

Exodus 13:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days; and there shall no leavened bread be seen with thee, neither shall there be leaven seen with thee in all thy quarters.

Analysis

The command 'Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days' requires active participation—not merely avoiding leaven but eating matzah. The comprehensive prohibition 'neither shall there be leaven seen with thee' and 'in all thy quarters' extends through all territory. This visible absence of leaven throughout Israel's land made the entire nation a testimony to purity. Total removal, not merely concealment, is required.

Historical Context

The search for and removal of leaven (bedikat chametz) became an elaborate ritual. Every corner of every house was searched to ensure complete compliance.

Related Passages

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does requiring leaven's absence from 'all thy quarters' challenge compartmentalizing life into sacred and secular?

2. What sins are you hiding rather than completely removing from your life?

Interlinear Text

מִצּוֹת	יֵאָכֵל	אֶת	שִׁבְעַת	יָמִים	וְלֹא	יֵרָאֵה
Unleavened bread	shall be eaten	H853	seven	days	H3808	be seen
H4682	H398		H7651	H3117		H7200
לֶב	חֵמֶץ		וְלֹא	יֵרָאֵה	לֶב	
H0	and there shall no leavened bread	H3808	be seen	H0		
	H2557		H7200			
שָׂאֵר	בְּכָל		גְּבֻלָּתְךָ:			
with thee neither shall there be leaven	H3605	with thee in all thy quarters				
H7603		H1366				

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 12:19 (Parallel theme): Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.