

4 Sons

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Source: <http://www.happyassover.net/the-four-sons.html> , Ms. Dubow



Every son poses a different question about the Passover festival and each of the four sons is a different type of a Jewish person, depending upon the question asked by the son about the festival of Passover. In the Haggadah, the four sons are the wise, wicked, simple and the one who does not know how to ask.

The **wise son** is a genuine individual with intellectual curiosity, is not at all rebellious but is religious. He puts forward the question 'What is the meaning of the testimonies, statutes and laws which the Lord has commanded us?'

The **wicked son** is intentionally vague and haughtily puts up the question 'What does this service mean to you?' By doing so, the wicked son makes an attempt to separate himself from the Jewish community.

The **simple son** is unsophisticated and has a child-like attitude in educating himself about Judaism. He plainly puts forward the question 'What is this?' He is not intellectual, but has a kind and generous heart and knows about Judaism from experience.

The fourth son is the **one who does not know how to ask** and is least bothered about Judaism; he does not want to learn and does not listen.

Discussion Question: Who could each son represent in today's world?