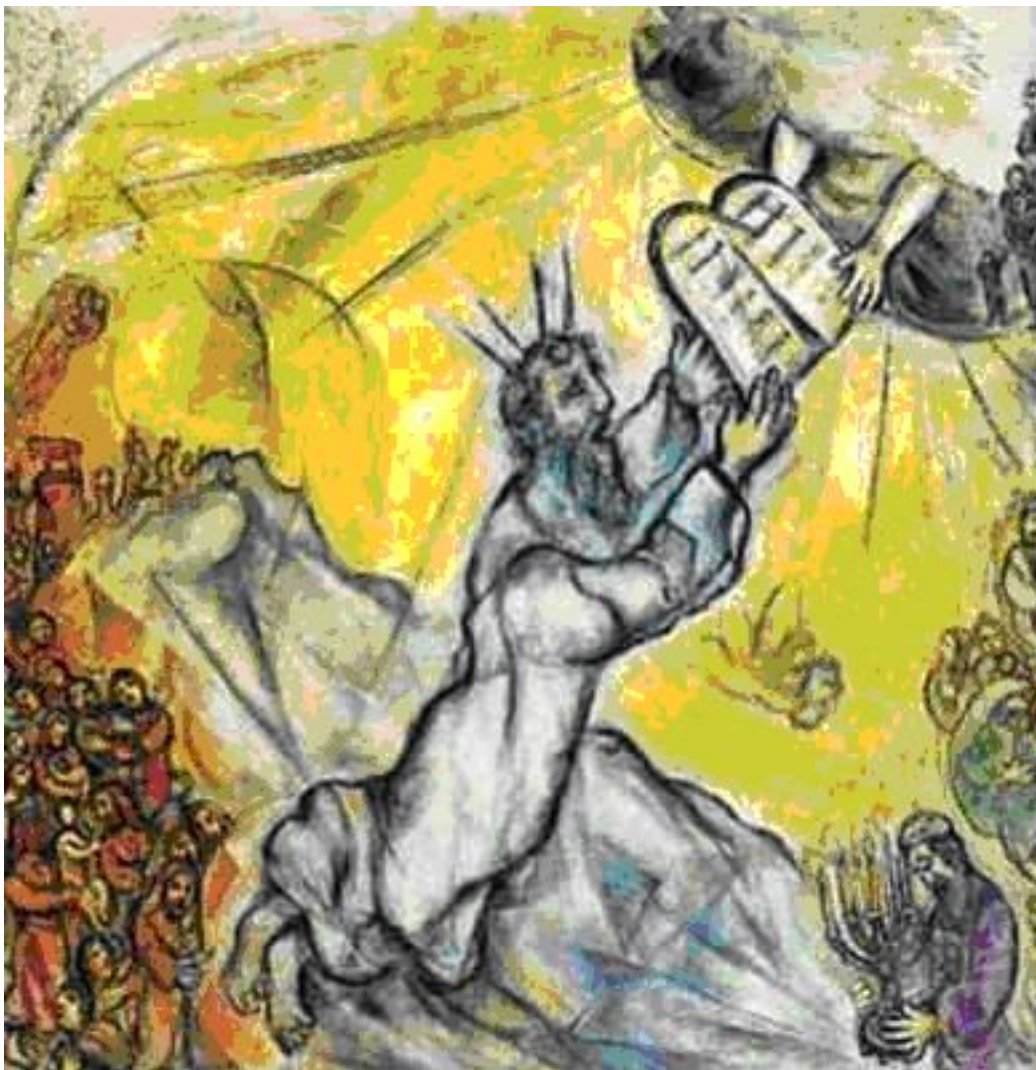


## PESSAH- PASSOVER...



Chagall

Passover is a Jewish holiday and festival. It commemorates the story of the Exodus, in which the ancient Israelites were freed from slavery in Egypt.

The Biblical commandments concerning the Passover (and the Feast of Unleavened Bread) stress the importance of remembering:

Exodus 13:3 repeats the command to remember: “And Moses said unto the people, remember this day, in which ye came out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage....”

Passover begins on the 15th day of the month of Nisan in the Jewish calendar, which is in

spring in the Northern Hemisphere, and is celebrated for seven or eight days. It is one of the most widely observed Jewish holidays.

In the narrative of the Exodus, the Bible tells that God helped the Children of Israel escape slavery in Egypt by inflicting ten plagues upon the Egyptians before Pharaoh would release his Israelite slaves; the tenth and worst of the plagues was the slaughter of the first-born. The Israelites were instructed to mark the doorposts of their homes with the blood of a spring lamb and, upon seeing this, the spirit of the Lord passed over these homes, an easy way to remember the holiday.

When Pharaoh freed the Israelites, it is said that they left in such a hurry that they could not wait for bread dough to rise (leaven). In commemoration, for the duration of Passover no leavened bread is eaten, for which reason it is called "The Festival of the Unleavened Bread" Matzo (flat unleavened bread) is a symbol of the holiday.

The biblical regulations for the observance of the festival require that all leavening be disposed of before the beginning of the 15th of Nisan

Exodus: 13, 7 "Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days".

12, 3 "They shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers...."



14th century Haggadah

