

Exodus 34:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

The Feast of Unleavened Bread (חַג מַצּוֹת, chag matsot) commemorates the Exodus when Israel left Egypt 'in haste' without time for bread to rise. Observed in Abib (אַבִיב, aviv—later called Nisan), the month of barley harvest and Israel's redemption. Eating unleavened bread for seven days symbolizes separation from Egypt (leaven representing sin, corruption). This feast points forward to Christ, our Passover (1 Cor 5:7-8).

Historical Context

The Feast of Unleavened Bread immediately followed Passover, forming an eight-day celebration (Passover on 14th Abib, Unleavened Bread on 15th-21st). This was one of three pilgrimage festivals requiring male attendance at the tabernacle/temple.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does removing leaven symbolize spiritual cleansing and new beginnings?
2. What 'old leaven' (patterns, habits, influences) do you need to purge from your life?

Interlinear Text

יְהִי יָמֶנֶה שְׁבֻעָת תִּשְׁמַר מִצּוֹת

H853 The feast of unleavened bread shalt thou keep Seven days

H2282

H4682

H8104

H7651

H3117

לְמֹעֵד צִוְתִּי אֲשֶׁר תְּאַכֵּל מִצּוֹת

thou shalt eat of unleavened bread as I commanded thee in the time

H398

H4682

H834

as I commanded

thee in the time

H4150

בְּחַדְשָׁה בְּאַב יְבִרְכֶּךָ יְהִי אַתָּה

for in the month Abib thou camest out

H2320

Abib

H3588

for in the month

Abib

H3318

מִמִּצְרַיִם:

from Egypt

H4714

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 13:4 (Parallel theme): This day came ye out in the month Abib.

Leviticus 23:6 (Parallel theme): And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the feast of unleavened bread unto the LORD: seven days ye must eat unleavened bread.