

Summary of Passover Torah Readings

1. **Ex. 12:21-51 The first day of Passover:** Bringing the Pesakh offering in Egypt and the death of the firstborn – this is the “very day” that HaShem took the Children of Israel out of Egypt.
Haftarah: Joshua 3:5-7, 5:2-15, 6:1, 6:27: Just as HaShem was with Moshe, so he was with his successor, Y’hoshua; circumcision, observation of Pesakh and the cessation of *man* in the land.
2. **Le. 22:26-23:44 The second day of Passover:** A summary list of appointed times (*moadim*) for festive celebration of the covenant with HaShem. Includes the command to count the Omer, the 49 days to Shavu’ot which traditionally begins on the 2nd night of Passover, and the obligation of the three annual pilgrimage festivals (Pesakh, Shavu’ot and Sukkot)
Haftarah: 2 Kings 23:1-9, 21-25: King Yoshiyahu (Josiah) discovers the Torah scroll in the Temple, and has it read publicly. He revives the celebration of Passover along with Torah observance.
3. **Ex. 13:1-16 The first intermediate day of Passover:** sanctifying the firstborn, avoiding leaven, eating matzah, telling your children the story of Pesakh, and donning tefillin.
4. **Ex. 22:24-23:19 The second intermediate day of Passover:** Laws of the festivals.
5. **Ex. 34:1-26 The third intermediate day of Passover:** Moses receives the second tablets; HaShem reveals his Thirteen Attributes of Mercy, and laws of the festivals; when one of the "intermediate days" of Passover is Shabbat, this is the reading read on that day, but beginning with 33:12).
Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Ezekiel’s vision of the dry bones – the restoration of the Jewish people from hopeless, lifeless skeletons to new, flourishing life.
6. **Nu. 9:1-14 The fourth intermediate day of Passover:** The story and laws of the Second Passover.
7. **Ex. 13:17-15:26 Seventh day of Passover:** The splitting of the Sea for the Children of Israel, the destruction by drowning of the pursuing Egyptians, and the victory song that was sung by the people upon their deliverance.
Haftarah: 2 Samuel 22:1-51: David’s song, echoing Moshe’s parting words to Israel, expressing gratitude to HaShem for saving him from all his enemies. This salvation is balanced with David’s uprightness, following the ways of HaShem, resulting in his thankfulness.
8. **De. 15:19-16:17 The eighth day of Passover:** Similar to the reading for the second day, the annual cycle of appointed times and special observances, and the offerings brought on them are described. The eighth day has a special connection with a day of future redemption, reflected in the haftarah (reading from the prophets) for this day.
Haftarah: Is. 10:32-12:6: The Messianic Time to come; honest judgment, peace between animal (soul) life; unity and restoration of the nation of Israel; the goodness of HaShem revealed in all things.