

Exodus 12:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

Analysis

The seven-day 'Feast of Unleavened Bread' (chag hamatzot) immediately follows Passover, extending the celebration. 'Unleavened bread' (matzot) symbolizes purity and haste—no time for dough to rise, no leaven (corruption) allowed. Paul explicitly applies this: 'Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: therefore let us keep the feast...with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth' (1 Cor 5:7-8).

Historical Context

Seven days of eating unleavened bread recalled the hurried departure from Egypt (Exodus 12:39). The feast begins on the fifteenth of Abib, immediately after Passover's fourteenth.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does removing leaven from your home picture the Christian's call to purge sin from your life?
2. What does the seven-day duration teach about sanctification as an extended process following initial redemption?

Interlinear Text

יָוֹם	אֵף	לְ	לֶחֶם	מֵצוֹת	יָוֹם	שִׁבְעַת
even	day		unleavened bread	for whosoever eateth		Seven
H389	H3117		H4682	H398		H7651
כָּל	בֵּן	מִבֵּיתֶךָ	שָׂא	רֶ	תִּשָּׁב	יָתוֹ
from the first	ye shall put away	leaven	out of your houses			
H7223	H3588	H1004	H7603		H7673	
הָהוּא	הַנֶּפֶשׁ	וְנִכְרְתָהּ	הָ	חֵמֶץ	לְ	אֵף
that soul	shall be cut	leavened bread	for whosoever eateth			
H1931	H5315	H3772	H2557			H398
הַשְּׁבִעִי:	יָוֹם	עַד	הָרִאשׁוֹן	יָוֹם	מִשָּׂרָא	לְ
until the seventh	day	from the first	day	off from Israel		
H7637	H3117	H5704	H7223	H3478	H3117	

Additional Cross-References

Genesis 17:14 (Parallel theme): And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.

Deuteronomy 16:3 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt eat no leavened bread with it; seven days shalt thou eat unleavened bread therewith, even the bread of affliction; for thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt in haste: that thou mayest remember the day when thou camest forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of thy life.

Exodus 23:15 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

Exodus 34:18 (Parallel theme): The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep. Seven days thou shalt eat unleavened bread, as I commanded thee, in the time of the month Abib: for in the month Abib thou camest out from Egypt.

Numbers 9:13 (Parallel theme): But the man that is clean, and is not in a journey, and forbeareth to keep the passover, even the same soul shall be cut off from among his people: because he brought not the offering of the LORD in his appointed season, that man shall bear his sin.

Deuteronomy 16:8 (Parallel theme): Six days thou shalt eat unleavened bread: and on the seventh day shall be a solemn assembly to the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work therein.

Numbers 28:17 (Parallel theme): And in the fifteenth day of this month is the feast: seven days shall unleavened bread be eaten.

Exodus 34:25 (Parallel theme): Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven; neither shall the sacrifice of the feast of the passover be left unto the morning.

Exodus 12:8 (Parallel theme): And they shall eat the flesh in that night, roast with fire, and unleavened bread; and with bitter herbs they shall eat it.