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April 2016

Shalom one and all!

Wow, does time ever fly by! The Feast of Passover and Unleavened Bread are upon us. This is one of the most incredible times of the year. On Sunday April 24th we will begin to count the Omer until the next Feast, Shavuot on June 12th. We have a handout that helps explain the counting of the Omer here. We will be having our annual Shavuot picnic at the park doing mikvahs or baptisms.

This year is one of those years when there is a stark reminder that many are operating on the wrong calendar by celebrating the resurrection of Messiah a month before He died! Be sure and order this next years biblical calendar as soon as we have it available. Hopefully we will have it available in just a few weeks. We also want to remind everybody to be sure and live stream our Passover Seder this next Thursday night starting at 6pm! Invite your friends to your house and follow along with us! This years Seder will not only be a record for us with 1500 people but we will be having people from all over the world live streaming with us. It will also be a first for us by having many Russians attending with translation service available for them. We also will have many deaf people attending as well and we are making ASL services available for them. For the first time we have published our own Seder booklet for people to follow along with us. You can get our Seder booklet to follow along with us by going to our website as we now have it available from our bookstore!

A couple of weeks ago I made known that our Passover Seder is no small event! The cost to El Shaddai will be around \$90,000 for the rental of the facility, catering the food, lights, sound, drapes, parking etc. For us just to break even we would have to charge around \$60 per person. As you know we only have been charging around \$15 per adult and a lot less for kids just to make it available for people as we believe in the importance of this Divine appointment and we want people to be able to afford it. We love doing this from the depths of our heart and we do it with great joy! With that said, if there are those who have the funds to help us with these costs so we can continue to bless the body we will joyfully accept the Festival offerings!

We also want to remind everybody about our Prophecy Conference coming up the end of June with Joel Richardson, Jonathan Cahn, along with Rabbi Shlomo Riskin at our Night to Honor Israel. There will also be Pastor Jim Garlow and his wife Rosemary Schindler of Schindlers list. It will be one of the most exciting conferences of the year! If you have ever wanted to go to Israel we still have a handful of openings left for our trip coming up in just over a month from now. So be sure and sign up right away!

I also want to announce that this fall we will launch my new book "God's Daytimer - A Believers Guide to Divine Appointments". We will have both a book and a dvd! This book and dvd is about the importance of the feasts of the LORD and being on God's calendar. We have a special offer for all those who pre order now. Not only are we

discounting the prices we will give away a complimentary gift of either the Blood Moons book or Blood Moons dvd for a limited time. You can <u>preorder here.</u> A wonderful gift we also now have available is a new children's book to help learn the Hebrew Alefbet. (It's great for adults too!) El Shaddai's very own Rachel Powell created it! You can <u>order it here.</u>

May the LORD richly bless all of you this Passover season! Remember you are Matzah!

Pastor Mark Biltz



Have you gotten your Omer count handout yet?

Click here to get your free handout.

Recipes

This month's recipes inspired by Passover.

Cornish Game Hens with Garlic and Rosemary

Recipe By: MOONANDBACK

Prep 20 m Cook 1 h Ready In 1 h 20 m

Ingredients:

- 4 Cornish game hens
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 lemon, quartered
- 4 sprigs fresh rosemary
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 24 cloves garlic
- 1/3 cup white wine
- 1/3 cup low-sodium chicken broth
- 4 sprigs fresh rosemary, for garnish



Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees F (230 degrees C).
- 2. Rub hens with 1 tablespoon of the olive oil. Lightly season hens with salt and pepper. Place 1 lemon wedge and 1 sprig rosemary in cavity of each hen. Arrange in a large, heavy roasting pan, and arrange garlic cloves around hens. Roast in preheated oven for 25 minutes.
- 3. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). In a mixing bowl, whisk together wine, chicken broth, and remaining 2 tablespoons of oil; pour over hens. Continue roasting about 25 minutes longer, or until hens are golden brown and juices run clear. Baste with pan juices every 10 minutes.
- 4. Transfer hens to a platter, pouring any cavity juices into the roasting pan. Tent hens with aluminum foil to keep warm. Transfer pan juices and garlic cloves to a medium saucepan and boil until liquids reduce to a sauce consistency, about 6 minutes. Cut hens in half lengthwise and arrange on plates. Spoon sauce and garlic around hens. Garnish with rosemary sprigs, and serve.

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Healthier Oven Roasted Potatoes

Recipe By: MakeItHealthy

Prep 15 m Cook 20 m Ready In 35 m

Ingredients:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley



- 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 large potatoes, peeled and cubed

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 475 degrees F (245 degrees C).
- 2. Combine oil, garlic, basil, rosemary, parsley, red pepper flakes, and salt in a large bowl. Toss in potatoes until evenly coated. Place potatoes in a single layer on a roasting pan or baking sheet.
- 3. Roast in preheated oven, turning occasionally, until potatoes are brown on all sides, 20 to 30 minutes.

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Garlic-Sauteed Asparagus

Recipe By: naturalbornhealer

Prep 10 m Cook 10 m Ready In 20 m

Ingredients:

- 1 teaspoon olive oil
- 1 teaspoon sesame oil
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 pound fresh asparagus, trimmed and cut into 2-inch pieces
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce, or more to taste
- 1 tablespoon water



Directions:

1. Heat olive oil and sesame oil in a wok or skillet over medium-high heat; add garlic and decrease heat to medium. Cook and stir garlic until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add asparagus, soy sauce, and water to garlic; cook and stir until liquid is mostly evaporated, about 3 minutes. Cover wok and cook until asparagus are tender yet firm to the bite, 5 to 10 minutes more.

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Perfect Coconut Macaroons

Recipe By: circoit

Prep 20 m Cook 15 m Ready In 1 h 20 m

Ingredients:

- 1 (14 ounce) package sweetened, flaked coconut
- 1/3 cup white sugar
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 pinch salt
- 3 egg whites, room temperature
- 8 ounces semisweet chocolate chips



Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- 2. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
- 3. Blend coconut, sugar, flour, vanilla extract, almond extract, and salt in a food processor until combined, about 30 seconds.
- 4. Beat egg whites in a bowl until soft peaks form.
- 5. Fold coconut mixture into egg whites until just combined.
- 6. Wet your hands. Roll spoonfuls of coconut mixture between palms to golf ball-size cookies; arrange on the prepared baking sheet.
- 7. Bake cookies in the preheated oven until coconut is slightly golden and toasted, about 15 minutes. Transfer to a wire rack to cool, 30 minutes.
- 8. Line baking sheet with new piece of parchment paper.
- 9. Melt chocolate chips in the top of a double boiler over just-barely simmering water, stirring frequently and scraping down the sides with a rubber spatula to avoid scorching.
- 10. Dip half of each cookie in the chocolate and place on the prepared baking sheet. Place in refrigerator until chocolate is set, about 15 minutes.

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This Day in Jewish History

Adar II - Nissan

[22 Adar]

- Jews of Uberlingen, Switzerland, were massacred, 1349.
- Yahrzeit of Rabbi Yechiel Michal Epstein HaLevi of Novogrudok, Russia, author of the Aruch haShulchan, 1908.

[23 Adar]

- The beginning of the seven-day practice period of assembling the Mishkan.
- The Second Beit HaMikdash was dedicated, 516 B.C.E.
- Massacre of the Jews of Estella, Spain, 1328.
- Yahrzeit of the Chidushei HaRim, first Gerer Rebbe, 1866.

[24 Adar]

- Jews of Gluchor massacred by Ukrainian mob, 1918.
- German troops marched into Prague, 1939.
- Germany occupied Hungary, 1944.
- YHS, NC, 5711.
- Jews of Wurtzburg were massacred by the Crusaders, 1147.
- The Pope issued a bull banning all social intercourse between Christians and Jews. 1451.
- Jews of Lithuania were granted permission to return to the country after a brief exile of 8 years, 1503.
- First organized Arab assault on a Jewish settlement (Petach Tikva), 1886.

[25 Adar]

- King of France orders the detention for ransom of all Jews in Paris attending shul on Shabbat, 1181.
- Jews of Strasbourg burned at the Jewish cemetery, 1349.
- Petition circulated among prominent Americans (not Jews) requesting U.S.
 government aid to reestablish a sovereign Jewish state in Eretz Yisrael, 1891.
- U.S. President Harrison was petitioned in 1891 to aid in the reestablishment of Palestine as a sovereign Jewish state, 1891. The petition was signed, by Cyrus McCormick, J. P. Morgan, William McKinley, John D. Rockefeller, Russel Sage, and Cardinal Gibbons, among others. It was a spontaneous expression of American sympathy for Zionism, totally independent of Jewish Zionist activities. The petition was motivated by Biblical influences and by intense indignation aroused by Russian pograms.
- World Mizrachi was founded in Vilna, Russia, 1902.

[26 Adar]

- The Jewish community of Newport, R.I. bought land for burial, 1677.
- The Pope issued a bull ordering the burning of the Talmud, 1244.
- The Jewish community of Newport, R.I. purchased a plot of land for a burial ground, 1677.
- Operation Nahshon, Haganah's first large-scale offensive began, 1948.

[27 Adar]

- Tzidkiyahu HaMelech, last King of Judea, died in Babylonian captivity, 561B.C.E.
- Jews massacred in England, 1190.
- King of Austria grants favorable rights to Jews, 1255.

Jews were massacred by rioters in Stamford-fair, England, 1190.

[28 Adar]

- Antiochus V granted religious freedom and autonomy to the Jews of Eretz Yisrael, 163B.C.E. Date was celebrated as a holiday marking the cancellation of decrees prohibiting circumcision, Torah study and Shabbat observance.
- Jews of Prussia were granted rights, 1277.
- Purim of Cairo was observed annually in commemoration of an escape from massacre, 1524.

[29 Adar]

- Jews of Austria were required by law to belong to the government-established religious community in their town, 1890.
- Napoleon captured the city of Jaffa, Palestine, 1799.

[1 Nissan]

- The erection of the Mishkan was completed. Moshe completed the consecration rites of Aaron and his sons. Aaron performed the first sacrificial rites. Death of Nadav and Avihu, sons of Aaron.
- King Hezekiah commenced the re-consecration of the Temple.
- Cyrus was crowned "King of Babylonia and King of all lands, "538B.C.E. The
 crowning of King Cyrus made possible the restoration of an autonomous Jewish
 community in Eretz Yisrael and the rebuilding of the Beit HaMikdash. Ezra, who
 was to restore the primacy of religion in the life of the Jewish community, left
 Babylonia on the anniversary of Cryus' coronation.
- The plot of Bigtan and Teresh to assassinate Achashveirosh was discovered by Mordechai.
- Ezra and his followers left Bavel for Jerusalem, 457 B.C.E.

[2 Nissan]

- Moshe performed the first para aduma rite.
- Jews of Mayence, Germany, were massacred, 1283.
- King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella signed a decree expelling Jews from Spain, 1492.
- Anti-Jewish riots broke out in Jerusalem, 1881.

[3 Nissan]

- A decree expelling Jews form Spain and Sicily was issued, 1492.
- In the Children's Action of 1944, Nazis raided the Kovno ghetto and removed all children for execution. Anti-Jewish persecutions were generally aimed at the people as a whole, regardless of age. There were instances, however, where children were singled out as the victims of a discriminating decree. Pharaoh's order to drown all male infants was the earliest example of this type of

legislation.

[4 Nissan]

- Anti-Jewish riots broke out in Dabrowa, Poland, 1938.
- A convoy of physicians, scientists, and guards, totaling 75 people, was ambushed on the way to Mt. Scopus, 1948.

[5 Nissan]

- Yehoshua sent scouts to survey Jericho and the surrounding territory
- Rehovot was attacked by Arabs, 1893.
- 2500 Jews of Lublin were massacred and the rest of the Jews were deported, 1942.

[6 Nissan]

The town of Afula was founded, 1925.

[7 Nissan]

- Jews of York, England, committed mass suicide rejecting an invitation to submit to baptism, 1190.
- Hebrew University opened in Jerusalem, 1925.

[8 Nissan]

- The feast of Achashveirosh, which lasted for 180 days, came to and end.
- Yahrzeit of Rabbi Eliyahu Shapira of Prague, author of Eliyahu Rabba, 1712.
- First rabbinic opposition to Hasidism was announced in Vilna, 1772. A cheirem, endorsed by the Vilna Gaon, was published in 1777 and again in 1781.

[9 Nissan]

- 57 Jews were killed in Bury St. Edmunds, England, 1190.
- Anti-Jewish riots broke out in Seville, Spain, 1391. (The riots took place on Ash Wednesday and initiated a wave of violence which spread rapidly over the Iberian Peninsula, claiming 50,000 victims before the year was up. A substantial number of Jews escaped with their lives only at the cost of converting. This marked the emergence of Marranos, said to number 200,000, in the kingdoms of Aragon and Castile. They were to provide countless martyrs in the Old and New Worlds for centuries to come.)
- Jews of Vienna, Austria, were accused of profaning the host. Many of those who refused to embrace Christianity were burned at the stake, 1421.

[10 Nissan]

- Yahrzeit of Miriam. The mobile well, which supplied water to the Jews in the desert, dried up.
- The Jews, led by Yehoshua, crossed the Jordan and erected 12 monuments at Gilgal. Tradition also puts Yehoshua's composing of the second paragraph of Birkat haMazon.

[11 Nissan]

- Brit Mila of the generation of the Wilderness upon entering Eretz Yisrael.
- Yahrzeit of the Ramban, 1270.
- Yahrzeit of the SH'LA 51270. HaKadosh, 1630.

[12 Nissan]

• Ezra and his followers departed from the River Ahava on their way to Jerusalem, 457 B.C.E.

[13 Nissan]

- Haman published decree calling for the extermination of all the Jews of the Persian Empire. Esther ordered the 3-day fast for the Jews of Shushan
- Rav Ovadya Bartinuro arrived in Jerusalem, 1488.
- Yahrzeit of Rav Yoseph Caro, 1575.
- Yahrzeit of Rabbi Menahem Mendel of Lubavich, the Zemach Zedek, 1866.

[14 Nissan] Passover

- Kayin and Hevel offer their sacrifices to G-d.
- Fast of the firstborns.
- The first Korban Pesach by the Jews in Egypt.
- Naomi and Ruth arrived in Beit Lechem.
- Warsaw ghetto uprising broke out, 1943.

[15 Nissan] Unleavened Bread Day 1

- Sara was brought to the house of Par'o. G-d made a covenant with Avraham.
 The angels appeared to inform Avraham that a son would be born to Sara. Birth of Yitzchak. Yitzchak summoned Eisav and requested that he prepare a tasty meal for him and receive his blessing.
- Moses saw the burning bush.
- The Egyptian first-born were slain.
- The beginning of the Exodus.
- The Assyrian army of Sancherev, which had threatened Jerusalem, was destroyed.
- Yahrzeit of Job.
- Vashti was executed by order of Achashveirosh.
- Esther appeared before Achashveirosh to plead for the Jews.
- The defenders of Masada committed suicide, 73 C.E.

- The last resistance to the Roman conquest of Eretz Yisrael came to an end.
- An order to seize all Portuguese Jewish children, ages 4-14 for forced conversion, 1497.
- The Vilna Gaon was born, 1720.

[16 Nissan] Unleavened Bread Day 2

- Birth of Levi, third son of Yaakov.
- Jews had crossed the Jordan into Eretz Yisrael. The Omer was offered for the first time by the Jews in Eretz Yisrael.
- King Saul's seven sons were killed.
- Chizkiyahu HaMelech completed the rededication of the Beit HaMikdash.
- Haman was hanged. Mordecai was appointed chief minister to replace Haman.
- The alleged murder of William of Norwich, led to the first charge of ritual murder against Jews in the Middle Ages.
- Arabs killed and wounded many Jews in Jerusalem, 1920.

[17 Nissan] Unleavened Bread Day 3

• Solomon Etting, prominent businessman of Lancaster, Pa., was the first native American Jew to receive a limited authorization to function as a shohet, 1782.

[18 Nissan] Unleavened Bread Day 4

- Par'o was informed that the Jews had escaped.
- A number of London Jews suffered martyrdom following ritual charges, 1279.
- Purim of the Bomb was celebrated by the Jews of Fossano, south of the Alps, to commemorate their escape from massacre, 1796.

[19 Nissan] Unleavened Bread Day 5

- Par'o set out in pursuit of the Jews.
- Adolf Hitler made his first appearance on the anniversary of the day on which the first anti-Semite in Jewish history set out in pursuit of the Jewish people.
- Yahrzeit of Rabbi Menahem Zemba, HY"D. He was killed in the Warsaw ghetto, 1943.
- Yahrzeit of Rabbi Meir Bar-Ilan, leader of Mizrachi, scholar and author, 1949.

[20 Nissan] Unleavened Bread Day 6

- Par'o and his pursing army caught up with the Jews encamped at Pi-HaChirot by the sea.
- Yahrzeit of Rav Hai Gaon, the last of the geonim of Pumpedita, 1038. [The
 death of Rav Hai Gaon brought to a close the glorious epoch of Babylonian
 Jewry. For more than eight centuries Babylonia was the center of Jewish culture
 and creative scholarship. Its leaders provided the guidance and direction of
 Jewish religious development throughout the world. After the decline of
 Babylonian Jewry, the center of Jewish culture shifted in succeeding stages to
 North Africa, Germany, France, Spain, Italy, the Turkish Empire, and Eastern

Europe. The post-Nazi period has witnessed the emergence of two new centers of Jewish learning - Israel and the United States.]

[21 Nissan] Unleavened Bread Day 7 (last day)

- Jacob left Laban's home to return to Eretz Yisrael.
- Par'o's decree against Jewish male infants was canceled.
- Jews crossed the Red Sea. Moshe and the people of Israel sang the Shira.

[22 Nissan]

 Yehoshua began his march around Yericho. The encirclement of Yericho, which led to its destruction within seven days, constituted the first Jewish military action in ancient Eretz Yisrael.

History found at OU.





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