



Pesach 5770/Passover 2010

Submitted by Rabbi Esther Lederman

(To be read after the recitation of the Four Questions/*Ma Nishtanah*)

Tonight, we ask four questions.
Two remind us of our slavery at
the hands of the Egyptians—
Matza and *Maror* – the bread
of our affliction and the
bitterness of our tears.
Two remind us of our liberty—
the dipping of foods and
reclining in our chairs.
Echoes of slavery and freedom
mingle at our seder table.
We recline upon our cushions as
we lick the salty tears of our
enslavement.

Tonight, we ask four questions
that remind us of our bitter
past and joyful present.
But what about our future?
It is time to ask a fifth question:
What will redemption look like?

Israelis and Palestinians, hearing
each other's stories,

facing each other's truths.
Israel and Palestine, two states
for two peoples.
Justice for both, Security for All.
Peace for the People.
The People for Peace.

What will redemption look like?
An end to death and terror,
An end to checkpoints and
blockades.
Liberty for Palestinians,
Secure Borders for Israelis,
A New Map for the Middle East.

V'im lo achshav, eimatay?
And if not today, then when?

Tonight we ask four questions.
But it is time to ask a fifth:
What will redemption look like?
Our children want to know...

Rabbi Esther Lederman, originally from Ottawa, Canada, was recently appointed as the Assistant Rabbi at Temple Micah, a Reform synagogue in Washington, DC. Before her appointment she served for two years as the Marshall T. Meyer Fellow at Congregation B'nai Jeshurun of Manhattan. She was ordained in 2008 from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York.

