Candle Lighting

Diana lights candles, Chris says blessings

Candle 1 – Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, King of the Universe, who has sanctified us with Your commandments as we light the Yom Tov light.

Candle 2 – Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, who has kept us in life, sustained us, and allowed us to reach this season.

Candle 3 – Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, who has given Your only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but shall have eternal life.

Chris: Welcome to our Seder. Thanks to our participants and to our guests. It is humbling that you have chosen to observe the Passover and remember the sacrifice Yeshua, our Messiah, has made with us. We are honored to have you here.

Diana: It is time to fill our first cup. Instead of filling your own glasses, please fill someone else’s as a reminder of how loved we are and how we are now part of YHVH’s family, grafted in through the death and resurrection of Yeshua.

Chris: We thank you, YHVH our Elohim, for sending your Son to redeem us and allow us to be adopted into your family.

With full glass in right hand **all say** “Bless you, YHVH our Elohim, who, through your Son, creates the fruit of the vine.”

Chris: Please only drink the grape juice when indicated during this Seder.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “Blessed are you YHVH our Elohim, who has called us out of Babylon and allowed us to cross over. Through the the Holy Spirit you have made known to us to observe your commandments. You have grafted us in and allow us to observe the Festival of Matza, the season of our freedom, a sacred gathering in memory of the departure from the Egypt and of the remembrance of Your Son’s most precious sacrifice. Blessed are You, YHVH, who sanctifies the Shabbat and the festivals, and has made our salvation possible.

**All**: Amen

Chris: Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, who Created the fire’s light through your Son, who is the Light of the World.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, who distinguishes between holy and profane, between light and darkness, between Israel and the nations, between the 7th day and the six days of work. You have distinguished between the holiness of the Shabbat and the holiness of the festival, and You have sanctified the 7th day above the other 6 days. You have distinguished and sanctified Your nation, Israel, with Your holiness.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: This blessing is recited to express gratitude and appreciation when we experience something new – when we put on new clothes, when we enter a new house, when we eat the new fruit of the season, when we celebrate an appointed time, fulfill a commandment, or see an old friend we haven’t seen in a long time.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: The shehecheyanu is derived from the word “chai” meaning life. It is our appreciation for being alive and for the power to use life for worthwhile ends. Let us all recite the shehecheyanu together:

**All**: Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, King of the Universe, with Your Son Yeshua seated at Your right hand. You have kept us in life, sustained us, and allowed us to reach this season.

Chris: Let’s enjoy our first cup together as Yeshua commanded. This cup is a remembrance of His blood, which was poured out for the forgiveness of sins for many.

After the cup, Chris: This is the point in a traditional Seder where there would be a ritual hand washing. Our Savior told us that we only need to wash our feet and we are then clean. We washed each other’s feet last night according to His command and are thus deemed clean.

Parsley in Salt Water

Chris rises and holds up the Karpas and says “The parsley represents the lowly origins of the Hebrew people and the salt water represents the tears the Hebrews shed while in slavery. The parsley can also represent the hyssop that was used to put the lambs’ blood on the door posts. Today we apply the blood to the doorposts of our hearts by trusting in the work of Yeshua as our Passover Lamb. Let us recite the following together:”

**All**: Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, who creates the fruit of the earth through Your Son, Yeshua.

Everyone eats parsley dipped in salt water

Chris holds up a large piece of Matzah

**All**: This is the bread of affliction our adoptive fathers ate while in Egypt. This bread represents the body of Yeshua which He voluntarily gave for our sins. We eat this bread as He commanded, in memory of Him.

Chris breaks the matzah and says “In haste, our fathers went out of Egypt with the bread of affliction. By Yeshua’s sacrifice, the Spirit has led us out of spiritual Egypt and we are now adopted children of Abraham and heirs according to the promise.”

The Story of Passover

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “Why is this night different than other nights”?

Chris: “Because this is the night Yeshua died for our sins. This is also the night that YHVH delivered the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt just as His Son delivers us from our slavery to sin.”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “Why do we eat unleavened bread?”

Chris: “We eat unleavened bread because the Hebrews left Egypt in haste and because it is commanded. The unleavened bread represents Yeshua’s sinless sacrifice that allows us to draw near to YHVH.”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “On other nights, we eat our meals in any manner. Why do we eat in a relaxed manner tonight?”

Chris: “Because Yeshua has set us free from the law of sin and death. He has liberated us from this sinful world and called us out of Babylon to be part of His set-apart family. We are able to relax with our brothers and sisters in Messiah.”

**All**: Halelujah!

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “What are the laws, ordinances, and statutes that YHVH has commanded us?”

Chris: “Tonight we are learning about the Passover. Belief is manifested as action and we continue to mature in our faith as we keep YHVH’s appointed.”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “What does this Passover service mean to you?”

Chris: “This is not about me or you, it is about YHVH’s relationship with us. We need to take care not to isolate ourselves and to remember we are part of a family that is much bigger than we realize.”

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “What is this Seder service?”

Chris: “This is a memorial of Yeshua’s sacrifice and the redemption of YHVH’s people.”

**All**: “The children of Israel cried under their servitude. Their cries were heard by YHVH and He sent Moses to have His people freed. Pharaohs’ heart was hardened and the result was pestilence.”

Chris: Let’s fill each other’s cups again. We will remove one drop of juice with the tip of a finger or a utensil and drop it on our plate as we recite each of the plagues YHVH brought on the Egyptians. Let’s recite each plague as an assembly. As each plague is read, drop a drop on your plate:

**All**: Blood. Frogs. Vermin. Beasts. Cattle disease. Boils. Hail. Locusts. Darkness. Slaying of the first born.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: After the slaying of the first born, Pharaoh allowed the Hebrews to leave. However, Pharaoh changed his mind and chased after them. The Almighty, with a strong arm and outstretched hand, caused the waters of the Red Sea to split so the Israelites and the mixed multitude could cross safely. When the Egyptians entered the sea, YHVH returned the sea to its normal state and destroyed the army of the Egyptians.

Chris rises and points to the items of the seder plate and reads: Chazaret – bitter vegetables. Karpas – parsley. Maror – bitter herbs. Charoset – mixture of nuts and spices.

Chris: now, before we relish our second cup, let’s give thanks. I’ll say in Hebrew and then all of us together in English.

Chris: Baruch ata YHVH Eloheinu melech ha-olam boreh pree ha-ga-fen

**All**: Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, King of the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.

Drink up.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “Pesach - this is a Passover offering for YHVH who passed over the houses of the Children of Israel in Egypt when He struck the Egyptians and spared our adopted ancestor’s houses.”

Someone holds up the maror while the following is spoken:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “Maror - The Egyptians embittered the lives of our adopted fathers and mothers with hard labor, mortar, and bricks. It is our duty to praise, honor, and bless Him who performed the miracles that led to our salvation.”

Put maror down. Hold up unleavened bread.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: “Matza – They baked the dough they brought out of Egypt into unleavened bread since it had not fermented and could not rise.”

Put the unleavened bread down.

Blessings before the Seder Meal

Chris: “Baruch Atah YHVH Elo-heinu Melech Ha-olam Hamotzi Lechem Min Ha-eretz”

**All**: (Same thing in English) Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, King of the universe, who brings bread from the earth.

Chris: “Baruch Atah YHVH Elo-heinu Melech Ha-olam Asher Kid’shanu B’mitzvotav V’tzvivanu Al Achilat matza.”

**All**: (Same thing in English) Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His Torah and commanded us to eat matza.

Everybody eat some matza.

Chris: “You may eat your maror with or without matza. I’ll pray in Hebrew again and then all of us in the English equivalent. Baruch Atah YHVH Elo-heinu Melech Ha-olam Ahser Kid’shanu B’mitzvotav V’tzivanu Al Alchilat Maror”

**All**: Blessed are You, YHVH our Elohim, King of the Universe, Who has sanctified us with his laws and commanded us to ear bitter herbs.

Chris: Please start your meal by making a sandwich using two pieces of matza with maror and charoset that symbolize the mortar used by the Hebrews to make bricks while enslaved in Egypt. After your incredibly unique sandwich, let’s enjoy our meal together. After the meal, we will conclude the Seder.

After the Meal

Chris: Please fill each other’s glass once again but don’t drink just yet!

After cups are filled Chris: Blessed is YHVH from eternity to eternity.

**All**: Blessed is His Name forever.

Chris: With the permission of the distinguished guests in attendance, let us bless YHVH and His Son for we have eaten what is Theirs.

**All**: Blessed are YHVH and His Son, of whose food we have eaten and through whose goodness we live.

Chris: Blessed is He and blessed is His Son.

**All**: Blessed are You, YHVH, with Your Son seated at Your Right Hand, who nourishes the entire world in Your goodness, with grace, and with loving kindness and mercy.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: We pray that He who establishes peace in the heavens grant peace for us, all Israel, and all of humankind. Let us say Amen as we rise, take each-others hands, and ask for peace.

**All** rise, hold hands, and say: May the One who makes peace send peace to us all and all of Israel.

**All** stop holding hands, lift up your cups, and say: Praise YHVH, all the nations and all the peoples. For so great is His love that He sent His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have eternal life.

Chris: Please be seated and take great pleasure in our third cup.

When the cup is finished

Chris: Let us fill our final cups for the evening. Prior to Yeshua, the Seder included a portion looking for Elijah to come. Now, we know that John the Baptist was an Elijah whose job it was to make straight the paths of the Lord. Now that Messiah has come as a Lamb, we look forward to His return as a Lion where He will establish His kingdom forever.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: And His disciples asked Him, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" And He answered and said, "Elijah is coming and will restore all things; but I say to you that Elijah already came, and they did not recognize him, but did to him whatever they wished. So also the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands." Then the disciples understood that He had spoken to them about John the Baptist. (Matthew 17:10-13)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Then there was given me a measuring rod like a staff; and someone said, "Get up and measure the House of YHVH and the altar, and those who worship in it. Leave out the court which is outside the temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread underfoot the holy city for forty-two months. And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." (Revelation 11:1-3)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire. (Revelation 11:4-6)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them. And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city which mystically is called Sodom and Egypt, where also their Lord was crucified. Those from the peoples and tribes and tongues and nations will look at their dead bodies for three and a half days, and will not permit their dead bodies to be laid in a tomb. And those who dwell on the earth will rejoice over them and celebrate; and they will send gifts to one another, because these two prophets tormented those who dwell on the earth. But after the three and a half days, the breath of life from YHVH came into them, and they stood on their feet; and great fear fell upon those who were watching them. And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them, "Come up here." Then they went up into heaven in the cloud, and their enemies watched them. And in that hour there was a great earthquake, and a tenth of the city fell; seven thousand people were killed in the earthquake, and the rest were terrified and gave glory to the Elohim of heaven. (Revelation 11:7-13)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. Then I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was given to them. And I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded because of their testimony of Yeshua and because of the word of YHVH, and those who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received the mark on their forehead and on their hand; and they came to life and reigned with Messiah for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were completed. This is the first resurrection. Blessed and holy is the one who has a part in the first resurrection; over these the second death has no power, but they will be priests of YHVH and of His Messiah and will reign with Him for a thousand years. (Revelation 20:1-6)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from YHVH, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of YHVH is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and YHVH Himself will be among them, and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." (Revelation 21:1-4)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: And He who sits on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." And He said, "Write, for these words are faithful and true." Then He said to me, "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give to the one who thirsts from the spring of the water of life without cost. He who overcomes will inherit these things, and I will be his Elohim and he will be My son”. (Revelation 21:5-7)

Chris: Let us now enjoy our last cup together as we look forward to the time when we can enjoy the fruit of the vine together in the New Jerusalem with our Messiah, Yeshua.

**All**: Amen and Halelujah!