



How to care for others 2020, the Pesach Perspective

The Pesach Perspective is in memory of Shlomo Ben Edward and Edward Ben Shaul.

We are about to celebrate Pesach, the holiday of freedom in the most unique set of circumstances. Instead of keeping to the beautiful tradition of having guests by our Seder table, we will just be alone or with our immediate family. Yet we say in the Haggadah at the beginning of Magid, “כל דצריך יתי ויפסח - *Whoever is hungry, come and eat,* - כל דכפין יתי ויכל - *Whoever is needy, come and celebrate Pesach.*”

We say this proclamation to ensure that as we celebrate our freedom, we leave no Jews behind. But with social distancing measures in place today, how can we now fulfill this amazing custom? After the destruction of the second Beis Hamikdash, the Rabbis explain that the saying “*whoever is needy, come and celebrate Pesach*” refers to the consumption of the actual Korban Pesach. The message behind the Korban is spiritual and hence relevant even during exile.

The Korban Pesach represents Hashem’s love for the Jewish nation, for it was the blood of the Korban that the Jewish people on their doorpost spread during the final plague in Egypt. Therefore, the message is fulfilled by ensuring that every person has the spiritual aspects of the Seder, the Matzah, the Maror, and the four cups of wine.

Today, when it is dangerous to have guests at our Seder table, we honor the custom of “*whoever is hungry, come and eat*” by ensuring every person has all their needs for the holiday of Pesach. This specifically refers to providing every Jew with their physical needs for Pesach, food, clothing, etc. This can be done by donating to many organizations whose mission is to care for those in need.

***May we experience the ultimate redemption and celebrate this Pesach in Yerushalayim with the third Beis Hamikdash.
Have a joyful & meaningful Pesach, Rabbi Sholom Yemini***