



Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Matzah)

I. Introduction

a. Review

i. Summary

1. Who
 - a. All the people of the community of Israel
 - b. Plus those circumcised/sojourning with Israel
2. What
 - a. A sacrifice, an event, a moed
 - b. A service/ceremony to remember/teach the next generation
 - c. Roasted lamb with maror and matzah
3. Where
 - a. Jerusalem
 - b. Inside each individual home
4. When
 - a. 14th day of the 1st month at dusk/twilight
 - b. To be consumed before morning
 - c. Not a "day"; not a "Shabbat"
5. Why—To remember the night Adonai passed over our homes in Egypt

ii. Other topics covered

1. Jewish tradition
2. Yeshua fulfilled Pesach
3. Pros and cons of traditional vs. Scriptural observance
4. Themes of Passover: Deliverance/freedom from Egypt and deliverance from Sin by the shedding of innocent blood on behalf of all

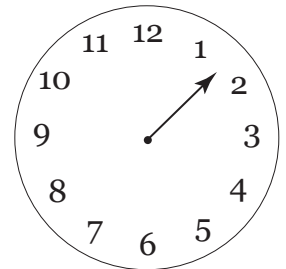
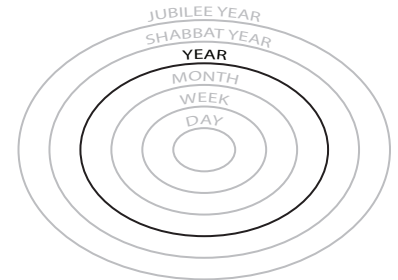
iii. Orientation

1. 5W Method for studying the mo'adiym
2. Clock illustration
3. Reason for studying the mo'adiym: our distinction within the Body and among the nations; the calendar is at the heart of Torah

II. What the Scriptures Say

a. Like Passover, begins in Exodus 12

- i. Exodus 12:8 - matzah is major food element, obvious connection between Passover and the Feast of Matzah (for brevity, I will now use "Matzah" to refer to the Feast of Matzah)
- ii. Exodus 12:12-14 - Why? To remember that night for all generations
- iii. 8-day Calendar - for reference (see chart next page)



Passover/Matzah Calendar according to Torah

Days of the 1st Moon (Month)

14th Day "Erev Passover" (Judaism) "First Day of Matzah" (NT) Passover Sacrifice ✚	15th Day (W) (W) "Passover" (Judaism) Matzah Day 1						21st Day (W) (W) Matzah Day 7
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☐ Day (Daytime)
 ☐ Evening, then Nighttime
 — Feast of Matzah
 ✚ Eat Matzah begin
 (W) No work day except food prep / holy convo.

b. Exodus 12

i. Exodus 12:15

- 7 days commanded to eat matzah (also Nu.28:17, De.16:8, Eze.45:21)
- On the first day, remove leaven from houses
- Death/banishment for whoever eats anything with leaven from first through seventh days (also Ex.12:19)
- Hebrew lesson
 - שֵׂאֵר, *s'or* - leaven, leavening agent (including, but not exclusively, yeast)
 - חָמֵץ, *chametz* - something leavened, i.e. leavened bread

ii. Exodus 12:16

- 1st & 7th days - holy convocations
- Do no work except food preparation
- Not rest days (shabbat shabaton, or shabaton)
- Side note: food preparation is "work"

iii. Exodus 12:17 - why: a lasting ordinance

iv. Exodus 12:18

- Clarifies when to eat matzah: evening of the 14th until the evening of the 21st
- Leviticus 23:5-8

v. Exodus 12:19 - reiterates vs. 15 and expands: leaven removed on the first day of the feast

vi. Exodus 12:20 - reiterates the negative (do not eat anything leavened) and positive (eat matzah)

c. Exodus 13

i. Exodus 13:6 - reiterates Ex. 12:15, calls the 7th day a feast (Ex.23:15 implies the whole week is a feast)

ii. Exodus 13:7

- Reiterates negative and positive eating commands
- Nothing שֵׂאֵר, *s'or* or חָמֵץ, *chametz* to be seen anywhere in territory, i.e. Israel, our homes
- De.16:4 clarifies, "in all your land"

iii. Exodus 13:8

- "Telling" the children, like Passover
- Why: because of what ADONAI did for me when I came out of Egypt.

- a. Passover - how ADONAI passed over our homes
 - b. Matzah - what ADONAI did for us after he brought us out
- 3. Exodus 12:39, De. 16:3
- iv. Exodus 13:9-10 - The Feast of Matzah is a sign of ADONAI's Torah and mighty hand of redemption and deliverance
- d. Other passages
 - i. Exodus 23:14-15 (also Ex.34:18, De.16:16)
 - 1. Matzah one of the three pilgrim feasts
 - 2. Reiterates command to eat matzah
 - 3. Confirms season of annual commemoration - Aviv
 - ii. Numbers 28:17-25 - details of additional offerings
- e. 1st Century Terminology
 - i. Luke 22:1, 7 - Passover and Matzah synonymous for Luke
 - ii. Mark 14:12, Matthew 26:17 appear to concur
 - iii. Problem: doesn't agree with Torah
 - iv. Reconciling the apparent discrepancy:
 - 1. Traditional practices of the day - practical
 - 2. The two feasts' close association in Scripture
 - v. Changed again over time: Judaism calls the first day of Matzah "Passover," and Passover, "Erev Passover"

III. Summary So Far

- a. Who - the generations of Israel
- b. What
 - i. 7 days to eat matzah, not leaven
 - ii. Remove leaven from homes, be leaven-free for 7 days
 - iii. Holy convocations on 1st and 7th days (including no work except food preparation; rest not commanded)
 - iv. Sign of Adonai's Torah and mighty hand of redemption
 - v. Tell our children every year
- c. Where - in our homes and all our territory in Israel
- d. When
 - i. Eat matzah from the evening of the 14th day until the evening of the 21st day
 - ii. Feast begins the day after the Passover, the 15th of the 1st month, for seven days
- e. Why - because it was on that very day that ADONAI brought our divisions out of Egypt
 - i. Pesach commemorates how ADONAI passed over our homes in Egypt
 - ii. Matzah commemorates what ADONAI did for us after he brought us out

IV. Jewish Tradition

- a. בְּרִיקַת חָמֶץ, b'diykat chametz - search for leavened things
 - i. Symbolic search done the night before Passover (13th)
 - ii. Search with candle, flashlight
- b. Removal of leaven before Pesach
 - i. Conflict with Scripture: Ex.12:15 clearly says, "on the first day [of the Feast] you shall remove שָׂאֵר, s'or from your houses."
 - ii. Resolution: having leaven in the homes during Pesach does not conflict with Scripture unless it is eaten.

- iii. Challenge: removing leaven from the homes according on the first day (Ex.12:15), while not being seen with any leaven for all seven days (De.16:4)
- iv. Solution: remove leaven before the majority of the first daytime is gone, i.e. in the morning (Scripture reckons partial days as full)
- c. More on this in the next section

V. Cleaning Out the Leaven

- a. 1Corinthians 5:6-8 - spiritual application of the Feast of Matzah
 - i. Leavening connected with sin
 - ii. Our new reality in Messiah: unleavened
 - iii. Matzah commemorates this new reality
- b. Why we should wait until after Passover to clean out the leaven (besides the obvious: that Scripture says so)
 - i. During Passover - the leavening (Egypt/sin) was still in Israel's midst - they had not yet used it in the dough
 - ii. After Passover - Israel leaves Egypt/sin before leavening the dough, taking only the unleavened dough on their shoulders
 - iii. Waiting to remove the leaven until after Passover, on the first day of Matzah (as Scripture instructs) gives a clearer meaning to Ex.13:9 and to the spiritual significance of the Feast
- c. How to do it
 - i. Does not mean we have to wait until 1st day of Matzah to do deep cleaning of our homes (this would violate the command to do no work, except cooking)
 - ii. Suggestion: leave a decent-sized cache of leavening and/or leavened products for final removal/disposal on the 1st day

VI. Matzah!

- a. Rabbinics
 - i. Matzah is only flour and water
 - ii. May not be allowed to stand for longer than 18 minutes
- b. Scripture
 - i. Exodus 12:33-34, 39 - unleavened dough
 - ii. Exodus 29:2 - matzah bread, matzah cakes mixed with oil, matzah wafers spread with oil
- c. The Feast of Matzah in the Geoffrey household - we make our own matzah as well as use the store-bought kind

VII. Suggested Order of Events for Passover/Feast of Matzah

- a. Before Passover
 - i. Deep clean home and car for leaven; leave cache
 - iii. Prepare for Passover - bake matzah
- b. Celebrate Passover memorial
 - i. Remember, eat, fellowship
 - ii. Keep vigil (Ex.12:42, Mt.26:40)
- c. 1st day of Matzah
 - i. Final removal of leaven; do no work, except food preparation
 - iii. Congregate/celebrate/fellowship
- d. Days 2 through 6 - eat matzah!
- e. Matzah Day 7
 - i. Celebration, more food
 - ii. Break leaven fast that evening