

I. The Feast of Unleavened Bread

- A. Context: Passover
- B. Leavened bread was what people normally ate. (Leviticus 7:11-15; 23:17).
- C. The Feast (15-21 Nisan)
- D. Comes up again (Exodus 34:18,25; Leviticus 23:5-6; Numbers 28:16-25; Deuteronomy 16:1-8; 1 Chronicles 35:1-19)
- E. In other sacrifices and offerings (Exodus 29:2,23; Leviticus 2:4-10; 6:14-18; 7:11-15; 8:2,26; 10:12-13; Numbers 6:15,19)
- F. Unleavened bread in the Old Testament means three things:
 - i. the suddenness of Israel's departure from Egypt
 - ii. the newness of God's salvation, overturning and rejecting the old life
 - iii. the purity of God's people

II. Do we live as if Christ is our Passover lamb?

- A. "Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth." (1 Corinthians 5:6-8)
 - i. *living as if Christ is our Passover means putting aside sin, and calling one another to do the same, because we really are new people*
- B. "Watch and beware the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees," (Matthew 16:6)
 - i. *living as if Christ is our Passover means prizing mercy over respectability*
- C. "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod," (Mark 8:15)
 - i. *living as if Christ is our Passover means using your authority as Christ did, in self-sacrifice, not self-interest*
- D. "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy," (Luke 12:1)
 - i. *living as if Christ is our Passover means living a life of obedience even (especially!) when only God sees*
- E. "This persuasion is not from him who calls you. A little leaven leavens the whole lump." (Galatians 5:8-9; see also Ephesians 2:10; Hebrews 12:2)
 - i. *living as if Christ is our Passover means always keeping in mind that everything from forgiveness to a changed life is **his** gift*