

KARPAS: A piece of celery, or any vegetable over which we recite "Borey Pree HaAdamah." It is distributed, dipped in salt water, blessing recited and then eaten. Only small portions of Karpas should be eaten.

YACHATZ: At start of Seder, a plate is put before the leader with 3 matzahs - representing the 3 classes of Israelites: Kohain the Priest-in charge of all offerings & services in the Temple; Levi, assistant to the Kohain-also the singers & musicians who sang & accompanied themselves on musical instruments during services; Yisroel, the ordinary Israelites. The leader takes the middle matzah, called the "Levi", and breaks it in half. One part is put away to be used later as the Afikomen; the other is left on the plate.



MAGID: The Haggadah is recited; the opening passage-"Ha Lachmo Anya" invites all who are hungry, needy, or cannot have their own Seder to come join our Seder, fulfilling the Mitzvah. The Four Questions follow, usually asked by the youngest child, but can be asked by anybody. The answer follows, explaining the story, miracles, & lessons of Pesach. Reciting the Haggadah on Passover night fulfills a Biblical commandment and should not be rushed. Discussion & comments from our Commentaries should enhance it. We drink the 2nd cup of wine after reciting the Haggadah.

RACHITZA: Hands are washed again, but this time we recite the Blessing, since we are to eat the Matzah.

MOTZEE MATZAH: The blessing "Ha motsee" is recited by the leader while holding the 2 Matzahs & the middle piece. Generous pieces are given to everyone & all recite the Blessing "Al ech-iles Matzah" & eat it leaning to the left.

MOROR: Bitter vegetables - romaine lettuce (consult Rabbi on how to rid it of little worms), horseradish -ground up (commercial in a jar unacceptable), or iceberg lettuce. The leader takes bitter herbs, dips them into the Charoses (mixture of shredded nuts, apple, cinnamon & wine) & recites the Blessing. All do this with generous portions of moror.

The Moror symbolizes the bitter times the Israelites had in Egypt: Charoses, brown color, reminds of the mortar the Israelites used in building the cities of Pithom & Ramesses. Our sages say the good tasting Charoses also symbolizes G-d's pleasantness and kindness towards the Israelites, making slavery a bit easier to bear.

KOREICH: Leader takes 2 pieces of Matzah, puts some grated Moror between them & recites the passage "Zecher L'Mikdash K'Hillel" ("this was Hillel's custom.."), then eats the sandwich, followed by everyone else at the table.

In the time of the Temple in Jerusalem, the custom of the great sage Hillel was to take some matzah, Moror, & part of the Pesachal Lamb (Korban Pesach) & eat them together to fulfill the commandment in the Torah: "It (the Pesachal Lamb) shall be eaten on Matzah & bitter." Today, when we have no sacrifices, we have no Lamb, but carry on Hillel's custom by eating matzah & Moror.