

“IT IS FINISHED!” (Afikomen)

At Passover the lamb that the high priest chose was staked at the temple mount for the public to inspect. All could inspect it for four days before it was offered up for sacrifice. The thousands of lambs would then be sacrificed, starting at around 9:00am. on the 14th day. The shofar would sound to announce to the surrounding areas that the last lamb of about 250,000 (over 40,000 per hour) had been slaughtered. This would be about 3:00pm., the same time of day (twilight) when the evening oblations (sacrifice) always took place. The blood from the slaughter was in such volume that it shone in the brazen pans as the sunlight reflected on it. This red glow (shine) was evident from the hills a long distance away. The High Priest who had closely inspected the lamb, satisfied it was unblemished (perfect), would say: **“I find no fault in him”** (John 18:38, 19:4, 6).



Starting at about 9:00am of the 14th day, the High priest was required (by tradition) to stand there for about six hours and supervise until all the lambs were sacrificed. It was exactly six hours that Yeshua hung on the stake before He died. The main lamb offering at the temple mount during Passover was made by the High Priest after all the others had been made, about 3:00pm., at twilight. **Exod. 12:6** *“You are to keep it until the fourteenth day of the month, and then the entire assembly of the community of Israel will slaughter it at dusk”*. After the High Priest offered up the last lamb the High priest would say **“I thirst”**. He would then wet his lips with water and proclaim that “it is finished”, meaning the slaughtering of all the lambs for Passover. It was exactly 3:00pm (twilight), when Yeshua gave up His Spirit and said His last words; **“it is finished”**. If you recall, as part of the Jewish wedding tradition the father of the groom to be would declare to his son **“it is finished”**, when the grooms house was complete. He was then able to go get his bride. **Does this sound familiar?**

Have you ever wondered why Yeshua died so fast? He died quickly because of the curse on the bitter water/wine He drank from in regard to the adultery test. In the Book of Numbers 5:23-28, we see this test explained. Yeshua had to drink of the cup of the adultery test because He represented the bride (those believers who had committed adultery with other gods) because He stood in covenant for Abraham’s seed forever. When one was found guilty of adultery, according to the test, he would immediately be cursed with death. The people Israel were guilty and He represented them. That is the other prophetic meaning of: **“It is finished”** (John 19:30). After He died the true bride of Adonai was made clean again and she could once more become His fiancé.

When you accept Yeshua into your life it’s as if you were standing with the people at Mt. Sinai in agreement with the wedding contract, the torah. When Yeshua died He took the penalty of death away from us because of the cup He had to drink of.

John 18:11 *So Yeshua said to Peter, “Put the sword into the sheath; the cup which the Father has given Me, shall I not drink it?”*

Matt.27:48-50 *“Immediately one of them ran, and taking a sponge, he filled it with sour wine and put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink. 49 But the rest of them said, “Let us see whether Elijah will come to save Him 50 And Yeshua cried out again with a loud voice, and yielded up His spirit.”* Luke 23 was the fulfillment of **Isa.**

50:3 *“I clothe the heavens with blackness And make sackcloth their covering.”* **John 19:30** *Therefore when Yeshua had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.”*

Yeshua too was the last lamb sacrificed and He would have heard the sound of the shofar blasting as He gave up His life for us. **Yeshua wasn’t killed for us, He died for us”** **Luke 23:44-45** *“It was now about the sixth hour, and darkness fell over the whole land until the ninth hour, because the sun was obscured; and the veil of the temple was torn in two.”* The analogy is so beautiful. The more we learn about the Feasts, the more analogy’s and thematic connections we see between Yeshua and everything associated with Him in the Scriptures. (see also Ps. 22:31)

Passover is a portrayal of our personal salvation. When we become truly born again, our first step is to repent, ask for forgiveness, accept Yeshua as our Messiah, and to passover from Egypt (the secular world of Satan), and begin our pilgrimage into the promised land of Yah (Hebrew means: crossed over). Our second step includes accepting Yeshua as the final passover sacrifice for our sins. The third step is accepting Yeshua as our first fruit of the new man. Believers who have taken the first steps are "Passover Believers". They have some peace with Yah but they have not fully experienced the power of Yah, nor the peace of Yah. They must go on to the fourth step, Pentecost. The Pentecostal "spirit filled" experience enables the Believer to be an effective witness and to minister in the power of the holy spirit. But even the Pentecostal Believer is only halfway to Yah's rest. He or she must go on to become tabernacle Believers, the fifth, sixth, and seventh step. This includes being prepared for the wedding to come, atonement, a new beginning, and dwelling with Him in our final resting place. We must all learn how to conduct spiritual warfare and handle the trials of our faith and that of those around us. As we take each of these steps in trust and obedience to Yahveh, we will enjoy His divine rest in our souls. The ultimate goal is the peace OF YAHVEH, which only a rare few ever experience. This divine rest is the essence of the meaning of "shalom". True shalom is the outward and inner evidence of the real fruit of the spirit.

THE NAPKIN.. "**was finished**", "**I'm done**"

Why did Yeshua Messiah fold the linen napkin after His resurrection?

John 20:5-10 *"The two were running together; and the other disciple ran ahead faster than Peter and came to the tomb first; 5 and stooping and looking in, he saw the linen wrappings lying there; but he did not go in. 6 And so Simon Peter also came, following him, and entered the tomb; and he saw the linen wrappings lying there, 7 and the face-cloth which had been on His head, not lying with the linen wrappings, but rolled up in a place by itself.* (NAS)

The Gospel of John tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Yeshua when He was resurrected, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes:

7 also the cloth that had been around his head, lying not with the sheets but in a separate place and still folded up. (CJB), it was folded up.

The author uses an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed separate from the grave clothes.

Was that important? Absolutely! Is it really significant? Yes!

In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, you have to understand a little bit about Hebrew tradition of that day. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant, and every Jewish boy knew this tradition: When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it. The table would be furnished perfectly, and then the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating. The servant would not dare touch that table, until the master **was finished**.

Now if the master were done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers, his mouth, and clean his beard, and would wad up that napkin and toss it onto the table. The servant would then know to clear the table. **For in those days, the wadded napkin meant, 'I'm done'.**



But if the master got up from the table, and folded his napkin, and laid it beside his plate, the servant would not dare touch the table, because.....**the folded napkin meant, 'I'm coming back!'** Yeshua was

telling us, He is Coming Back!
Also see Matt. 5:17-20.

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