

Passover

We have now reached the most important part of the history of God's Covenants.

Yeshua sent His disciples to go and make all the arrangements for the Passover.

The Passover is one the most significant times in history because it is all about salvation. So we must look back at the first Passover to see the significance of it.

Exodus 12:1-6 tells us this, *"Now the Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, 'This month shall be the beginning of months for you; it is to be the first month of the year for you. Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying, 'On the tenth of this month they are, each one, to take a lamb for themselves, according to the fathers' households, a lamb for each household. Now if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his neighbor nearest to his house are to take one according to the number of persons in them; in proportion to what each one should eat, you are to divide the lamb. Your lamb shall be an unblemished male a year old; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the **fourteenth day** of the same month, then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel is to slaughter it at twilight.'*"

What we see here is that this time was so important that God actually changed time. The month that they were in was the seventh month, but now God said it will be the first month, and the first month shall be the seventh month. Remember when Yeshua came on the colt of the donkey that the people cut branches and waved them. Because it was the seventh month, the month that we celebrate Rosh Hashanah, the birth of Creation and the blowing of the horns, much like we do for our New Years. Today Rosh Hashanah is the civil New Year, and it reminds us of the coming of King Messiah. Next comes Yom Kippur, the opening of the Gates and Judgement, and last Sukkot, the birth of the Messiah, God with us, our eternal home. We call these days the Fall Feasts. They are yet to be fulfilled, and they shall be fulfilled, along with the promise of the Davidic Covenant of Messiah sitting on David's throne forever. But when the seventh month became the first month This leaves us now with the Spring Feasts. These all have been fulfilled. Now the first month shall be the celebration of the freedom of the Jewish people from their slavery from Egypt. God said first things first. So it begins with the tenth of the first month (Lunar calendar), the people were to select a lamb, an unblemished male lamb, a perfect lamb.

1 Peter 1:18-19 says, *"You know that you were redeemed from the futile way of life handed down from your ancestors—not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with precious blood like that of a lamb without defect or spot, the blood of Messiah."*

We see also in **Ephesians 5:26- 27**, that the community of believers also must be like the Messiah without spot or wrinkle. *"Husbands, love your wives just as Messiah also loved His community and gave Himself up for her to make her holy, having cleansed her by immersion in the word. Messiah did this so that He might present to Himself His glorious community—not having stain or wrinkle or any such thing, but in order that she might be holy and blameless."*

This selection or setting apart was actually fulfilled on the tenth of the month when the people cried out that day when Yeshua came on the colt of the donkey. They gave their approval that He was the Anointed One sent by God.

Exodus 12 goes on to say that on the fourteenth day of the first month that all the lambs must be slaughtered. This is exactly what happened, Yeshua died on the fourteenth day of the first month, and exactly the same time that the lambs were being slaughtered. That evening at sunset began the Feast of Unleavened Bread. All of this was done exactly as Leviticus 23 says. We must understand that in the lunar calendar the new day begins at sundown and goes till the next sundown. Like Creation, there was evening and then morning. So Yeshua could easily have had the Seder at night and then be crucified in the afternoon of the same day.

1 Corinthians 5:7 tells us this, *"Clean out the old leaven so that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Messiah our Passover also has been sacrificed."*

This was not written to Jews, but to Gentiles. In the beginning we made this statement: The sin of Adam was the yeast in which sin grew. Paul tells us to *"rid ourselves of the yeast."* We are going to take a closer look at the Passover Seder and compare it to what was going on at Yeshua's Seder.

Matthew 26:20-25 records this, *"Now when evening came, Yeshua was reclining at the table with the twelve. And as they were eating, He said, 'Truly I say to you that one of you will betray Me.' Being deeply grieved, they began saying to Him, each one: 'Surely it is not I, Lord?' And He answered, 'He who dipped his hand with Me in the bowl is the one who will betray Me. The Son of Man is going away just as it is written about Him; but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been good for that man if he had not been born.' And Judas, who was betraying Him, said, 'Surely it is not I, Rabbi?' Yeshua said to him, 'You have said it yourself.'"*

The Seder: **The Maror:** On all other nights we eat all kinds of vegetables, but on Passover we eat only maror—bitter herbs. As sweet as our lives are today, let us still remember how bitter life was for the children of Israel in the land of Egypt and the death of our Messiah Yeshua.

"While they were reclining at the table eating, this is when Yeshua said, 'I tell you the truth, one of you will betray Me—one who is eating with Me.' They were saddened and one by one they asked Him, 'Surely not I?' 'It is one of the Twelve,' He replied, 'one who dips the matzah into the bowl with Me.'"

(Mark 14:17-20)

So the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites and worked them ruthlessly. They made their lives bitter with hard labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields. The matzah (unleavened bread) was called the bread of affliction. So as we scoop maror onto a piece of matzah, let us allow the bitter taste to cause us to shed tears of compassion for the sorrow that the Israelites knew thousands of years ago.

We Dip Twice: On all other nights we do not dip our vegetables even once, but tonight we dip them twice. We have already dipped the parsley into salt water. Lifting the charoset, the apple mixture, remember the children of Israel toiled to make treasure cities for Pharaoh, working in brick and clay. Let us once again scoop some bitter herbs onto a small piece of matzah. But this time before we eat, let us dip the herbs into the sweet charoset. The sweetness of this apple mixture helps ease the effect of the bitter herbs. Amid the sorrowful revelation that Yeshua disclosed to His disciples, He encouraged them by saying this, *"Do not let your hearts be troubled... I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also"* **(John 14:1, 3).**

The sorrow of Yeshua's death was swallowed up in the victory of His resurrection and the promise of eternal life through Him. We like to say that Communion was taken from the Seder and yet, Yeshua did not begin some new sacrament. It is very important to keep the context of what happened in its original context.

The Seder: lifting the plate which contains three matzot This is the bread of affliction, the poor bread which our fathers ate in the land of Egypt. Let all who are hungry come and eat! Let all who are in need share in the hope of Passover! Three matzot are wrapped together for Passover. There are various explanations for this ceremony. The rabbis call these three Unity. Some consider it a unity of the Patriarchs. Others explain it as the unity of worship—the priests, the levites, and the people of Israel. We who know the Messiah can see this unique tri-unity of God—Father, Son, and Spirit, three in one.

“Yeshua said to them, ‘I am the bread of life’” (John 6:35).

As we look at our matzah, we can see a representation of the Messiah. Removing and breaking the middle matzah in half just as the middle piece of the bread of affliction is broken, Messiah too was affected and broken. One half is now called the **afikomen**—“**the coming one.**” It is wrapped in a white cloth just as the Messiah’s body was wrapped for burial....Later the afikomen is brought back.

The Seder: Just as this **afikomen** has been redeemed, so too we have been redeemed. Yeshua paid the ultimate price for us so that we may celebrate our freedom. Messiah broke matzah (the bread of affliction) and gave thanks to the Lord. It was not just any matzah, but this, the afikomen, which He shared with His disciples. It was then that Messiah added the words,

“This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of Me” (Luke 22:19)

This command to remember Him as we partake of the afikomen demands our utmost attention as the Messiah specifically instructed His followers to do so at this particular time. The afikomen, representing the Yeshua’s body, is to be shared and reflected on as we partake. Every year when we reach this point of the seder, we are explicitly commanded to eat the afikomen in remembrance of Him, let us

remember and contemplate the body of our Messiah Yeshua who has given Himself as a sacrifice to redeem us from slavery to the kingdom of darkness in order to bring us into His Kingdom of Light.

Paul reminds us that this is not something to be taken lightly: *“So then , whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat the matzah and drink from the cup of redemption. For those who eat and drink without discerning the body of the Messiah eat and drink judgment on themselves.” (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)*

Seder: It is time for us to share the afikomen, the dessert, the final food eaten at Passover. It is shared as the Passover lamb was shared from the time of the Exodus until the destruction of the Temple. As we partake, let us reflect on the sacrifice of the Messiah and examine our hearts for unrepented sin lest we place ourselves under judgement. As we eat the matzah we must meditate on the broken body of the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Yeshua said as often as you do this, remember Me. The disciples knew that every time they now partook in the Passover Seder that they were to remember not just the Exodus from Egypt, which was their salvation, but the death of the Messiah which is now our salvation. Communion was created by the church, not by God. (see our study on the Sins of our Forefathers.)

You see, the Israelites being set free from Egypt was like being set free from sin. Egypt represents the world.

1 John 2: 15-16 says, *“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.”*

Yeshua died for our sins. This is why at sundown on the fourteenth day of the first month it is the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Remember, the sin of Adam became the yeast for sin. Now for seven days yeast is not only not to be eaten, but not even a trace of yeast in your home, but this was only a symbol because we must actually rid ourselves of sin. **Romans 6:1-7** say this regarding being born again.

"What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin so that grace may abound? May it never be! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Or do you not know that all of us who were immersed into Messiah Yeshua were immersed into His death? Therefore we were buried together with Him through immersion into death—in order that just as the Messiah was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become joined together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also will be joined together in His resurrection— knowing our old man was crucified with Him so that the sinful body might be done away with, so we no longer serve sin. For he who has died is set free from sin."

Israel left Egypt and went into the Red Sea, and when they came out on the other side, they too, were set free from Egypt. They too, experienced salvation.

Let's continue with the Seder.

The Seder: The Cup of Redemption

"I will redeem you with an outstretched arm...."

(Exodus 6:6)

This is the Cup of Redemption, symbolizing the blood of the Passover Lamb. It was the cup "after supper," with which Messiah identified Himself:

"And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, 'This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.'" (Luke 22:20)

This is the new covenant which was foretold by the prophets: *"But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they will all know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them," declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."* **(Jeremiah 31:33)**

You see here that God did not get rid of His Commandments, in fact now He is going to write them on our hearts, and for Him to do this means we must keep them.

Yeshua is foreshadowing what is about to take place: through His crucifixion and the shedding of His blood in the heavenly temple as **Hebrews 9:11-12** tells us.

"But when Messiah appeared as a high priest of the good things having come, He entered through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made by hands, that is, not of this creation; and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all time, having obtained eternal redemption."

Yeshua settled the issue in the garden and now He was ready to make the way for atonement to take place. This would not merely be an external cleansing, but a supernatural transformation through the power of the Spirit as

Ezekiel 36:26-27 says, *"Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances"*

Currently, we see this fulfilled only in part: *"Now He who establishes us with you in Messiah and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge."* (**1 Corinthians 1:21-22**).

The Spirit which He has given to us is a pledge of the future—a taste of the even greater things that are yet to come. Today, much of the world is still in darkness.

We eagerly wait for the day when the whole earth will be joined with us in the Kingdom of God. On that day it is written, *"It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind,"* (**Joel 2:28**).

This is why we drink this cup in hope of the redemption of Israel and of the entire world. Just as the blood of the lamb brought salvation in Egypt, so Messiah's atoning death can bring salvation to all who believe. Yes, the blood of the lamb was placed upon the door so that the death angel would pass over their home, and so too with us, the Messiah's blood is now upon us and the death angel passes over us.

For **1 John 3:14** tells us this, *"We know that we have passed over out of death into life by the fact that we love the brethren, the one who does not love remains in death."*

Remember the commandments tell us just that, to Love God and love your neighbor.

We must say this, that it was not until the year 1215, at the Fourth Council of the Lateran, that communion was established. Yeshua told His disciples, those who would follow His disciples, that they were to remember Him in the Passover at the time of the **Afikoman** and the **Cup called Redemption**. It is important that we follow Yeshua, the Word of God and not man made religion.

After the Messiah and His disciples finished the Passover meal they left to go and pray. It was there in the garden, not the Garden of Eden, but the Garden of Gethsemane that the devil met them. The Messiah warned His disciples, to pray that they would not come into temptation. We see the reenactment of Adam and Eve falling to temptation.

Yeshua tells Peter, *"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded to sift you men like wheat; but I have prayed for you, that your faith will not fail; and you, when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers."* (**Luke 22:31**)

"But Peter said to Him, 'Lord, I am ready to go with You both to prison and to death!' But He said to him, 'I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow today until you have denied three times that you know Me.'" (**Matthew 26:31-35**)

People seem to think that Yeshua could die for us because He was God, but this is not so. We must remember that even though Yeshua was God, He was just as much a man.

Matthew 26: 36-46 record that evening. *"Then Yeshua came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and told His disciples, 'Sit here while I go over there and pray.' And He took Peter and the two sons of Zebedee with Him, and began to be grieved and distressed. Then He said to them, 'My soul is deeply grieved, to the point of death; remain here and keep watch with Me.' And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, 'My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will.' And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and He said to Peter, 'So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour? Keep watching and praying, so that you do not come into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.' He went away again a second time and prayed, saying, 'My Father, if this cup cannot pass away unless I drink from it, Your will be done.' Again He came and found*

them sleeping, for their eyes were heavy. And He left them again, and went away and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more. Then He came to the disciples and said to them, 'Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let's go; behold, the one who is betraying Me is near!'"

This is so important that we understand what was going on in the Garden of Gethsemane. First the meaning of Gethsemane means "olive press." Remember it pleased God to crush Him as **Isaiah 53:10** says, *"Yet it was the Lord's will to crush Him and cause Him to suffer, and though the Lord makes His life an offering for sin, He will see His offspring and prolong His days, and the will of the Lord will prosper in His hand."*

Second we see here a spiritual battle. Yeshua wanted His disciples to pray and do battle regarding this night. Are we like this: the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak?

Yeshua began His ministry in the wilderness, much like Israel in the wilderness, meeting the temptation of the Devil. Israel fell into all kinds of **doubt**.

Romans 11:20 tells us that Israel was broken off from the tree because of **doubt**, so we could be grafted in. This is what Scripture tells us about the spiritual battle that we must fight.

Ephesians 6: 10-13 says this, *"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist on the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm."*

2 Corinthians 10: 3-5 also says, *"For though we walk in the flesh, we do not wage battle according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses. We are destroying arguments and all arrogance raised against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Messiah."*

1 Timothy 6: 11-14 tells us, *"But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance, and gentleness. Fight the good fight*

of faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called, and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. I direct you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Messiah Yeshua who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate, that you keep the commandment without fault or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Messiah Yeshua."

We are also suppose to fight to keep truth and light in God's Word as **Jude 3-4** says, *"Beloved, while I was making every effort to write to you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith that was once for all time handed down to the saints. For certain people have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into indecent behavior and deny our only Master and Lord, Messiah Yeshua."*

So yes, there was a battle and Yeshua was fighting that battle. He asks for the cup to be taken away from Him. Which cup? The Cup of Redemption. Many people can not believe that Yeshua would have struggled, even wrestled with any thought of not going through with His death. Here we see Yeshua in the garden wrestling with the devil. Going all the way back to the garden when Adam and Eve should have wrestled with the devil. We even saw Jacob wrestling with the angel because he was struggling with his sins that he had committed against his brother whom he was about to meet. No, Yeshua was not struggling over His sins, but the sins of the world. When Pharaoh pursued Israel they too struggled as **Exodus 14: 10-14** says, *"As Pharaoh approached, the sons of Israel looked, and behold, the Egyptians were coming after them, and they became very frightened; so the sons of Israel cried out to the Lord. Then they said to Moses, 'Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, 'Leave us alone so that we may serve the Egyptians.' For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness!' But Moses said to the people, 'Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will perform for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again, ever. The Lord will fight for you, while you keep silent.'"*

You see, even though Yeshua knew that He had not sinned, taking our sins on Himself, made Him sin, and that meant that He would die in His sin and be separated from God His Father. This all happened for our sake, so we too, will know that we must wrestle with the devil and our outcome must be the same outcome,
"Not my will be done but Yours."

2 Corinthians 5: 21 says, *"For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God"*

Yeshua knew that this meant that He would die and be totally separated from the Father. This was crushing to Him so much that He began to sweat blood. Shouldn't we struggle with our sins? Shouldn't we be more concerned with those sins that so easily entangle us?

Hebrews 12:1-3 says, *"Therefore, since we also have such a great cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let's rid ourselves of every obstacle and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let's run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking only at Yeshua, the originator and perfecter of the faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."*

We must learn to fight the good fight and never put down our weapons of warfare. We have been taught that because of Yeshua we do not need to repent of our sins, nor do we need to concern ourselves about our salvation. This is all false.

Philippians 2:12-13 says, *"So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, both to desire and to work for His good pleasure."*

We have the whole Word of God to tell us how we are to work out our salvation. One big way is to let go of the world because God and the world are at odds.

Romans 8: 22-24 tells us, *" For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we*

ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?"

You see we have the hope of salvation, but we must cross the finish line in a manner worthy of salvation. This means that we have kept the faith and we have fought the fight.

In **1 Corinthians 9:27** Paul says this, *"But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified."*

Philippians 2:14-17 also says, *"Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Messiah I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all."*

Yeshua may have wrestled with what was about to happen, but in the end, He said, "Not My will be done, but Yours."

You see, Yeshua kept the faith. He fought the good fight in wrestling with the devil, just like He had done in the beginning of His ministry in the wilderness. Yeshua won the victory once again. And now we too, can follow in His footsteps and we too, can cross the finish line as victors. We too, can pick up our cross and follow Him as

Matthew 16:24-26 says, *"Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?'"*

1 Corinthians 15:56-57 says, *"The sting of death is sin; and sin draws its power from the commandments; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Yeshua the Messiah! So, my dear brothers, stand firm and immovable, always doing the*

Lord's work as vigorously as you can, knowing that united with the Lord your efforts are not in vain."

When Adam and Eve fell in the Garden of Eden, God made clothing for them and to do this He had to slaughter an animal. Most likely it was a lamb. God had to slaughter the Messiah, the Lamb of God, for this did not only fulfill the foreshadowing of covering Adam and Eve, but also the blood on the doorpost which protected God's people from death. Also we see once again, The Messiah's blood that covers us, also brings us peace.

Colossians 1:13-20 says this, *"For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation: for by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones, or dominions, or rulers, or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. He is also the head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made **peace** through the blood of His cross."*

The blood of the Messiah covers us so that when God sees us He sees the shed blood of Messiah and then there is peace between us and God. The blood is the righteousness of Yeshua and because He is our righteousness our lives now become complete in Him. We should always give thanks and be eternally grateful for the shed blood of Yeshua.

Matthew 27:45-54 records this, *"Now from the sixth hour darkness fell upon all the land until the ninth hour. And about the ninth hour Yeshua cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Eli, Eli, Lema Sabaktanei ?' That is, 'MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?'*

AND some of those who were standing there, when they heard it, said, 'This man is calling for Elijah.' And immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink. But the rest of them said, 'Let us see if Elijah comes to save Him.' And Yeshua cried out again with a loud voice, and gave up His spirit. And behold, the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to

bottom; and the earth shook and the rocks were split. Also the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised; and coming out of the tombs after His resurrection, they entered the holy city and appeared to many. Now as for the centurion and those who were with Him keeping guard over Yeshua, when they saw the earthquake and the other things that were happening, they became extremely frightened and said, 'Truly this was the Son of God!'"

After Yeshua breathed His last there was an earthquake and people were frightened, but Yeshua wasn't there to calm the situation, but the peace of God still prevailed and the rainbow came out and the sun shined and Yeshua rose from the grave victoriously.

Colossians 2:9-15 gives us a good picture of this, *"For in Him lives all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And you are complete in Him, who is the head of all authority and power. In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Messiah, buried with Him in baptism, in which also you were raised with Him through the faith of the power of God, who has raised Him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has resurrected together with Him, having forgiven you all sins. He blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us and contrary to us, and He took it out of the way, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed authorities and powers, He made a show of them openly, triumphing over them by the cross."*

Yeshua rose from the grave on the sixteenth day of Nisan, this is the Feast day of First-Fruits. **1 Corinthians 15: 20- 28**, *"But now Messiah has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead also has come through a Man. For as in Adam all die, so also in Messiah will all be made alive. But each in its own order: Messiah the firstfruits; then, at His coming, those who belong to Messiah; then the end, when He hands over the kingdom to God the Father after He has destroyed all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For God has 'put all things in subjection underneath His feet.' But when the psalmist says that 'all' has been put in subjection, it is clear that this does not include God Himself, who put all things under Messiah. Now*

when all things become subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also become subject to the One who put all things under Him, so that God may be all in all."

In **Revelation 14:4b** speaking of the 144,000 it says, *"These have been purchased from mankind as first fruits to God and to the Lamb."*

The Season of Passover continues with the counting of the Omer for 50 days which brings us to the Feast of Pentecost. This was the day when Israel received the Commandments and the day when many received the Holy Spirit, both with fire and the loud sound of the wind and the shaking of the earth. The Word and the Spirit go together as we see in the armor of God, the sword of the Spirit is the Word of God. God gained our salvation on Passover, I would think that we all would want to keep the Season of Passover if we want to be a true witness to the world. Yeshua died on the fourteenth day of Nisan and on the sixteenth day He rose victorious from the grave holding the crown that he took from the devil, the crown that he took from Adam.

Yeshua the King of Kings as **Revelation 17:14** says *"These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them because He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful."*

Also **Revelation 19:15-16** says, *"From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the winepress of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written: 'KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.'"*

His shed blood covers us in peace. You see when God sees us He sees the shed blood that covers us, just like when God slaughtered the animal to cover Adam and Eve. **Colossians 1:19-20** says, *"For it was the Father's good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross."* and now we are the righteousness of Yeshua, but only if we stay in the covenant. The shed blood is the righteousness of Yeshua and His blood makes us righteous.

