

# Conclusion

Contributed by [Jewish Guy](#)

Source: Velveteen Rabbi

Tonight we have acknowledged our ancestors. We vow that we will not allow their stories, their experiences, their wisdom to fade. These are our legacy, which we will study and teach to our friends and children. The task of liberation is long, and it is work we ourselves must do. As it is written in *Pirke Avot*, a collection of rabbinic wisdom: "It is not incumbent upon us to finish the task, but neither may we refrain from beginning it."

## Next Year In...

It is traditional to end a seder with *L'shanah ha-ba'ah b'Yerushalayim*—Next Year in Jerusalem! The call speaks to a feeling of exile which characterized the Jewish Diaspora for centuries. How might we understand this today? A close look at the word *Yerushalayim* suggests an answer. The name can be read as deriving from *Ir Shalem* ("City of Wholeness") or *Ir Shalom* ("City of Peace"). No matter where we are or what our politics, we all slip into exile from the state of wholeness and unity which only connection with our Source can provide. Next year, wherever we are, may we be whole and at peace.