



Keeping The Feast

Cleaning out the Leaven

If you had visited a Jewish friend last Tuesday night, you would have found them cleaning house



On the first day you shall remove leaven out of your houses, for if anyone eats what is leavened, from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.

Exodus 12:15

Cleaning out the Leaven

People publically burn all the “leaven” that they have found



1 Corinthians 5:6-8

"Cleanse out the old leaven"

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

“Therefore let us keep the feast”



15-step Seder

The Seder

— [They drink the first of four cups of wine



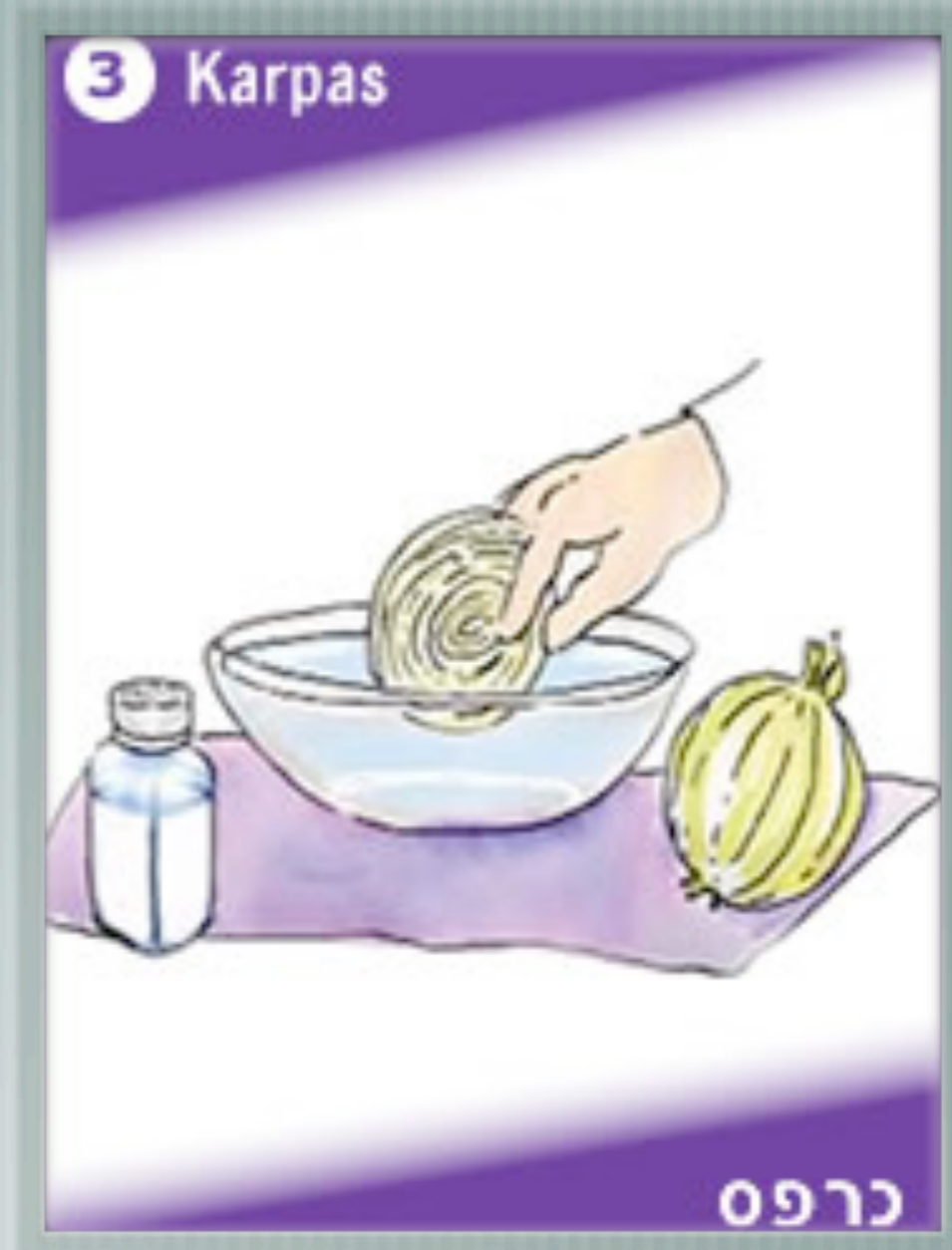
The Seder

They wash their hands, but without pronouncing the usual blessing



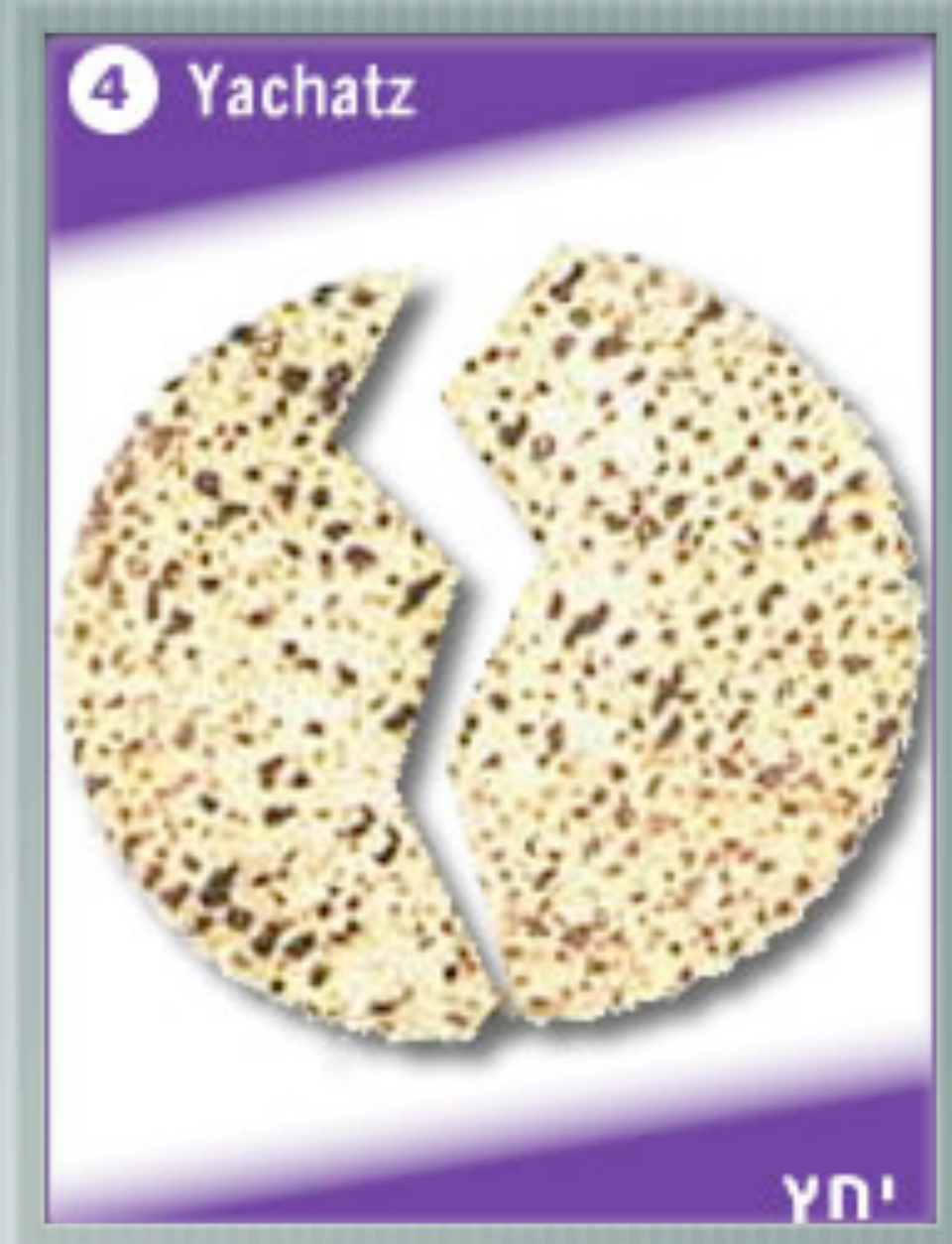
The Seder

— [They eat a vegetable dipped twice in salt water, to remember the tears of their forefathers in Egypt



The Seder

— [They take one of three pieces of matzah bread, break it in half, and hide one of the halves



The Seder

The youngest child asks the question: "Why is this night different from other nights?" and the meaning of the Passover is explained



The Seder

The hands are washed again, this time in the usual fashion



The Seder

[A special blessing is pronounced on the bread, the unleavened bread that they will eat for a week



The Seder

— [One of the remaining matzahs is broken and shared among the participants



The Seder

[Bitter herbs are spread on the matzah to remind them of the bitterness of their slavery



The Seder

Next the matzah is eaten with a sweet mixture, called charoseth, which reminds them of their redemption



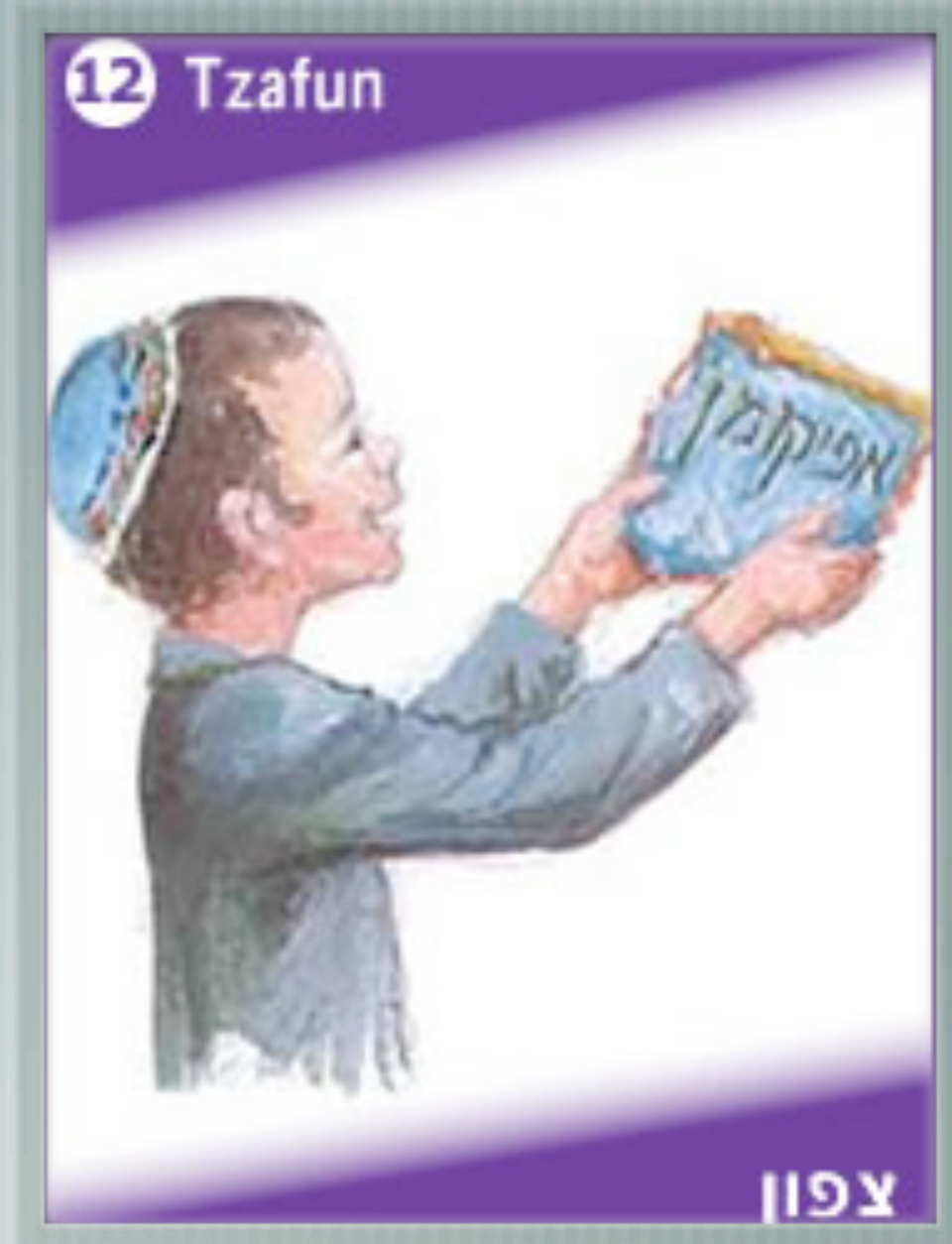
The Seder

— [Now comes the meal. Since the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem, lamb is not eaten at the meal



The Seder

The children hunt and find the hidden piece of matzah. A “ransom” is paid to the finder.



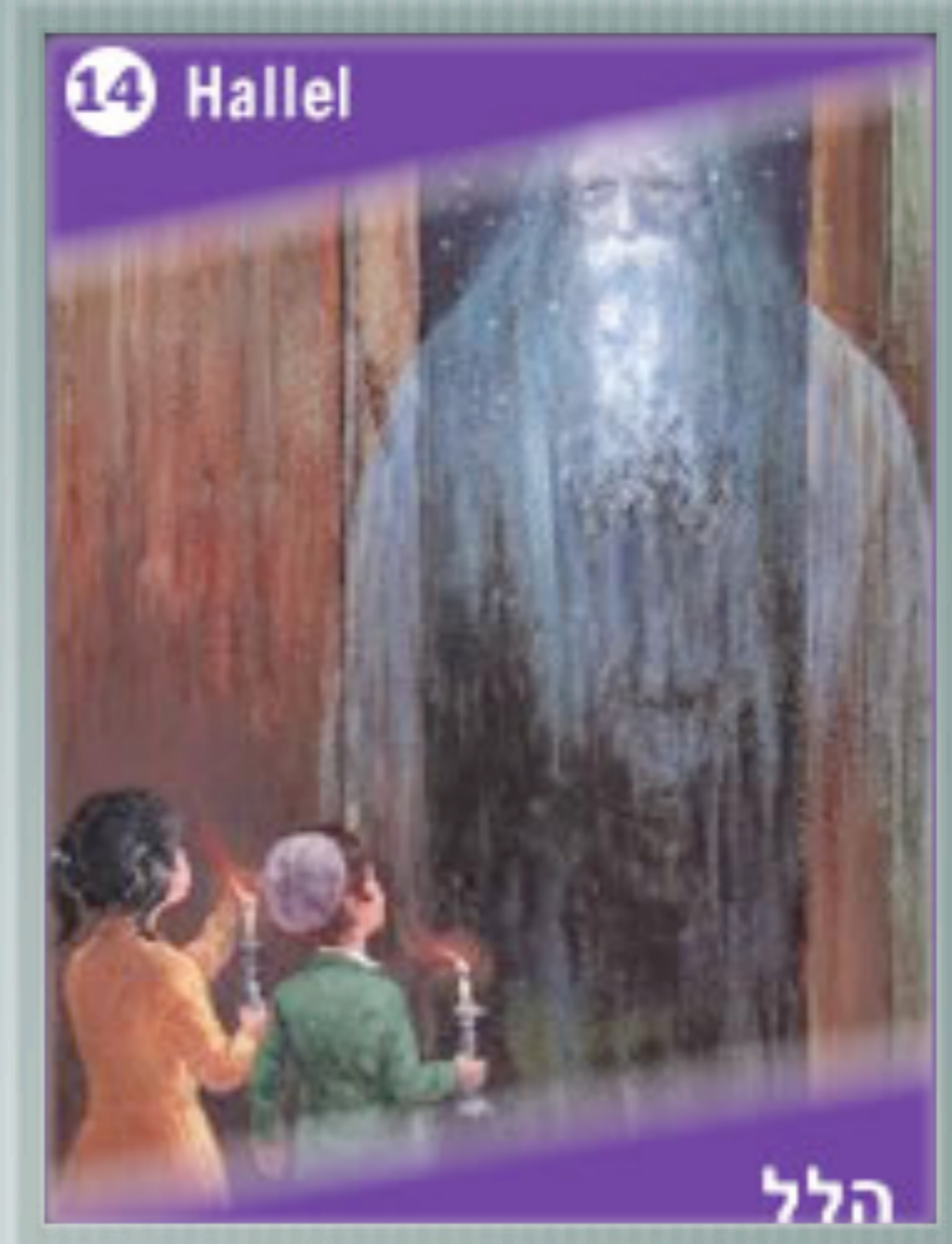
The Seder

The last two cups of wine are consumed, each with a blessing



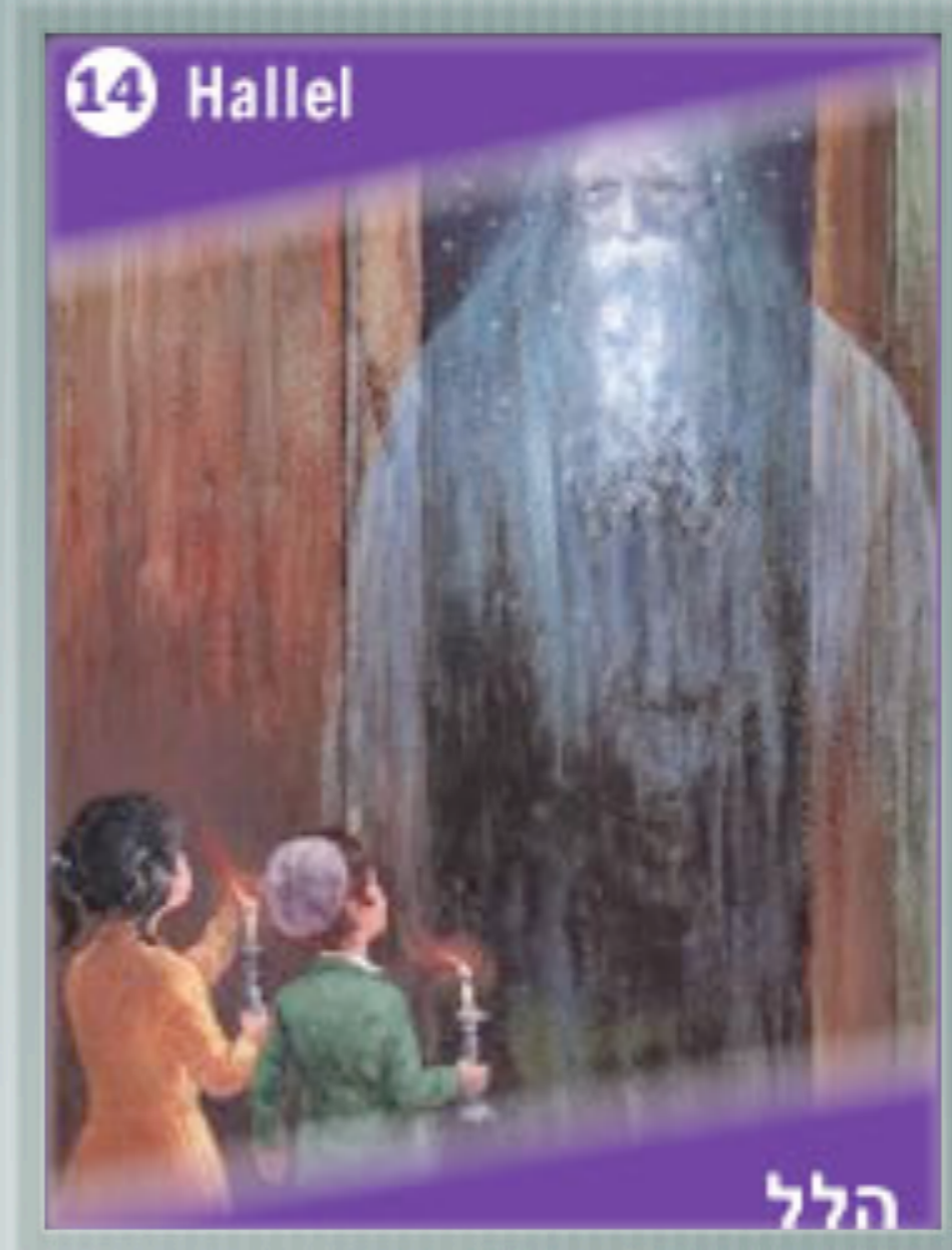
The Seder

[The psalms of praise are sung.



The Seder

- [The psalms of praise are sung.
- [A fifth cup of wine is poured for Elijah, and the children open the door to see if Elijah will come



The Seder

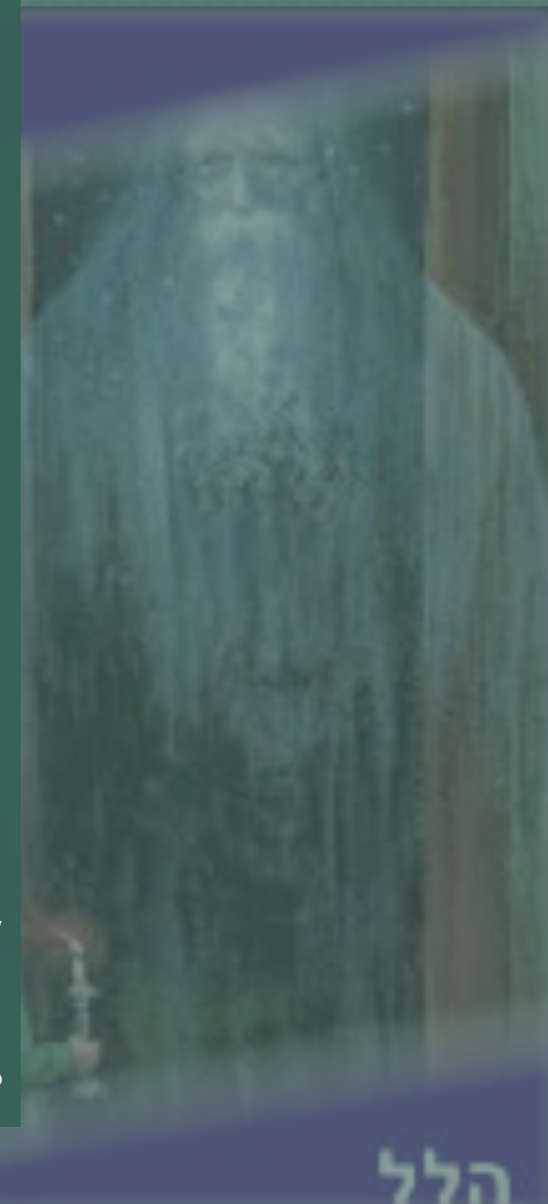
The psalm
sung.

A fifth of
poured
children
see if E

Elijah the Prophet,
Elijah the Tishbite,
Elijah, Elijah,
Elijah the Gileadite

Speedily and in our days,
Come to us,

With the messiah, son of David,
With the messiah, son of David.



The Seder

— [The meal ends with “the acceptance,” the confidence that God has received their worship

— [“Next year in Jerusalem”



1 Corinthians 5:6-8

“Therefore let us keep the feast”

Keeping the feast

— [As Paul says, we too must search out our lives and remove the leaven that is there

— Rooting out malice and wickedness

— Replacing it with sincerity and truth

Keeping the feast

— [We too celebrate the story of redemption from slavery

— We remember the suffering of slavery to sin

— We celebrate the redemption that only God's grace could bring

Keeping the feast

— [We too accept the responsibility of passing the story on to our children

— We live out our unique identity

— We create teaching moments and teaching events

— We answer their questions with words and actions

Keeping the feast

— [Our Passover has what theirs lacks

— They have no lamb

— We have the perfect sacrifice!

— They wait for Elijah to bring the messiah

— We worship the Messiah who came and will come again

Keeping The Feast

For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.