

+ Erev Bedikat Chametz +

(searching for leaven)



The Night before Pesach

+ Special Observance

All say:

The search for leaven is to remember
the command YHVH gave to the Children of Israel
to remove leaven from their homes before Pesach.
Leaven is a symbol of corruption.
As we search this house for leaven let us
search out the corruption in our hearts.

+ Blessing for the Search

Father begins the search by saying:

Blessed are You, O YHVH our GOD,
King of the universe and eternity,
Who commands us about removing leaven.

+ Instructions

Father indicates the items as he says:

Our LORD Yeshua warned us of the leaven of
the Pharisees and Sadducees which is
self-righteousness through religion and works.
With the light of this candle let us search for leaven.
May Yeshua be our Light for searching our souls.
With this feather we will sweep away the leaven.
May Ruach HaKodesh
help us sweep our lives clean.
Onto this wood we will put the leaven.
Even so on the wood of the cross did Yeshua
put Himself as He became Sin for us.

+ The Search

Lights are extinguished and the single candle is lit.

Father searches for the leaven, sweeping it onto the wood with the feather. The search completed, Father then wraps leaven, wood and feather in a cloth.

+ The Declaration

Father says:

It is traditional to declare:
"All leaven or leavened bread in our possession
that we have not seen, not removed,
nor know about, is annulled and useless,
like the dust of the earth."

All respond:

+ Amen! Amen! Amen! +

The Morning of Preparation

+ Burning of the Leaven

Father burns the cloth containing the leaven, wood, and feather. He then says:

Just as the leaven burns, so YHVH will, in the future,
burn the earth clean from all corruption.

+ Admonition

Father admonishes:

Let us search ourselves for any "leaven";
for any impurity of thought, word, or deed
that might separate us from
the Presence and Peace of YHVH.
The Spirit searches all things,
even the deep things of YHVH.

All read I Corinthians 5:6-8:

"Do you not know that a little leaven
leavens the whole lump.
Clean out the old leaven,
that you may be a new lump,
just as you are in fact unleavened.
For Yeshua our Pesach Lamb also has been sacrificed.
Let us therefore celebrate the feast,
not with old leaven
nor with leaven of malice and wickedness,
but with the unleavened bread
of sincerity and truth."

+ Response

All say:

O YHVH, You have searched me and You know me.
Before a word is on my tongue,
You know it completely.
Search me, O YHVH, and know my heart;
test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offensive way in me
that needs to be removed as the leaven
was removed from the house.
Lead me in Your everlasting way.

+ Declarations

Father declares:

When we confess our sins,
He is faithful and righteous to forgive us
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

All reply:

Let the words of my mouth
and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable in Your Sight,
O YHVH, my Strength and my Redeemer.

All sing:

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"