# Why Matza and Not Bread

**Question:** Why didn't the Israelites bake bread (the *Torah* says that they did not have time for the dough to rise)? They knew 14 days ahead of time (on *Rosh Chodesh Nisan*) that they would be leaving, and they knew it would be middle of night (since God said that is when they would leave).
**Answer:** The Israelites did not do anything to prepare, except what God told them to do: the *Passover offering* and putting blood on their doorposts.

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