this, to do it in memory of Him. We should especially do this on Passover. This Kiddush would also be done Friday nights or on our Saturday during the day. So it is appropriate to do this ceremony at those times too.

Rabbinic sources say the prayers haven't been changed since the time of Yeshua. So, here is possibly the same blessing Yeshua made:

Barukh attah Yĕ-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,
Ha-motzi lechem min ha-aretz.

Blessed are You, Yĕ-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe,
Who brings forth bread from the earth.

Pass out pieces of the afikomen or have people use the matza that was supplied at each table. Wait for the prayer below.

Remember, this is the piece that was hidden (buried like Yeshua was buried) and then found (raised like Yeshua was raised).

Hold up the afikomen and pray:

“While they were eating, Yeshua took a piece of matzah, made the b'rakhah (blessing), broke it, gave it to the talmidim and said, ‘Take! Eat! This is my body!’.” Matt 26:26 CJB

Eat a piece of the afikoman (or matza supplied at each table).

The Third Cup (Redemption) – “I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.” Ex. 6:6 NKJV

The bread and cup is called the kiddush and is customary on Shabbat and other occasions. It is the night before He gave His life for the sins of man.

“Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come.”

John 13:1 NKJV

Yeshua knew He would be giving His life for us. Yeshua gave His life for us.

Yeshua died before the Passover on the preparation day for the feast of Passover: "So there they laid Jesus, because of the Jews' Preparation Day, for the tomb was nearby;" John 19:42 NKJV

Yeshua said we should do this in memory of Him. There is no better time to remember the Lamb of God than on Passover when Yeshua gave himself for our sins.

Yeshua told us that whenever we do this, we can do it in memory of Him, see Luke 22:19.

The ceremony of the bread and wine we do in memory of Yeshua. It is a remembrance ceremony.

For believers in Yeshua, this cup also symbolizes the Messianic covenant with Yeshua and His bride. Our participation is a sort of ketubah (a Jewish marriage contract) where the groom would share a cup of wine with His bride.

“For your husband is your Maker, ADONAI-Tzva'ot is his name. The Holy One of Isra'el is your Redeemer.” Isaiah 55:4 CJB

Yeshua is our Redeemer!

Barukh attah Yě-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,
Borei peri ha-gafen.

Blessed are You, Yě-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe,
Creator of the fruit of the vine.

Hold up your cup of wine or grape juice.

“Also he took a cup of wine, made the b'rakhah blessing, and gave it to them, saying, ‘All of you, drink from it! For this is my blood, which ratifies the New Covenant, my blood shed on behalf of many, so that they may have their sins forgiven.’” Matt 26:27-28 CJB

Drink the cup

Hallel. (praise) Offering Praise

Sing Psalm 136:1 or another song of praise.

Hodu la'Yě-hō-VáH ki tov, ki l'olam chasdo

Give thanks to Yě-hō-VáH, for He is good; for His mercy forever endures.

Say a prayer of thanks.

Welcoming Elijah

Pour the cup for Elijah. We hope for the Elijah type to come and the Messiah Yeshua to return. Have a child open the door for Elijah.

We believe Yeshua our Messiah came and that He will come again; so, we sing Eliyahu Hanavi for the coming again of the Elijah type who will come at the end of time.

Eliyahu Hanavi (song or just recite, sing the Hebrew 1st)

Eli-ya-hu ha-navi	Elijah the prophet
Eli-ya-hu ha-tishbi	Elijah the Tishbite
Eli-ya-hu ha-gil'adi	Elijah the Giladite

Bim'hera yavoh eleinu	May he soon come to us
im mashiach ben David. 2x	with the messiah son of David

Eliyahu means, “Yehovah” is my God”

Eli means “my God”

Yahu is short for “Yehovah”

Mal 4:5 NKJV

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet

Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord."

Yeshua came once and He is going to come again.

The 4th Cup, Restoration – “I will take you as My people, and I will be your God.”

Ex. 6:7 NKJV

Pour the 4th cup and wait to drink.

Yeshua promised to drink wine with us again someday in the future final kingdom.

“I tell you, I will not drink this 'fruit of the vine' again until the day I drink new wine with you in my Father's Kingdom.” Matt 26:29 CJB.

Pray over the forth cup
 Barukh attah Yě-hō-VáH Eloheinu melek ha-olam,
 Borei peri ha-gafen.

Blessed are You, Yě-hō-VáH our God, King of the universe,
 Creator of the fruit of the vine.

Someday, we will be with the Messiah Yeshua for eternity.
 Drink the forth cup

If you are ending hear, sing a song and close with a prayer.

Nirtzah. (acceptance) Conclusion

The New Jerusalem will be 1,500 miles by 1,500 miles. "The city is laid out in a square, its length equal to its width. With his rod he measured the city at 1,500 miles, with length, width and height the same;" Revelation 21:16 CJB.

When the Messiah returns then Jerusalem will probably be the same size.

Next year may we celebrate with our Messiah in the New Jerusalem and so we sing:

Leshanah Haba'ah bi Yerushalayim

Li-shanah Haba'ah Bi-rushalayim Ha-bnu-yah!

Next year in the rebuilt Jerusalem!

Shout: Leshanah haba'ah bi-yerushalayim! Next year in Jerusalem!

Aaronic Benediction

"Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, 'This is the way you shall bless the children of Israel. Say to them:

Yevarekhekha Yě-hō-VáH veyishmerekha;

Ya'er Yě-hō-VáH panav eleykha vichunneka;

Yisa Yě-hō-VáH panav eleykha veyasem lekha shalom. Amen.

Use God's real name in the translation: The Lord → Yě-hō-VáH (God's real name; Exodus 3:15)

Yě-hō-VáH "The Lord bless you and keep you;

Yě-hō-VáH The Lord make His face shine upon you,
 And be gracious to you;

Yě-hō-VáH The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
 And give you peace." Num 6:23-26 NKJV

**We are now done with our Passover ceremony. God bless
 and may we be with Yeshua next year in the new Jerusalem.**

Explanation on saying the true name of God.

"God said further to Moshe, "Say this to the people of Isra'el: 'Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh [ADONAI], the God of your fathers, the God of Avraham, the God of Yitz'chak and the God of Ya'akov, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever; this is how I am to be remembered generation after generation;" Exodus 3:15 CJB.

God's name pointed is יהוה which is pronounced **Yě-hō-VăH**.*

The "y" is pronounced as a "y" as in you, not a "j;" the "e" is a short vowel; "Yě"

The "hō" is pronounced with a long "o" as in home.

The "a" in "văh" is short.

Accent is on the last syllable.

There has been a lot of speculation over how to pronounce the name for God, יהוה (Yud-Heh-Vav-Heh), because it is no longer pronounced by the Jewish community and the pronunciation is thought to have been lost. This is no longer true. God said this is His name, but some say that we cannot use God's name even though God's name is used 6,828 times in the Tanakh.

It was made illegal by the Jews to say God's true name because people were being killed for saying it in the 3rd century. They intended to change it back to the way it should be, but they never did.

Nehemiah Gordon¹⁰ has found God's name with the vowel markings in over 1,721 manuscripts to date (יהוה). We now can speak the name of God correctly and understand what it means. God says in Exodus 3:15 that, "This is my name forever." The Bible shows us that God's name was to be used in blessings, in conversation, in worship, and in greetings; of course, with reverence. Are we honoring God properly by not using the name He has chosen?

¹⁰ <https://www.nehemiaswall.com/>