



The Four Questions

One of the main focal points of the traditional Passover seder is the *maggid*, the telling of the story of the Exodus from Egypt. This story begins with the youngest person at the seder asking the Four Questions (*Mah Nishtanah*). These questions provide the impetus for telling why this night is different from all other nights.

Learn more about the four questions and how they are sung at ReformJudaism.org/Passover.

מה נִשְׁתַּנָּה הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מִכָּל-הַלַּיְלוֹת

Mah nishtanah halailah hazeh mikol haleilot?

How is this night different from all other nights?



1. שְׁבַּכֹּל-הַלֵּילוֹת אָנּוּ אוֹכְלִין חֲמֵץ וּמַצָּה
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כֻּלּוֹ מַצָּה

Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin chametz umatzah, halailah hazeh, kuloh matzah.

On all other nights, we eat *chametz* (leavened foods) and matzah. Why on this night, only matzah?

2. שְׁבַּכֹּל-הַלֵּילוֹת אָנּוּ אוֹכְלִין שְׂאֵר יֵרַקוֹת
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מְרוֹר

Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin sh'ar y'rakot, halailah hazeh, maror.

On all other nights, we eat all vegetables. Why, on this night, *maror* (bitter herbs)?

3. שְׁבֹכֹל-הַלֵּילוֹת אֵין אָנוּ מִטְבִּילִין אֶפִּילוּ פַּעַם אַחַת
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְעָמִים

Sheb'chol haleilot ein anu matbilin afilu pa'am echat; halailah hazeh, sh'tei f'amim.

On all other nights, we don't dip even once.
Why on this night do we dip twice?



4. שְׁבֹכֹל-הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין בֵּין יוֹשְׁבִין וּבֵין מְסֻבִּין
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה בְּלָנוּ מְסֻבִּין

*Sheb'chol haleilot anu ochlin bein yoshvin uvein m'subin;
halailah hazeh, kulanu m'subin.*

On all other nights, we eat either sitting upright or reclining.
Why on this night do we all recline?