

The Four Cups: Will You Marry Me?

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The 4 cups are a representation of the verses found in Exodus 6:6-7

Exodus 6:6-7 *"I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will redeem you with an outstretched arm with mighty acts of judgments. I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God."*

These are called the **I WILL** promises of God.

The Cup of Sanctification or The Cup of Calling "I will bring you out." **Sanctification**: to be set apart

Cup of Deliverance or Cup of Plagues "I will deliver you" **Deliver**: to free or to transfer from one to another; delivered **from** something **to** something

Cup of Redemption or The Ransom Cup "I will redeem you" **Redeem**: to buy back, avenge or purchase

This is the cup we take as communion

The Cup of Praise or The Wedding Cup

Exodus 6:7 *"I will take you as My own people, and I will be your God."*

- **I will take**: - (laqach) to marry, to accept, to receive (law-kakh)

*The fourth and final cup of the Passover is the Cup of **Praise**.*

Praise; **halal**..... (haw-lal) *to shine, to make a boast, to be clamorously foolish*

vs. 6:7 **"I will take them as my own people, and I will be their God"** This verse sounds very much like the verse in **Song of Solomon 6:3** *"I am my beloved's and my beloved is mine"* Couple that with the definition of **"I will take"**; ... to **marry** and now you have a mystery to be searched out.

Exodus 6:6-8 These verses are not just promises, they are a marriage proposal.

God is asking the Hebrews: These are my promises and terms, **will you marry me?**

In the Old Testament, God refers to Israel as His bride.....

In the New Testament, most have heard the parable of the foolish virgins that did not have enough oil for the lamp as they were waiting on the bridegroom to come.

The Book of Revelation speaks of the wedding feast at the marriage supper of the lamb.

The Bible refers to the church as the "Bride of Christ."

To fully understand the Passover and many of the things written in the **Old Testament** and parables and phrases spoken by Jesus in the **New Testament**, you will need to understand the Jewish **betrothal** process.

A Jewish wedding begins with: **Kiddushin ... (kid-du-shin)**

Betrothal : called the kiddushin It is the ritual that takes place when making a covenant marriage.

In Biblical times, the kiddushin was taken very seriously.

The written words of the covenant are called the: **Ketubah (ke-tu-bah)**

Once conditions of the covenant are discussed and agreed upon, the agreement is put in writing.

The Ketubah or **Word** became the property of the bride. She would hold on to this document to protect her rights, and to be sure the groom kept his word.

Once the Ketubah is signed by two witnesses, the couple would be legally **married**.

The Old Testament is the first Kiddushin and the Ketubah is between God and Israel.

The first Ketubah was based on the law and it turned into a one-way love affair.

The Hebrews essentially said, "I will marry you and be faithful out of duty".

The New Testament is the second Kiddushin and the Ketubah is between Jesus and any who will receive Him.

This second Ketubah (new covenant) was not based on duty, but on love.

Jesus is saying to us: "Will you marry me and be faithful out of love?"

John 14:23-24

²³ Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.