

Notes: April 13, 2019

Start: 10 AM

Order of service:

1. Meet and Greet
2. Introduction (if new people)
3. Ma Tovv
4. Open in Prayer for service
5. Liturgy – Sh'ma +
6. Announcements
7. Praise and Worship Songs
8. Message
9. Aaronic Blessing
10. Kiddush
11. Oneg

Children's Blessing:

Transliteration: *Ye'simcha Elohim ke-Ephraim ve hee-Menashe*

English: *May God make you like Ephraim and Menashe*

Transliteration: *Ye'simech Elohim ke-Sarah, Rivka, Rachel ve-Leah.*

English: *May God make you like Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah.*

Introduction: *Shabbat HhGadol – A Time Of Preparation*

Throughout Scripture we see that preparation is required.

There are different types of preparation as well.

In the Hebrew we see a few different words that convey preparation.

Pro 16:1 A person is responsible to prepare his heart, but how the tongue speaks is from Adonai.

מַעַרְךְ

ma'ārâk

mah-ar-awk'

From [H6168](#); an *arrangement*, that is, (figuratively) mental *disposition*: - preparation.

One is a mental preparation. I believe this is the first that must take place, because everything begins in the mind. We are told to guard our minds

2Co 10:3 For although we do live in the world, we do not wage war in a worldly way;

2Co 10:4 because the weapons we use to wage war are not worldly. On the contrary, they have God's power for demolishing strongholds. We demolish arguments

2Co 10:5 and every arrogance that raises itself up against the knowledge of God; **we take every**

thought captive and make it obey the Messiah.

2Co 10:6 And when you have become completely obedient, then we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience.

And attached to our minds is our heart...

Pro 4:23 Above everything else, guard your heart; for it is the source of life's consequences.

So, there are two parts to preparation that starts within us before we can even begin the physical action of preparation.

Shabbat HaGadol is that time where we start the process of preparation.

An especially important *Shabbat*, or, possibly: "*Shabbat HaGadol*" (the "Great Sabbath"); since the Greek text reads, "great was the day of that *Shabbat*." But what is today called *Shabbat HaGadol* is the *Shabbat* immediately preceding Passover week.

It is believed that the first Shabbat HaGadol when Israel was still bound by Egypt, the first Shabbat prior to the Passover was the 10th day of the Month – Nisan 10. This day is actually quite significant for the preparation of Passover in that it is the day the lamb for Passover is chosen...

Exo 12:3 Speak to all the assembly of Isra'el and say, 'On the tenth day of this month, each man is to take a lamb or kid for his family, one per household –

You cannot truly prepare for Passover if you don't have a Lamb. This is the first thing Adonai, through Moshe instructs the people to do. After this first instruction, comes more instruction that are predicated by this first instruction. This first instruction is the basis for the instructions that are to follow.

כּוּן

kûn

koon

A primitive root; properly to *be erect* (that is, stand perpendicular);. hence (causatively) **to set up**, in a great variety of applications, whether literal (*establish, fix, prepare, apply*), or figurative (*appoint, render sure, proper or prosperous*): - certain (-ty), confirm, direct, faithfulness, fashion, fasten, firm, be fitted, be fixed, frame, be meet, ordain, order, perfect, **(make) preparation, prepare (self)**, provide, make provision, **(be, make) ready**, right, set (aright, fast, forth), be stable, (e-) stablish, stand, tarry, X very deed.

Adonai prepared His people for entering the land through Y'hoshua...

Jos 1:10 Y'hoshua instructed the officials of the people

Jos 1:11 to go through the camp and order the people, "Prepare provisions, because in three days you will cross this Yarden to go in and take possession of the land Adonai your God is giving you."

Adonai prepared His people for the coming of Messiah...

Mat 3:1 It was during those days that Yochanan the Immerser arrived in the desert of Y'hudah and began

proclaiming the message,

Mat 3:2 "Turn from your sins to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near!"

Mat 3:3 This is the man Yesha`yahu was talking about when he said, "The voice of someone crying out: 'In the desert prepare the way of Adonai! Make straight paths for him!'"

Who through the Prophets were preparing the nation for their coming King.

Isa 40:1 "Comfort and keep comforting my people," says your God.

Isa 40:2 "Tell Yerushalayim to take heart; proclaim to her that she has completed her time of service, that her guilt has been paid off, that she has received at the hand of Adonai double for all her sins."

Isa 40:3 A voice cries out: "Clear a road through the desert for Adonai! Level a highway in the `Aravah for our God!"

To where this concept of preparation is seen prior to Yeshua's last Passover...

Mat 26:17 On the first day for matzah, the talmidim came to Yeshua and asked, "Where do you want us to prepare your Seder?"

This refers to the physical preparation.

One might conclude that the first aspect of preparation – the heart and mind have already been completed because they are now focused on the physical / tangible aspect in preparing for Passover.

So, once you have prepared your heart and mind for Passover, that is you have committed to doing it...

To where I will say this...if your heart is not in this, why do it? Adonai desires your entire heart when you serve and honor Him...

Pro 3:5 Trust in Adonai with all your heart; do not rely on your own understanding.

Pro 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge him; then he will level your paths.

Taking part in Passover requires your whole heart. Israel had to trust in Adonai during the Passover. That required their whole heart. They didn't "hedge their bets" - to allow for additional possibilities or to avoid commitment

With Passover you as a believer in the Passover Lamb are required to be all in. Yeshua was. Yet it was He who did the hard part for us. We have been given the easy part – to remember.

A time of preparation also causes us to remember in that as we prepare based on the instructions provided to us, we are made aware of the connection of our preparation with the actions of Messiah.

We are instructed to remove all leaven from our homes...

Exo 12:15 "'For seven days you are to eat matzah - on the first day remove the leaven from your houses. For whoever eats hametz [*leavened bread*] from the first to the seventh day is to be cut off from Isra'el.

Where Sha'ul elaborates for us the following:

1Co 5:6 Your boasting is not good. Don't you know the saying, "It takes only a little hametz to leaven a whole batch of dough?"

1Co 5:7 Get rid of the old hametz, so that you can be a new batch of dough, because in reality you are unleavened. For our Pesach lamb, the Messiah, has been sacrificed.

1Co 5:8 So let us celebrate the Seder not with leftover hametz, the hametz of wickedness and evil, but with the matzah of purity and truth.

As we are preparing our homes, Adonai is preparing our hearts further when He brings to mind this passage from Sha'ul. Reminding us of who Yeshua is and the detriments of the hametz within our lives. A constant theme found throughout Leviticus – Be Holy for I am Holy.

So, what seems like a chore with no spiritual value offers up a spiritual exercise whereby as we search for chametz in our home, we are also to search for it within us.

What is the leaven we are to remove?

Anything baked with yeast – bread, pastry.

I also instruct for the removal of baking powder in that it can be used as a leavening agent.

Yeast extract is not a leaven agent but a flavor enhancement.

This preparation is for the Passover you are about to celebrate. Yet, there is another preparation you need to be aware of and it is based on this verse.

Exo 12:14 "This will be a day for you to remember and celebrate as a festival to Adonai; from generation to generation you are to celebrate it by a perpetual regulation.

A perpetual regulation. Meaning it is never ending or changing, occurring repeatedly; so frequent as to seem endless and uninterrupted

You should not be thinking about Passover on a yearly basis but on a constantly recurring basis. There is so much more to Passover than just a single day and a Seder. Scripture is immersed with it, throughout its 66 books, Passover is intricately woven as the thread that binds us His creation, the very fabric, together for Him.

So, as you prepare for this year, know that there is so much more to Passover.

There is a special Haftarah reading on this Shabbat of the book of Malachi.

Rabbi [David ben Joseph Abudarham](#) writes: In the Haftarah of the Shabbat prior to Pesach we read the possuk [Malachi 3:23]: "*Hinei Anochi Shole'ach Lachem Et Eliyahu Hanavi Lifnei Bo Yom H-shem HaGadol V'hanorah*," or "Behold, I send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord." This reason places *Shabbat HaGadol* in the same category as *Shabbat Hazon*, *Shabbat Nahamu*, and *Shabbat Shuva* for their name is derived from the Haftarah.

What does Malachi point to...

Mal 4:4 (3:22) "Remember the Torah of Moshe my servant, which I enjoined on him at Horev, laws and rulings for all Isra'el.

Mal 4:5 (3:23) Look, I will send to you Eliyahu the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai.

Mal 4:6 (3:24) He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the hearts of the children to their fathers; otherwise I will come and strike the land with complete destruction." [*Look, I will send to you Eliyahu the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible Day of Adonai.*]

In other words, verse 22 conveys a foundation by which Adonai has prepared the nation for serving Him, Living by His Word – A preparedness.

The modern synagogue ritual for this *Shabbat* also calls for reading [Eze 37:1-14](#), the vision of the Valley of Dry Bones, as the *haftarah* (the concluding Scripture reading, from the Prophets); the passage links

Pesach with Messianic times by speaking of a future redemption for Israel just as Passover itself celebrates a past one.

And yet what modern Judaism does not yet see is that this future redemption is connected to Passover. From the beginning in B'reshit, Genesis to the end in Revelation Passover is prominent.

So important to the Jewish people, yet the fullness of Passover through Yeshua is not embraced or understood.

So important to the church, yet it is neither embraced nor fully understood either. So much so, it was replaced by something else that isn't even Scriptural.

Joh 4:21 Yeshua said, "Lady, believe me, the time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Yerushalayim.

Joh 4:22 You people don't know what you are worshipping; we worship what we do know, because salvation comes from the Jews.

Joh 4:23 But the time is coming — indeed, it's here now — when the true worshippers will worship the Father spiritually and truly, for these are the kind of people the Father wants worshipping him.

Joh 4:24 God is spirit; and worshippers must worship him spiritually and truly."

This is part of a conversation Yeshua had with a woman from Shomron who ultimately provides clarity to her confusion...

Joh 4:20 "Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you people say that the place where one has to worship is in Yerushalayim."

What is today's version of this?

You say Passover is still important, while I have been told the law has been done away with.

What is this but the same confusion the Shomron woman is experiencing.

Joh 14:1 "Don't let yourselves be disturbed. Trust in God and trust in me.

Joh 14:2 In my Father's house are many places to live. If there weren't, I would have told you; because I am going there to prepare a place for you.

Joh 14:3 Since I am going and preparing a place for you, I will return to take you with me; so that where I am, you may be also.

He is preparing a place for us.

He is preparing a place for us in His Kingdom

Psa 23:5 You prepare a table for me, even as my enemies watch; you anoint my head with oil from an overflowing cup.

עֲרַךְ

ʿârak

aw-rak'

A primitive root; to set in a *row*, that is, **arrange, put in order** (in a very wide variety of applications): - put (set) (the battle, self) in array, compare, direct, equal, esteem, estimate, expert [in war], furnish,

handle, join [battle], ordain, (lay, put, reckon up, set) (in) order, prepare, tax, value.

Pro 16:1 A person is responsible to prepare his heart, but how the tongue speaks is from Adonai.

מערך

ma`ārâk

mah-ar-awk'

From [H6168](#); an *arrangement*, that is, (figuratively) **mental disposition**: - preparation.

ἑτοιμάζω

hetoimazō

het-oy-mad'-zo

From [G2092](#); to *prepare*: - prepare, provide, make ready. Compare [G2680](#).

So, for next Shabbat, our Passover Seder I want to share with you this Parable from Yeshua

Mat 25:1 "The Kingdom of Heaven at that time will be like ten bridesmaids who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom.

Mat 25:2 Five of them were foolish (unprepared) and five were sensible (prepared).

Five of them were prepared

Mat 25:3 The foolish ones took lamps with them but no oil,

How many of you have taken a flashlight with you but don't bring any batteries with you?

Mat 25:4 whereas the others took flasks of oil with their lamps.

Not only did they bring batteries , but they brought extra batteries.

Mat 25:5 Now the bridegroom was late, so they all went to sleep.

Mat 25:6 It was the middle of the night when the cry rang out, 'The bridegroom is here! Go out to meet him!'

Mat 25:7 The girls all woke up and prepared their lamps for lighting.

Mat 25:8 The foolish ones said to the sensible ones, 'Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are going out.'

Mat 25:9 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both you and us. Go to the oil dealers and buy some for yourselves.'

Mat 25:10 But as they were going off to buy, the bridegroom came. Those who were ready went with him to the wedding feast, and the door was shut.

How would you feel if you were on the other side of the locked door?

Mat 25:11 Later, the other bridesmaids came. 'Sir! Sir!' they cried, 'Let us in!'

Mat 25:12 But he answered, 'Indeed! I tell you, I don't know you!'

Mat 25:13 So stay alert, because you know neither the day nor the hour.

I share this with you because next Shabbat for our Passover Seder, you will know the hour 10:30 am.

You have been prepared, because the door will be locked at 10:30 am.

Not to be mean – but in order to convey a stark reality, not mine but Adonai's where just as with this parable, when the time has come for the Bridegroom to return, those who are not prepared will be locked out.

Mat 7:13 "Go in through the narrow gate; for the gate that leads to destruction is wide and the road broad, and many travel it;

Mat 7:14 but it is a narrow gate and a hard road that leads to life, and only a few find it.

Mat 7:15 "Beware of the false prophets! They come to you wearing sheep's clothing, but underneath they are hungry wolves!

Mat 7:16 You will recognize them by their fruit. Can people pick grapes from thorn bushes, or figs from thistles?

Mat 7:17 Likewise, every healthy tree produces good fruit, but a poor tree produces bad fruit.

Mat 7:18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, or a poor tree good fruit.

Mat 7:19 Any tree that does not produce good fruit is cut down and thrown in the fire!

Mat 7:20 So you will recognize them by their fruit.

Mat 7:21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord!' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, only those who do what my Father in heaven wants.

Mat 7:22 On that Day, many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord! Didn't we prophesy in your name? Didn't we expel demons in your name? Didn't we perform many miracles in your name?'

Mat 7:23 Then I will tell them to their faces, 'I never knew you! Get away from me, you workers of lawlessness!'

Mat 7:24 "So, everyone who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a sensible man who built his house on bedrock.

We prepare for Passover as it approaches on a yearly basis. Yet we should remain in a constant mode of preparation for His return because we do not know the actual moment when He will return. We believe it will be on Rosh Hashanah, yet we do not know the hour.

You can't cram for an exam when you don't know when the exam is being held...can you?

Therefore you cannot cram for the return of Yeshua. You must remain in constant preparedness because His return is the equivalent of a pop quiz. You will have to be ready, prepared, because you don't know when the Rabbi Yeshua will enter and say "its time".