

## Dayenu

God has bestowed many favors upon us.  
Had He brought us out of Egypt, and not executed judgments against the Egyptians,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He executed judgments against the Egyptians, and not their gods,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He executed judgments against their gods and not put to death their firstborn,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He put to death their firstborn, and not given us their riches,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He given us their riches, and not split the Sea for us,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He split the Sea for us, and not led us through it on dry land,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He led us through it on dry land, and not sunk our foes in it,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He sunk our foes in it, and not satisfied our needs in the desert for forty years,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He satisfied our needs in the desert for forty years, and not fed us the manna,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He fed us the manna, and not given us the Sabbath,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He given us the Sabbath, and not brought us to Mount Sinai,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He brought us to Mount Sinai, and not given us the Torah,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He given us the Torah, and not brought us into Israel,  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu  
Had He brought us into Israel, and not built the Temple for us  
It would have been enough--Dayyenu

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## Discussion

Message is: Count your blessings. Be grateful for what you get, even if it's not everything you want. Yet:

-Had He taken us out of Egypt and not split the Sea for us, how could it possibly have been enough? We would have been killed or reenslaved by the Egyptians. It would then have been better to remain as slaves in Egypt in the first place.

(-Rabbi Ashkenazi: God could have arranged for a natural way for us to cross the sea, by boat for example, and that would certainly have been enough. But

the splitting of the sea, an unnatural phenomenon, proved to us that God was directly with us.)

-Had He taken us out of Egypt and not fed us in the wilderness for 40 years, how could it possibly have been enough? We would have died. It would then have been better to remain as slaves in Egypt.

(-Same as above. He could have put natural oases on the way.)

-Had He brought us to Mount Sinai, and not given us the Torah, how could it possibly have been enough? What would then have been the point of bringing us to the mountain, and why should we be thankful for it?

(-He turned us into a unified nation by bringing us together. We are thankful for that.)

Malbim: Even if He only performed this one act it would have been enough to require us to say Hallel. Indeed, halachah says: You must say the birkat hamazon (Grace after Meals) even if you are still a little hungry after the meal.

In Talmud (Pirkei Avot 4:1), Ben Zoma says, 'Who is rich? He who is happy with his lot.'