



## 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

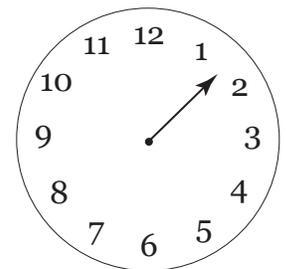
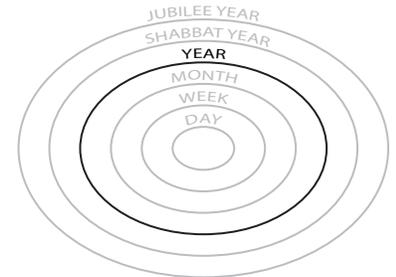
##### iii. Orientation

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 <i>"Erev Passover"</i> <i>(Judaism)</i>  <i>"First Day of Matzah"</i> <i>(NT)</i> ✚ Passover Sacrifice	15th Day (W) <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">W</span> <i>"Passover"</i> <i>(Judaism)</i> <b>Matzah</b> <b>Day 1</b>					21st Day (W) <span style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">W</span>  <b>Matzah</b> <b>Day 7</b>
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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**

1. 7 days commanded to eat matzah (also Nu.28:17, De.16:8, Eze.45:21)
2. On the first day, remove leaven from houses
3. Death/banishment for whoever eats anything with leaven from first through seventh days (also Ex.12:19)
4. Hebrew lesson
  - a. שָׂאֵר, *s'or* - leaven, leavening agent (including, but not exclusively, yeast)
  - b. חָמֵץ, *chametz* - something leavened, i.e. leavened bread

ii. **Exodus 12:16**

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

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

iv. **Exodus 12:18**

1. Clarifies when to eat matzah: evening of the 14th until the evening of the 21st
2. 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

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

iii. Exodus 13:8

1. "Telling" the children, like Passover
2. 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. בְּרִיֶּקֶת חָמֵץ, 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 שֹׂר, 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