

Rabbi's Column

The Haggadah does not mention Moses.

In the Torah text, where Moses is mentioned a lot, Moses is quite unwilling to be God's messenger. God says that Moses is the right person for the job, despite Moses' various imperfections. Still, the Rabbis wanted to make it perfectly clear that if Moses had not been there, the Israelites would still have been freed at that time.

We actively remember each year that God remembered and acted.

As I write this, word has been received that in France, before Shabbat, Mireille K., an 85 year old Holocaust survivor was found stabbed and burned to death. May God grant strength to those who mourn her, and may her memory be for a blessing. The increase in anti-Jewish actions over the past year is our current Mitzrayim (narrow straits). To fulfill the obligation to imagine that each of us has left Mitzrayim where we were slaves in order to become free, perhaps this year, if we cannot imagine a world without violent crimes, perhaps we can imagine a world where crimes are not directed at somebody because of a group they belong to or are part of.

May all of our preparations for Passover proceed as smoothly as we wish.