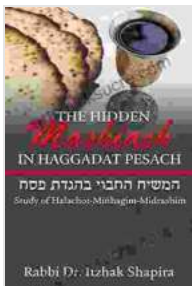


# Unveiling the Enigma: The Hidden Mashiach in the Haggadat Peasach

The Haggadat Peasach, the central text of the Seder night, is a rich tapestry of Jewish history, traditions, and symbolism. Beyond its well-known narrative of the Exodus from Egypt, the Haggadah contains profound esoteric meanings, including the presence of the hidden Mashiach, or Messiah.

## The Four Questions

At the beginning of the Seder, the youngest child asks the famous four questions:



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"Why is this night different from all other nights?"

"Why do we eat only matzah on this night?"

"Why do we dip twice on this night?"

"Why do we recline on this night?"

While these questions are often answered literally, the Kabbalists reveal a deeper dimension to these queries. They suggest that the questions are actually a coded reference to the Mashiach.

### **1. "Why is this night different from all other nights?"**

This question is answered by the phrase "because we were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt." The Kabbalists interpret this as a reference to the enslavement of the soul by the evil inclination (yetzer hara). The Mashiach will liberate the soul from this bondage.

### **2. "Why do we eat only matzah on this night?"**

Matzah represents humility and plainness. The Mashiach will be a humble and approachable leader, devoid of ego.

### **3. "Why do we dip twice on this night?"**

This refers to the dipping of the maror (bitter herb) in the charoset (sweet mixture). The Mashiach will bring both suffering and joy to the Jewish people.

### **4. "Why do we recline on this night?"**

Reclining is a symbol of freedom and comfort. The Mashiach will bring a time of peace and prosperity, where the Jewish people will dwell in serenity.

## **The Four Sons of the Haggadah**

The Haggadah also mentions the four sons: the wise son, the wicked son, the simple son, and the son who does not know how to ask. These sons

represent different types of people's attitudes toward the coming of the Mashiach.

### **1. The Wise Son**

The wise son is eager to learn and understands the significance of the Seder. He is a model of the righteous who will be rewarded with the Mashiach's redemption.

### **2. The Wicked Son**

The wicked son rejects the Seder and the teachings of the Torah. He is a symbol of those who will oppose the Mashiach and his message of peace.

### **3. The Simple Son**

The simple son is ignorant of the Seder's meaning. He is a representation of those who have not yet been fully enlightened but have the potential to embrace the Mashiach.

### **4. The Son Who Does Not Know How to Ask**

This son is a metaphor for those who are spiritually and intellectually disabled. The Mashiach will provide hope and guidance even to those who struggle to understand his teachings.

### **Other Hidden References to the Mashiach**

Throughout the Haggadah, there are numerous other allusions to the Mashiach. For example:

- The "cup of Eliyahu" represents the future redemption.
- The "afikomen" symbolizes the hidden Mashiach who will ultimately be revealed.

- The closing prayer for "next year in Jerusalem" expresses the hope for the Mashiach's coming and the restoration of the Jewish people to their ancestral homeland.

## The Significance of the Hidden Mashiach

The concept of a hidden Mashiach is a profound one in Jewish thought. It teaches that the process of redemption is ongoing and that the full manifestation of the Mashiach will occur in stages.

The Hidden Mashiach is present throughout Jewish history, guiding and protecting the Jewish people. He is a source of hope and inspiration, reminding us that even in the darkest of times, redemption is possible.

The Haggadat Peasach is a treasure trove of hidden meanings, including the enigmatic presence of the Mashiach. Through the four questions, the four sons, and numerous other allusions, the Haggadah conveys a profound message of hope and redemption.

By understanding the hidden Mashiach in the Haggadah Peasach, we deepen our appreciation of this ancient text and gain a greater understanding of the Jewish people's longing for a messianic future.



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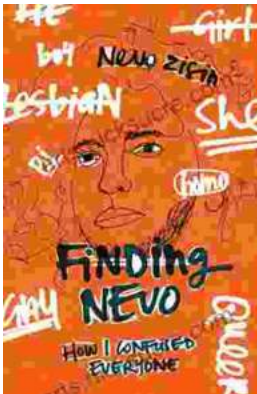
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