

The Feasts: The Feast Of Unleavened Bread

March 21, 2021

What is a Biblical Feast?

Leviticus 23:1-2 - The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, These are the appointed feasts (mo'ed) of the LORD that you shall proclaim as holy (qodesh) convocations (miqra'); they are my appointed feasts (mo'ed).

"Mo'ed" - Feast - Assembly

"Qodesh" - Set Apart, Sacred, Separateness

"Miqra'" - Assembly, a calling together

A Biblical Feast was a Sacred Assembly meant to "Call To Mind" important values for the Nation.

- Fourth of July, Memorial Day, and Thanksgiving would all be similar concepts in the US.
- Every country has different "Feasts" to call people to remembrance of National Values.
- These celebrations/festivals/holidays are often tied to National Identity.

The Individual vs. the Nation

God was instituting National Values, and the Feasts were opportunities for the NATION to "REMEMBER" and "EXPERIENCE" them.

Exodus 13:6-9 - And you shall tell your son in that day, saying, 'This is done because of what the LORD did for me when I came up from Egypt.'

The Passover - "Pesach"

The feasts are grouped into three main gatherings.

The Passover, The Feast of Weeks (Pentecost), and the Feast of Tabernacles

The Passover was a series of Three Feasts -

The Passover, The Feast of Unleavened Bread, and the Feast of Firstfruits.

The Feast of Unleavened Bread

How it was Celebrated:

Preparation -

Jewish families would often start many days before the Passover, cleaning every inch of their homes to purge any potential leaven from their midst. Every area is swept with a feather, and collected with a wooden spoon. The crumbs, feather, and spoon are then wrapped up and stored for the beginning of the feast.

The Feast -

Officially started on the 15th of Nisan, the feast begins by burning the crumbs, the feather, and the spoon that had been used to "Sanctify/Cleanse" the home. Then, for the next 7 days, everyone fasts from all leavened products or anything that could potentially contain leaven. The only bread that is eaten during this time is "Matzah", or unleavened bread. At the end of the seven days, there was a feast unto the Lord.

What Does It Mean?

- **Leaven = Sin and it's corrupting influence.**

Mark 8:15 - "...beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod."

Galatians 5:9 - "a little leaven, leavens the whole lump."

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

- **The Removal of Leaven = Genuine Repentance / The Burning of the Feather, Spoon, and Crumbs = The Judgement/Destruction of Sin / 7 Days = Continuous Faithfulness**

Matthew 3:8 - "Bear Fruit in keeping with repentance."

Acts 26:20 - "...I declared that they should repent and turn to God, performing deeds worthy of their repentance."

Psalm 139:23-24 - "Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the way everlasting."

7 is the number of Completeness.

- **The Matzah = Sustained by Christ**

The feast was not just an avoidance of Leaven, but rather a commitment to be sustained by that which is unleavened. We must repent and be "holy", but we also must find our sustenance in the Pure Bread of Life... Jesus Christ.