Messiah, Savior, Redeemer

Welcome to the Feast of Passover

A celebration of the rescue of the House of Israel (Ephraim)

Come my beloved and celebrate the festival of our redemption

Where bondage bows to freedom
Where darkness bows to light
Where despair bows to hope
Where death bows to life

Where faith overcomes fear
Where good overcomes evil
Where truth overcomes falsehood
Where joy overcomes anger

Where pride is replaced by humility
Where apathy is replaced by love
Where chaos is replaced by shalom
Where rebellion is replaced by obedience

The First Passover

Reader 1: Long ago our forefathers lived in a land beyond the Euphrates River called Mesopotamia. There, a descendant of Shem named Abram was told by God to go to a land called Canaan. So Abram along with his wife Sarai and many from Haran journeyed to Canaan. There, God told Abraham that He would have many descendants and would live in that land and made an everlasting covenant with him. Abram became Abraham.

Reader 2: Abraham's grandson Jacob had 12 sons who became the 12 tribes of Israel. The 11th son, Joseph, was envied by his brothers, thrown into a pit then sold to slave traders and was brought to Egypt. There he became 2nd in command of all Egypt and in charge of the nations food supply. During a great famine, all of Joseph's family moved down to Egypt. Joseph's purpose for being sold into slavery was shown to him and he revealed himself to his brothers.

Reader 3: Many years later, the Egyptians began to look upon the people of Jacob/Israel as slaves and made life very difficult for them. Then they cried out to God for deliverance. They remembered Abraham and the promises that God gave him and they prayed in desperation for a deliverer who would rescue them from their oppression.

Reader 4: God sent Moses, a Levite, and in a burning bush told him to confront the Pharaoh to Let my people go. Pharaoh ignored Moses' plea's, so God caused 10 plagues to destroy Egypt. The 10th plague, the death of the firstborn, finally caused Pharaoh to let them go. In preparation for this last plague, God told the Israelites to choose a spotless lamb one year old. Four days later they would kill the lamb and put some of its blood on the doorposts of their homes and eat the roasted lamb with bitter herbs and unleavened bread. And they were not to leave any of it until morning, and what remains of it until morning you are to burn with fire. This meal was eaten in a hurry with their sandals on and their bags packed and ready to leave Egypt. They were ready for the tenth and final judgement, the death of all the firstborn in Egypt.

Reader 5: And it came to pass at midnight, all the firstborn in the land of Egypt died, even the cattle. "But when I see the blood on the lintel and doorposts of the houses where you live, I will pass over you and no plague will befall you to destroy you and you will be spared". Without the death of the lamb and the spreading of its blood, the children of Israel would have suffered the judgment of God.

Reader 6: The Israelites left Egypt and were led by a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night to a camp on a sandy shore on an arm of the Red Sea. Back in Egypt, Pharaoh changed his mind again and took horses and chariots to chase after the Israelites. Seeing the Egyptians coming, the people were terrified. Moses told the people, "do not be afraid, stand firm and see the deliverance of the Yahweh today. The Egyptians you see today, you will never see again. Yahweh will fight for you."

Reader 7: Then God said to Moses, "Raise your staff and stretch out your arm over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground." Then the sea drew back and dry land appeared. The Israelites went through the sea on dry ground with a wall of water to the left and to the right. The Egyptians chased after them and followed them into the sea. And God caused the wheels on the chariots to come off and threw the Egyptian army into confusion. And the Egyptians said, "Let us get away from the Israelites because God is fighting for them."

Reader 8: Then God said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians." And God swept them all under the sea. Not one of them survived. That day God saved his people and the people saw the great power of Yahweh our GOD. The people feared the Yahweh and put their trust in Him and Moses his servant.

THIS IS THE PASSOVER DELIVERANCE OF YAHWEH!

ALL READ: Yahweh brought Yisrael out, led them through the wilderness, revealed His Presence at Mount Sinai, and gave to them the Torah. He instructed them to build the Tabernacle and established a Priesthood to serve Him. Neither their shoes nor their clothes were worn out. He fed them with manna, gave them water from the Rock, defeated their enemies before them and brought them into Eretz Yisrael. Yahweh did what He promised to do; He delivered them.

He will ALSO do what He has promised to do to deliver the House of Israel from its dilemma in the nations.

The Story and Redemption of Ephraim

Reader 1: Many years after the children of Israel entered the Land promised to them in the covenant with Abraham, the tribes of Israel were in turmoil and conflict with each other. A portion of the tribes from the north were called The House of Israel and led by the tribe of Ephraim, the tribe of Joseph's son. The southern tribes were called The House of Judah. From this is where we get the term Jews.

Reader 2: The northern tribes separated from their brothers in the south and were led down a path of rebellion by Jeroboam, a king from the tribe of Ephraim. They quickly descended into idolatry and apostasy and built altars in Dan and Bethel to replace Jerusalem and created a false priesthood to go with their idol worship. They even made golden calves and lifted them up as gods to the people like the incident at Mt.Sinai.

Reader 3: The northern tribes cut themselves off from Judah and in a declaration said, "What portion do we have in David? We have no heritage in the son of Jesse." (1 Kings 12:16) In verse 19 it says, "So Israel (the House of Israel) has been in rebellion against the House of David (Judah) to this day. God then declares in 1 Kings 12:24 "this thing is of me".

The Bitter Herbs - Maror

Leader: 2 Kings 14:26 "For Yahweh saw the affliction of Israel, which was very bitter; and whether bond or free, there was no helper for Israel."

Reader 4: We weep for the bitterness our ancestors felt as they experienced anger and rejection from Judah and throughout their years of rebellion against God. It must have been an increasingly lonely existence for them as they plunged themselves more deeply into spiritual darkness and distress. They had no way to be set-free as they had rejected the path of freedom that God had given them in His Torah.

Leader: Blessed are You Yahweh our Elohim, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to observe the eating of bitter herbs. (*Take enough to bring you to tears*)

Eat the Bitter herbs (with matzah)

Reader 5: So God had a plan to use the rebellious House of Israel to redeem the world by sowing them into the nations. Yahweh divorced them and cast them out of the Land and they were stripped of their identity and memory of ever having been part of Israel. This is much worse than exile. It is destruction of identity. They cannot return and God cannot receive them back without a great plan of redemption. Which of course He has!

Reader 6: The fate of Ephraim was to not be a people any longer and not be betrothed to Yahweh. The first sign of the redemption of the House of Israel from the nations where they had been banished and sifted is with the promise of a New Covenant given in Jeremiah 31:31-33 "31 "Behold, days are coming," declares Yahweh, "when I will cut a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, 32 not like the covenant which I cut with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, but I was a husband to them," declares Yahweh. 33 "But this is the covenant which I will cut with the house of Israel after those days," declares Yahweh: "I will put My law within them, and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people".

Reader 7: Yeshua, the Messiah of Israel, would come and walk among the people as a man and initiate the return of Ephraim by cutting a New Covenant by His own blood to redeem the House of Israel and The House of Judah because they had broken the old marriage covenant. It would be a new MARRIAGE covenant and His resurrection would allow Him to remarry the divorced House of Israel. This is the gospel of the Kingdom, God's master plan to rescue and redeem Ephraim from the nations and restore the broken bride of Israel.

Leader:

Luke 22:19-20 "19 And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me." 20 And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood."

MATZAH

LEADER:

Our people left Egypt in such haste that their bread dough did not have time to rise and they did not take their leavened lump with them. They are unleavened bread. Messiah is our unleavened bread as He is without sin.

Tonight, we eat Matzah to recognize Yeshua our Messiah, Who has rescued us and whose Spirit causes us to walk in His ways of Torah.

Reader: John 6:35, 38, 51: Yeshua says. "I am the bread of life. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever, and the bread that I shall give is My flesh which I shall give for the life of the world."

Leader:

Blessed are You YHWH our Elohim, King of the universe Who brings forth Bread from the Earth...

Eat the Matzah

First Cup of Ephraim's Redemption:

The CUP of Messiah (the New Covenant) - Leader: We drink this cup in gratitude for our Messiah Yeshua coming down from heaven and becoming a man, to show us how to live and then dying for our sins and rising from the dead to offer us forgiveness and a new relationship with our Father in heaven. The first marriage covenant, which Ephraim broke, is dissolved so all could be born anew to a new and better covenant with our resurrected (new)

Groom and King. This is the CUP of the New Heart and New Spirit of the New Covenant.

Leader:

Blessed are You YHWH our Elohim, King of the universe Who creates the fruit of the Vine

We toast to the New Covenant that Messiah gave us to rescue us and redeem us!

All Shout L'Chaim, then - DRINK THE CUP

Reader:

Another fate of Ephraim in Hosea 1:6 is receiving NO MERCY from God. God has declared that He is no longer her husband in Hosea 2:2. God is calling Ephraim to repent so that He may have mercy upon her. But she does not repent. There is no hope for Ephraim to return to God.

The Second Cup of Ephraim's Redemption The CUP OF MERCY

Leader:

Come back(repent) to me Ephraim and I will have MERCY on you --

Jeremiah 31:20 "Is Ephraim My dear son? Indeed, as often as I have spoken against him, I certainly still remember him; Therefore My inmost being yearns for him; I will surely have mercy on him," declares Yahweh.

1 Peter 2:10 ..." you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY."

Jeremiah 12:15 And after I have uprooted them, I will again have compassion on them,

We toast to receiving God's mercy thru the blood of Yeshua All Shout L'Chaim, then - DRINK THE CUP

Reader:

As a final fateful blow to Ephraim, the Northern Kingdom or House of Israel, were to lose their identity as Israel. They would become Lo-Ammi, NOT MY PEOPLE. They would be stripped of all associations with and memories of the God of Israel and in fact God says He will take from them the things of Torah, since they had called the Torah and its instructions a strange thing. **Hosea 2:11-12** says, "I will also cease all her joy, Her feasts, her new moons, her Sabbaths, and all her appointed times. And I will make desolate her vines and fig trees.

Reader:

But God has begun to restore Ephraim's identity thru the gospel of the Kingdom message that Yeshua preached. Ephraim has not known who he is because of a long-term curse put upon him by God. The first step back in this process of return is to acknowledge Yeshua as LORD and savior and return to keeping His word.

The Third CUP OF EPHRAIMS's REDEMPTION THE CUP OF IDENTITY

Leader: We are set-free to know our identity in Messiah, aka, in Israel **Hosea 1:9** And Yahweh said, "Name him Lo-ammi, for you are not My people, and I am not your God." Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God And it will be that in the place where it is said to them "You are not My people," It will be said to them, "You are the sons of the living God." (also Romans 9:25-26)

We embrace our new identity as the Israel of God, a people who had not known who they were for over 2730 years, but now we do.

We toast to knowing our identity as the House of Israel thru the blood of Messiah Yeshua

All Shout L'Chaim, then - DRINK THE CUP

Reader:

Very closely aligned with a return to identity is the keeping of God's instructions. We just read that Ephraim had called God's Torah a strange thing in Hosea. Jeremiah 31:19 says, "For after my turning back I repented, And after I was instructed I slapped myself on the thigh. I was ashamed and even humiliated because I carried the disgrace of my youth [as a nation]" Our testimonies of returning to God's Instructions confirm this call to be the born again Ephraim because of his new covenant.

Ps 78:9-11 The children of Ephraim didn't keep God's covenant, and refused to walk in his law. They forgot his acts; His wondrous works that he had shown them.

The Fourth Cup of Ephraim's Redemption The CUP of God's Instructions

Leader: (there is Liberty in God's perfect Law) James 1:25 - But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

- we are set-free to know God's Holy instructions.

Ephraim can now call God's instructions good, right, holy and spiritual.

We can say with David in Psalm 119:12-16

ALL: Blessed are You, O Yahweh; Teach me Your statutes. With my lips I have recounted All the judgments of Your mouth. I have rejoiced in the way of Your testimonies, As much as in all riches. I will muse upon Your precepts And look upon Your ways. I shall delight in Your statutes; I shall not forget Your word.

Leader: We toast to joyfully to receiving God's Holy Instructions **All Shout L'Chaim, then – DRINK THE CUP**

By our redemption thru the power of the blood of the Lamb of God and the giving of His Holy Spirit we have been set-free from the bondage of the sins that caused Ephraim Israel to be divorced from Yahweh and sifted among the nations. WE HAVE BEEN REDEEMED!

We will <u>all say together</u> this phrase for each item 1-10, one at a time:

By His blood we have been set-free from <u>1-10</u>, (shout) Hallelu Yah!

- 1. sin & rebellion
- 2. anger, bitterness & resentment
- 3. fear
- 4. division (from Judah)
- 5. lies (from false teachers and our forefathers)
- 6. false religious systems with their false gods and false holidays,
- 7. curses (the long term curses put on us by Yahweh because of our rebellion)
- 8. blindness (anti Torah beliefs and identity)
- 9. calling ourselves gentiles (identity)
- 10. being jealous of Judah, anti Judah attitudes and behavior

Leader: CHAROSET

Now we enjoy the sweetness of Freedom and Salvation Blessed are You, LORD our God and Messiah Yeshua for allowing us to taste the sweetness of freedom and setting us free from the sins of Jeroboam. In Yeshua's Name we pray.

EAT SOME SWEET CHAROSET W/MATZAH

DINNER IS SERVED

Blessing God AFTER the meal...from Deuteronomy 8:10

Blessed are You, Yahweh our Elohim, King of the universe, who feeds the entire world in His goodness, with grace, with kindness, with mercy. He gives food to all flesh, His kindness forever it endures. And through His great goodness we have never lacked, may we never lack for food for all of eternity. For the sake of His great Name, because He is God who feeds and sustains and benefits all and prepares food for all of His creatures which He has created. Blessed are You, Yahweh, Who feeds all. Amein.

Reader:

In our New Covenant redemption, we are called to become a Holy people and a nation who was once an unholy nation. We are called to be obedient children. In **1 Peter 1:14-15** we read: "As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires of your former ignorance, but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior."

Reader:

Numbers 20:7-8 "And you shall set yourselves apart, and shall be set apart, for I am Yahweh your Elohim, and you shall guard My laws and do them. I am Yahweh, Who sets you apart."

Reader:

Hosea 14:4-5 "I will heal their turning away from Me; I will love them freely, For My anger has turned away from them. I will be like the dew to Israel; He will flourish like the lily, And he will [fn] take root like the cedars of Lebanon"

The Fifth Cup of Ephraim's Redemption The CUP of Holiness/Fidelity -

Leader:

We renounce all false gods and idols, false holidays and worship only the one true God of Israel.

We desire to live lives set-apart for Him and pursue the fruits of the Spirit of

God, which are love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

(Galatians 5:22-23)

Leader: Let us toast to being a set-apart people **All Shout L'Chaim, then – DRINK THE CUP**

The Sixth Cup of Ephraim's Redemption

The CUP of Reconciliation - We are reconciled to God. Let us also prepare ourselves to be reconciled to our brother Judah.

Reader:

Ezekiel 37:15-23 The word of Yahweh came again to me saying,

16 "Now as for you, son of man, take for yourself one stick and write on it, 'For Judah and for the sons of Israel, his companions'; then take another stick and write on it, 'For Joseph, the stick of Ephraim and all the house of Israel, his companions.' 17 Then draw them together for yourself one to another into one stick, that they may become one in your hand. 18 And when the sons of your people speak to you saying, 'Will you not declare to us what you mean by these?' 19 say to them, 'Thus says Master Yahweh, "Behold, I will take the stick of Joseph, which is in the hand of Ephraim, and the tribes of Israel, his companions; and I will put them with it, with the stick of Judah, and make them one stick, and they will be one in My hand."' 20 And the sticks on which you write will be in your hand before their eyes. 21 And speak to them, 'Thus says Master Yahweh, "Behold, I will take the sons of Israel from among the nations where they have gone, and I will gather them from every side and bring them into their own land; 22 and I will make them one nation in the land, on the mountains

of Israel; and one king will be king for all of them; and they will no longer be two nations and no longer be divided into two kingdoms. 23 They also will no longer defile themselves with their idols or with their detestable things or with any of their transgressions; but I will save them from all their places of habitation in which they have sinned, and I will cleanse them. And they will be My people, and I will be their God.

Reader:

Isaiah 11:11-12, 16 "He will raise a signal for the nations and will assemble the banished of Israel, and gather the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. 13 The jealousy of Ephraim shall depart and those who harass Judah shall be cut off; Ephraim shall not be jealous of Judah, and Judah shall not harass Ephraim. And there will be a highway from Assyria for the remnant that remains of his people, as there was for Israel when they came up from the land of Egypt."

Reader:

Jeremiah 50:4-5 "In those days and in that time, declares the LORD, the people of Israel and the people of Judah shall come together, weeping as they come, and they shall seek the LORD their God. They shall ask the way to Tsiyon [Zion], their faces toward it, 'Come and let us join ourselves to YHWH, in an everlasting Covenant, never to be forgotten.'

Reader:

Zechariah 10:6

"I will strengthen the house of Judah, and I will save the house of Joseph. I will bring them back because I have compassion on them, and they shall be as though I had not rejected them, for I am the LORD their God and I will answer them. **Read Zechariah 12:7-10**

Reader: It is not enough to be reconciled to our God, for our destiny in not heaven, but a return to our covenant land. The reunion with Judah will most likely be in the Land under the authority of the King. This is when the One New Man is finally manifest. It is another way of saying the One Stick in the Father's hand is the One New Man mentioned by Paul in Ephesians 2:15. The One New Man is the Israel of Yahweh! **HalelluYah!**.

All: Revelation 5:9-10 "And they sang a new song, saying, 'You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals, because You were slain, and have redeemed us to Elohim by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, and made us sovereigns and priests to our Elohim, and we shall reign upon the Earth."

Leader: Let us toast to becoming the Israel of our God – the One New Man All Shout L'Chaim, then – DRINK THE CUP

The Seventh CUP of Ephraim's Redemption

Leader: The CUP of RETURN - Jeremiah 3:18 In those days the house of Judah shall join the house of Israel, and together they shall come from the land of the north to the land that I gave your fathers for a heritage

Reader: Jeremiah 50:19 'And I will return Israel back to his pasture, and he will graze on Carmel and Bashan, and his desire will be satisfied in the hill country of Ephraim and Gilead.

A Greater Exodus than the one from Egypt is coming

Reader: Jeremiah 16:14-15 Therefore behold, days are coming," declares Yahweh, "when it will no longer be said, 'As Yahweh lives, who brought up the sons of Israel out of the land of Egypt,' 15 but, 'As Yahweh lives, who brought up the sons of Israel from the land of the north and from all the lands where He had banished them.' For I will return them to their own land which I gave to their fathers.

Reader: Ezekiel 36:24-25 "And I shall take you from among the gentiles, and I shall gather you out of all lands, and I shall bring you into our own land. And I shall sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your filthiness, and from all your idols I cleanse you."

Reader: Jeremiah 31:7-8 "For thus says Yahweh, Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, And shout among the head of the nations; Make it heard, give praise, and say, 'O Yahweh, save Your people, **The remnant of Israel**. 8 Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the

farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the pregnant woman and she who is in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here."

Leader: We drink joyfully of this last cup in expectation of the coming of the Kingdom of our Messiah Yeshua and of the Restoration of All Israel.

Let us toast to completing our journey from the nations back to our homeland.

All Shout L'Chaim, then – DRINK THE CUP

Leader: Those of us who understand our true identity in Messiah, aka "in Israel", have begun to cry out for our final deliverance. We are tired of Egypt and our long exile, even in this abundant and prosperous land, for we now yearn for the Land of our Fathers. We are drawn to our Roots, to our Fathers ancient paths, to our heritage, to our true identity, and most importantly, to our awesome Bride-Groom of Messiah.

We desire that Heaven hear us, breaking the boundaries that limit us, and that YHWH send our Messiah to lead us HOME, where our inward spirit is leading us.

Reader:

Revelation 22:17, 20 "And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come. Let the one who wishes to receive the water of life without cost." 20 "He who bears witness to these things says, "Yes, I am coming quickly." Amen. Come, Master Yeshua!"

May He come quickly, soon, and in our day Next Year in Jerusalem

