

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 (אֲבִיב, 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

אֶת H853	חַג H2282	מִצּוֹת H4682	תִּשְׁמֹר H8104	שִׁבְעַת H7651	יָמִים H3117
The feast	of unleavened bread	shalt thou keep	Seven	days	
תֹּאכַל H398	מִצּוֹת H4682	אֲשֶׁר H834	צִוֵּיתִי H6680	לְמוֹעֵד H4150	
thou shalt eat	of unleavened bread	as I commanded	thee in the time		
בְּחֹדֶשׁ H2320	הָאֵבִיב H24	כִּי H3588	בְּחֹדֶשׁ H2320	הָאֵבִיב H24	יָצָאתָ H3318
for in the month	Abib	for in the month	Abib	thou camest out	
מִמִּצְרָיִם: H4714	from Egypt				

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.