



Preparing for God's Great Passover

Passover, repeated two times in history, will soon manifest again in God's Great Passover to Come!

Passover and Its Implications for You and Me

SUNSET FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2016—Jewish families around the world begin one of the most important holiday periods of the year, recalling the ancient deliverance of the Jewish people in the book of Exodus. After having forced the ancient Israelites into slavery for many years, the Pharaoh of Egypt refused to obey God and let the people go, and the consequential 10th plague (killed firstborn children with the exception of the children in Jewish families, whose homes were *passed over*.) remembers the occasion of the famous first *Passover* from Death! During the day before, Jewish families may observe the Fast of the Firstborn. Friday, April 3rd, after sunset, Passover will commence.

As Passover begins, Seders, meals with the Passover story, special readings, songs and answering questions of the children are held in Jewish households everywhere. Attending a Passover Seder is one of the most universal expressions of Judaism. The Passover period of seven (7) days will end at sundown on Friday, April 30, 2016



There is so much rich teaching and miracles associated with the Passover Feast, one could get overwhelmed on where to start. Mainly, though, the Passover Feast is a Marking of time, a season, a time of deliverance and a "New Beginning," which we all can enter into everyday of our lives through faith in Jesus. It is here, God declares a New Calendar, to begin counting the days, months, and years, to understand Seasons and the "Signs of the TIME!".

Passover - the Sign of the Time of Our Future

Passover reveals God's desire for Deliverance, Miracles, and Worship. The Passover Meal reveals God's Plan in a past, present, and future presentation. The meal presents Israel's literal deliverance from Egypt (past), our deliverance from Satan through Jesus Christ's blood (present), and the Great Passover to be taken place when Jesus returns for his church (future).

1. Deliverance of Israel from Egypt is the central point of Jewish history & Worship.
2. Calvary – Deliverance from Sin and Satan is the central point in Christian Faith.
3. Both look to a future event of Deliverance and Salvation from the evil of the World.

God's Command to Remove Leaven from our Homes and Lives

Today, I would like to present God's design of Preparation for His Passover – not only from the past and present, but for God's Great Passover which is yet to come.

God Commands No Leaven (yeast) to be found in our homes!

Ex 12:14-16; 14 "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD--a lasting ordinance. 15 For seven days you are to eat bread made without yeast. On the first day remove the yeast from your houses, for whoever eats anything with yeast in it from the first day through the seventh must be cut off from Israel.

Ex 12:17-20; 17 "Celebrate the Feast of Unleavened Bread, because it was on this very day that I brought your divisions out of Egypt. Celebrate this day as a lasting ordinance for the generations to come. 18 In the first month you are to eat bread made without yeast, from the evening of the fourteenth day until the evening of the twenty-first day. 19 For seven days no yeast is to be found in your houses. And whoever eats anything with yeast in it must be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is an alien or native-born. 20 Eat nothing made with yeast. Wherever you live, you must eat unleavened bread."



We need to first understand, "What is Leaven?"

Leaven - is an agent which creates the action of fermentation. Leaven in the Bible was "yeast, a little bit of sourdough", when placed in a batch of dough has the action of fermentation. Leaven puffs up and causes the dough to rise.

Leaven adds volume but no weight!

It works silently, secretly, and gradually, until the whole lump is leavened. It so permeates the batch of dough until it all becomes leaven, like itself. It puffs up to multiple times the size of the original dough but never adds weight. So it is with Pride - it puffs up, but adds no character weight to us!

In almost all scripture but one, leaven is used to symbolize sin, the energy of sin, that which is evil, either in doctrine or practice. The Command from God to put away ALL LEAVEN is very serious!!



Jewish History and Tradition Bring Insight

Bread without leaven is called "Massa". Massa is the Hebrew expression or word for "sweet" which means "without leaven". Thus the word "Matzos", the name of unleavened bread used in every Jewish Passover Meal. Matzos, represents *the speed of God's deliverance!* As the Children of Israel fled from Egypt, they did not have time for their dough to rise. Instead, the hot desert sun baked it flat as they left Egypt.



In ancient times, Matza was round, flat, and irregular in shape. Today it is square. The piercing prevents excessive bubbling of the dough, causing the uneven browning seen as stripes.

During the preparation before and during Passover, no leaven was to be found in anyone's house. This was so important command to follow that God's penalty was to be cut off from the congregation of Israel. (Separation from Kingdom of God)

In the Home, the Jewish head of household, the Husband Strongman, was responsible to remove and cleanse the home of all leaven. For days and weeks, a mother or woman of the house, at her husband direction and help, would be busy giving the house a thorough cleaning, removing all leaven from their home. (We called this spring-cleaning when I was growing up!) Leaven in bread, baking soda, grains that could be converted into leaven, etc. had to be totally removed from the home.

They would heat pots and pans, put utensils in boiling water, to remove all leaven that might have clung to them before they could be used for cooking for the feast of Unleavened Bread.



It is **ONLY AFTER** all leaven was removed from the home, that the "Matzos", Unleavened Bread, was brought into the home. Leaven and Un-leaven could not cohabitate in the home as the same time!

Jesus is our Matzos – Unleavened "Sweet" Bread of Life!

As believers, Jesus is our Matzos, our unleavened bread and our Savior with no leaven (sin), whom we think of as we eat our matzos bread in (Passover) communion. Through prayer & faith, Jesus delivers us from evil with great speed – in a moment! His blood removes and cleanses us from all leaven. He comes into our life through His Spirit – the Unleavened Bread. We are to not have both leaven and unleavened bread (life) in our lives. This is why Jesus and Paul taught on leaven

Seven (7) Types of Leaven taught by Jesus & Paul: Literal Leaven Pointed to Spiritual Leaven

Jesus and Paul gave teachings on seven types of leaven in our life to beware of and to remove if detected. Jesus taught on the first three as Doctrinal beliefs we must not adopt!

Evil Doctrine–Jesus states 3 Types of Leaven that are Extremely Dangerous

1. **The Leaven of Herod - Herod Feared God's Word but did NOT REPENT! He Feared The Opinion of Others over Obedience to God.** Mark 8:14-15, Story of Herod: Mark 6:14-28

Mark 8:14 **The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, except for one loaf, they had with them in the boat. 15 "Be careful," Jesus warned them. "Watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees and that of Herod." NIV**



Herod was active in a sensual relationship with his brother's wife and loved power. (This is forbidden in Exodus) Yet, he knew the word of God came from John's rebuke of this relationship and feared him. But he refused to repent. Then when presented with an opportunity to save John, he feared the opinions of others more, was moved by sensual desires, and became a murderer.

Today's society is much like Herod's life. It is very sensual, promoting sex without marriage, power without God, and fear of others more than God. The question is, as believers, are we in any of these situations? *Do we fear God more than man???*

2. **The Leaven of Sadducees: They did NOT believe in Resurrection or the Supernatural!** Matt 16:6-12, Matt 3:7, Mark 12:18, Acts 5:17, 23:6-8.

Matt 16:6 **"Be careful," Jesus said to them. "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." NIV**

Matt 16:11-12 **How is it you don't understand that I was not talking to you about bread? But be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees." 12 Then they (disciples) understood that he was not telling them to guard against the yeast used in bread, but against the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees. NIV**

Acts 23:8 **For the Sadducees say that there is NO resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit; but the Pharisees confess both. ASV**

The Sadducee party came from the ranks of the priests, the party of the Pharisees from the scribes. The characteristic feature of the Pharisees arises from their legal tendency, and the Sadducees views came from their social position.



The Sadducees religious doctrine did not believe in the supernatural, in the spirit, in angels, or in the bodily resurrection. This message and belief of leaven are still with us today!!!!

We MUST BELIEVE God for His miracles to heal and touch our society, family, and ourselves. Jesus rose from the dead, He has power over death and the grave. God has not left us to our pain and sickness, He offers us His power to heal, comfort, direct and fulfill our every need! More than that, He desires to know us as personal friends!

3. The Leaven of the Pharisees: **Hypocrisy-Believed approval came through works!**

Luke 12:1, Matt 16:6,12, Mark 6:16

Luke 12:1-3, 12:1 **Meanwhile, when a crowd of many thousands had gathered, so that they were trampling on one another, Jesus began to speak first to his disciples, saying: "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. 2 There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. 3 What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs.**

Hypocrisy – The Pharisees had all the right outside actions that looked very holy, but their hearts were proud and full of envy. They were full of KNOWLEDGE, but low on MERCY. They "Say things but do not Do them." They do not practice what they preach! They put heavy burdens of rules and regulations upon the people instead of love and relationship to God.

They were very religious, attended services, fasted, tithed, believed in the supernatural, believed in the scriptures but didn't really get the message! They judged themselves by their own works. ***They tried to work their way to heaven!!!***

Cain did this. He offered the fruit and produce from his hard work and occupation. God rejected his offering. Cain did not repent. God wanted a substitute blood sacrifice, not Cain's work or personal sacrifice. ***"Obedience is better than Sacrifice."*** In our current time, how many times have you, yourself, or heard someone else, speak judgment over someone in the church by how much they do, or don't do in the church.

2 Cor 10:12-13, states when we compare ourselves among ourselves, the bible states this is unwise, foolish! Any thing we speak or whisper will one day be revealed to all. Do we want our comments known to all???



We need to remove the Pharisee leaven from our lives. Please take a moment and ask God to show you any leaven that needs to be removed in your life. Then pray, repenting over what He shows you, and take any actions he directs to so you will be cleaned, and the FULLNESS of the Lord will be unobstructed to shine through you!



Paul taught about four more types of leaven

4. **The Leaven of Galatia.** Legalism – A mixture of Grace and Works (Law) Gal 3:3, 5:3-26

Gal 3:3 Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort?

The Galatians had started in the faith of Jesus then teachers came and put many Jewish laws and rituals on them, leading them back into the law. They soon began to follow the rituals instead of being lead by the Spirit. God wants his laws to show us we need him. For example, He tells us not to lie; He wants us to WANT not to lie, not judge words by our mind. We need the power of God to convict us if we say the wrong thing, which may be entirely different than our mind will think. To offer answers to any situation different than the word is a lie. This is walking by the Spirit of the Lord. Many obey laws with no change in their motives or heart and by the flesh thoughts which are limited to our own knowledge. The Spirit goes beyond our knowledge.

God states that we know actions that are NOT of His Spirit!

Gal 5:19-21: 19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; 20 idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions 21 and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

God wants us to be lead by the spirit so much that the following flows out of us.

Gal 5:22-25 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. 24 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. 25 Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. 26 Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.

5. **Leaven of Corinth: Very Sensual-Sexually Immoral, Greedy, Idolater, Slanderer, Drunkard or Swindler**

I Cor 5:9 I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people, 10 not at all meaning the people of this world who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. 11 But now I am writing you that you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater, or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler. With such a man do not even eat. 12 What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13 God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."



The Corinthians were very sensual. They were engaging in all types of relationships that they were not to be in such as someone with his father's wife. The church did not deal with this situation, which is why Paul called them arrogant, afraid to remove such a person. In this situation, Paul refers to a person's sin as the leaven who could leaven the whole lump (congregation). This situation is the reason that Paul said not to associate with immoral people of the church. A person in the congregation that confesses Jesus but partakes in immoral relationships is to be dealt with. He goes on to clarify that he does not mean immoral people in the world, those who we would reach out to, but one who is a brother or sister in the Lord. By removing the person, providing they do not repent, cleanses out the leaven.

This especially reminds me of the latest fade of “tolerance,” in many church denominations and the ordination of homosexual clergy. As you can see, God is greatly against this. In fact, God’s answer is first to try to restore them, if they do not repent, then REMOVE them! If we don’t, God considers us arrogant, and their behavior ultimately will contaminate the entire congregation!

He goes on to explain that Jesus is our Passover, that the Corinthians are *unleavened bread because of Him*, sweet and cleansed, to have sincerity and truth among them.

I wonder, do we really understand our thoughts and actions, of greed, gossip, taking money illegally, and drunkenness, etc., creates a plague or infection among those we are around! Even in the Old Testament, they murmured against Moses and Aaron, and a plague broke out among the congregation. 14,700 people died before they stop it through an offering of repentance. Num 16:46-49



These instructions of removing leaven are examples to obey, to help sustain us to the end of the age!

**Repentance is a Holy Event!
To Obey God by Faith, For He is our Answer.
He will preserve us in the Coming Days!**



1 Cor 10:6-12: 6 Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. 7 Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. 8 Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day, three and twenty thousand. 9 Neither let us make trial of the Lord, as some of them made trial, and perished by the serpents. 10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them murmured, and perished by the destroyer. 11 Now these things happened unto them by way of example; and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come. 12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. ASV

Here God is giving us an insight into the future. The ends of the ages will come through the great lawlessness, murders, sensual, drunken, gossips; acts of evil will bring great destruction.

God wants us to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread Every Day!

1 Cor 5:6 Your boasting is not good. Don't you know that a little yeast works through the whole batch of dough? 7 Get rid of the old yeast that you may be a new batch without yeast-as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb has been sacrificed. 8 Therefore let us keep the Festival, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with bread without yeast, the bread of sincerity and truth.

- 6. The leaven (yeast) of MALICE** - The basic meaning of this word is "deceit" or "deception," and "falsehood." Vicious motive and the action to exercise the motive.
- 7. The leaven (yeast) of WICKEDNESS** –depravity, plots of evil, and a state of being: man's own deliberate choice of doing evil over doing good.

God wants us to replace our motives of Malice and Wickedness with Unleavened (no sin in these motives) Sincerity and Truth. It is interesting to me that this is what most young people look for, truth and sincerity. Let look at their meanings which is beautiful!

Unleavened Bread of SINCERITY – means without blame, pure, without corruption. It also gives the understanding of judged in the light – it is clear, clean, made manifest.

Unleavened Bread of Truth – primary idea of firmness, stability, faithfulness and honest, able to withstand the greatest attack and not move or break! Truth, itself, is a Person, Jesus Christ. In essence, it is how things really are since it flows from God and declared good.

Passover, the Deliverance of one Nation, Israel, from death and from a Tyrant Ruler, Pharaoh, is a constant passion and action of .God, today He is moving everyday to free individuals from bondages, wounds, and cleanses our conscience from guilt and shame.



Every day is open for us *enter into Passover* from death, disease, sickness, shame, depression, loneliness, etc. by the blood of Jesus shed on Calvary, and his resurrection from the dead with many profound proofs!

Then we are to live an unleavened life, without malice or wickedness, by eating our Daily Bread, communing with the Father through the Power of prayer and leading of the Spirit daily, bringing fullness of Joy, Peace, Sincerity, Truth and many miracles.

Like A Thief In The Night

If one hears the Spirit's voice and obeys, they will not be still long enough to have leaven form in their life. Just as the Hebrew nation ate in haste and was ready to move at a moment notice, so should we eat of the Lamb, Jesus Christ, and be ready to move by the Spirit at a moment's notice!



The Hebrew's redemption came quickly. So quickly, that the bread was unable to rise. It is no different today; our redemption will come quickly, like a thief in the night! But for those who worship God, will be like day, we will know His coming, we are sons and daughters of Light!

I Thessalonians 5:1-5, **1. Now as to the times and the epochs, brethren, you have no need of anything to be written to you. ² For you yourselves know full well that the day of the Lord ^[a] will come just like a thief in the night. ³ While they are saying, "Peace and safety!" then ^[b] destruction ^[c] will come upon them suddenly like labor pains upon a woman with child, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you ^[d] like a thief; ⁵ for you are all sons of light and sons of day.**

A Call to give Hope & Strength to the Hungry



**May His Presence Surround You and Comfort You
this Passover/Easter Season**

**May God Bless You and Your Home,
Kent & Christie Glesener**

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