

4th cup—Completion

I will take you for my people

Drank at the end of the Seder, this reminds us that we are God's people.

Jesus anguished over drinking the 4th cup. **Matt 26:42 (NIV)** He went away a second time and prayed, "My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done." But he did drink it on the cross when given the sponge with wine vinegar. **John 19:30(NIV)** When he had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished." With that, he bowed his head and gave up his spirit.

5th cup—Cup of Elijah

This cup is left undrunk on the Seder table. It signifies what is to come and the promises concerning the promise land. To the Jew it is the first coming of the Messiah; to the Christian, the second coming.

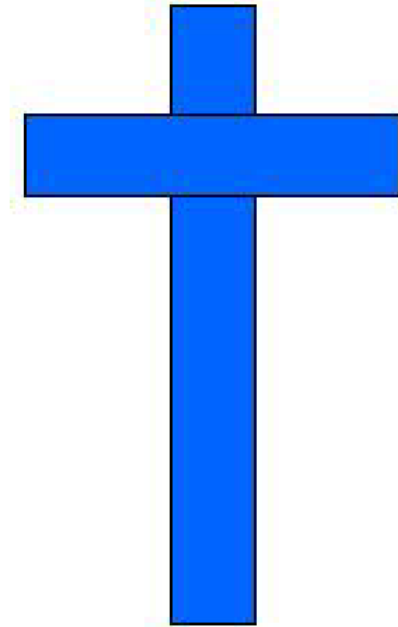
Did Jesus drink this cup? Not yet—but he will. **Mark 14:25** "I tell you the truth, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it anew in the kingdom of God."



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Easter

Passover



Last Supper

Seder

Seder

Seder means arranged in a particular order. It is documented in detail in the first part of the Talmud known as the Mishnah. It was completed around 220 A.D. to record the ceremonies and laws surrounding the Passover as it was observed before the destruction of the temple in 70 A.D.

Below is a summary of the order of a typical Seder.

Lighting the candle
Saying the blessings
First cup—cup of sanctification (blessing and drink)
General thanksgiving
Parsley in salt water
Aphikoman—middle matzah hidden
Four questions
Second cup—cup of deliverance (removal of the 10 plagues)
Symbols of the feast:
 Lamb bone and roasted egg
 Unleavened bread
 Bitter herb
Second cup—cup of deliverance (we praise Him)
Second cup—cup of deliverance (blessing and drink)
Bread of affliction
Sandwich—matzah, bitter herb and charoset
Aphikoman—found
Third cup—cup of redemption (blessing and drink)
Open door
Fourth cup—cup of completion (blessing and drink)
Next year in Jerusalem

2nd cup—Deliverance (Thanksgiving)

I will deliver you

This cup is brought to our attention several times during the Seder before we can drink of it. Just as the out cries of the Hebrew nation was heard many times before they tasted deliverance.

Before we drink of this cup we also take out one drop for each plague. This is to remind us that our deliverance was not without dreadful suffering and death of others.

The Ten Plagues

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1) Blood | 6) Boils |
| 2) Frogs | 7) Hail |
| 3) Gnats (Lice) | 8) Locusts |
| 4) Scarab Beetles (Flies) | 9) Darkness |
| 5) Pestilence (diseased livestock) | 10) Firstborn Slain |

It does not seem that Jesus drank of this cup during the Last Supper. He was not to be delivered from the events that needed to take place over the next few days.

3rd cup—Redemption

I will also redeem you

This cup serves to remind us that we are in need of compensation for our sins.

Mark 14:24 (NIV) "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many," Jesus might not have drank of the actual third cup at the last Seder, but he certainly did when he is on the cross bleeding. The third cup is not just taken by him, he is the redemption cup.

4 cups of wine and a 5th

The four cups are taken from the passage in **Exodus 6:6** (NAS) "Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. 7 'Then I will take you for My people, and I will be your God; and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

Before we drink any of the cups we say a blessing over it.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
בוֹרֵא פְרִי הַגָּפֶן:

*Baruch ata Adonai Elohaynu melech Ha-olam bo-
ray p'ree haggafen.*

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who createst the fruit of the vine.

1st cup—Sanctification

I will bring you out

To start any holyday or Sabbath, a cup of sanctification is presented. This cup is blessed and drank at the beginning of the Seder.

Did Jesus partake of this cup? Although it is not mentioned anywhere in the Bible, he most likely did. The cup that Jesus did not drink in **Luke 22:17** could be either the first or second cup. But the phrase “giving thanks” implies the second cup. Jesus would have sanctified the Passover, especially the last one before his death on the cross.

Salt Water

A bowl of salt water is used to dip the parsley into. It stands for several things. The blood of the Paschal lamb that was used to paint the doorways of the Hebrew homes. Also the blood of Jesus on the cross.

And for tears. Those of the Hebrews in slavery and those of Jesus over Jerusalem—**Luke 19:41**.

Parsley

Usually parsley takes the place of Hyssop. It was used in the preparation of the 10th plague of Egypt and in giving Jesus the last drink of wine while on the cross.

Egg

A hard-boiled egg is present, representing the second sacrifice during Passover. In many Jewish homes, at the death of a loved one, the mourners will eat an egg.

Lamb Bone

If possible this should be a shankbone of a lamb, representing the sacrificial lamb of Passover. Also the **out-stretched arm** of **Deuteronomy 26:8**.

Charoset

Made from fruit, nuts and wine. Best described as a very spiced applesauce. Symbolic of the mud used to make bricks when the Hebrews were slaves in Egypt. Also representing sins in our lives that we are slaves to.

Maror (Bitter Herbs)

Traditionally the head of the household will prepare this to help him empathize with his wife. For she surely has shed enough tears throughout the year.

We dip a piece of matzah into the maror and feed it to a close loved one. It was this action that is recorded in **John 13:26 (NIV)** Jesus answered, "It is the one to whom I will give this piece of bread when I have dipped it in the dish." Then, dipping the piece of bread, he gave it to Judas Iscariot, son of Simon.

Search for leaven

Before Passover all leaven must be removed. Not one crumb can be found and those that are found are burned to be destroyed. This act of strenuous searching and cleaning out of leaven is a perfect example of what needs to be done in one's life with regard to sin found within us.

Jesus followed this in **Matt 21:12** where he cleaned out his house by tossing out those that were buying and selling in the temple.

Aphikoman

The middle matzah is broken into two pieces. The larger piece is the Aphikioman. It is wrapped in a cloth and hidden. Later the children at the Seder look for it and bring it back to those celebrating.

In **John 6:51 ... this bread is my flesh...** Jesus is pointing his connection to the Aphikoman. For in just a short time from when he said this, his body would be wrapped, hidden away and searched for. **Matt 28, Mark 16, Luke 24 and John 20.**

Before eating the bread we say the blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם
בוֹרֵא פְרִי הַגֶּפֶן: הָאֲדָמָה:

*Baruch ata Adonai Elohaynu melech Ha-olam bo-
ray p'ree ha'adama.*

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who createst the fruit of the ground.

Bethlehem

Even the birth place of Jesus points to him being connected to bread. Bethlehem comes from the Hebrew words *Bayt lechem*, meaning house of bread.