

Deuteronomy 16:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou mayest not sacrifice the passover within any of thy gates, which the LORD thy God giveth thee:

Analysis

And there shall be no leavened bread seen with thee in all thy coast seven days. The comprehensive removal of leaven required thorough searching of all Israelite territory. This total purging symbolized complete separation from sin and corruption.

The phrase no leavened bread seen with thee indicates not private tolerance of leaven but public, visible commitment to unleavened observance. Covenant obedience was community practice, not merely private piety. The whole nation participated in symbolic purification.

Seven days of unleavened eating extended beyond the single Passover night to a full week of memorial. This duration impressed upon Israel the comprehensive nature of their separation from Egypt and commitment to holiness.

Paul applies this spiritually - Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven...but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth (1 Corinthians 5:8). Christian life should be continuous Passover observance through genuine holiness.

Historical Context

The seven-day Feast of Unleavened Bread began immediately after Passover evening and continued through the following week. This combined observance became one of Israel's three pilgrimage festivals when all males appeared before

the Lord at the central sanctuary.

Meticulous removal of all leaven from homes required searching by candlelight to ensure complete purification, creating powerful visual lesson about thorough dealing with sin.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 – God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. What does comprehensive removal of leaven teach about dealing with sin?
2. Why was public, visible commitment to unleavened observance important?
3. How does the seven-day duration emphasize the thoroughness of separation from Egypt?
4. In what sense should Christian life be continuous Passover observance?
5. What does Paul's application of unleavened bread teach about church purity?

Interlinear Text

ל א	תּוֹךְ ל	לִזְבֵּחַ	אַת	הַפָּסָח	בְּאַמְדָן	שַׁעַר יְהֻ
H3808	Thou mayest	not sacrifice	H853	the passover	within any	of thy gates
H3201	H2076		H6453		H259	H8179

אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה הִיא אֱלֹהֶיךָ וְנִתְּנֶה לְךָ: **which the LORD** **thy God** **giveth** **H834** **H3068** **H430** **H5414** **H0**