

# Numbers 28:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And in the fifteenth day of this month is the feast: seven days shall unleavened bread be eaten.

## Analysis

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**In the fifteenth day of this month** (בָּעָשָׂר יוֹם, bachamishah asar yom)—Passover on the 14th was followed immediately by the Chag HaMatzot (חַג הַמַּצּוֹת), the Feast of Unleavened Bread, beginning on the 15th of Nisan/Aviv. While Passover commemorated the death angel's "passing over" Hebrew homes (Exodus 12), the seven days of unleavened bread celebrated Israel's hasty exodus from Egypt.

**Seven days shall unleavened bread be eaten**—leaven (שֵׂאָר, se'or) symbolized sin and corruption (1 Corinthians 5:6-8). Eating unleavened bread represented purged lives and new beginnings. Paul explicitly connects this feast to Christ as "our Passover" sacrificed for us, calling believers to keep perpetual feast with "the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth" (1 Corinthians 5:7-8).

## Historical Context

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Passover/Unleavened Bread was the first of three pilgrimage festivals requiring male Israelites to appear before the Lord in Jerusalem (Deuteronomy 16:16). Jesus was crucified during Passover (John 19:14), fulfilling the festival's typology. The early church maintained this feast (Acts 12:3, 20:6), though controversy arose over Gentile observance (Galatians 4:10; Colossians 2:16).

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does the seven-day feast (versus one-day Passover) emphasize that redemption requires both initial deliverance and ongoing sanctification?
2. In what ways might "leaven" (sin) subtly infiltrate your life, requiring spiritual house-cleaning?
3. How does 1 Corinthians 5:7-8 transform this historical feast into a present-tense Christian reality?

## Interlinear Text

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וְבָתְמִשׁ	רַ	עַשְׁ	יְמִ	לְחֵ	לְחֵ	בְּזִהְ	בְּזִהְ	שְׁבֻעַ	תַּ
And in the fifteenth		H6240	day	of this month		H2088	is the feast	seven	
	H2568		H3117		H2320		H2282		H7651
יְמִ	לְחֵ	מַצְ	וְתַ	אָכְלָ:					
day	shall unleavened bread	be eaten							
H3117	H4682								

## Additional Cross-References

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**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.