

The Feasts of Israel “Feast of Unleavened Bread”

The Feast of the Unleavened Bread begins the next night after the Passover and celebrates Israel deliverance from bondage in Egypt.

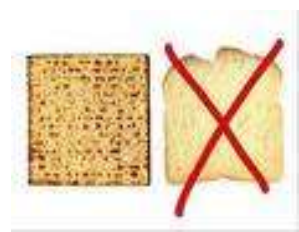
Lev. 23:6



The Feasts of Israel

“Feast of Unleavened Bread”

A morning and evening sacrifice was offered. Only unleavened bread is eaten and meat of the sacrifices. Exodus 12:19 states the seriousness of the commandment from God. *“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.”*



The Feasts of Israel

“Feast of Unleavened Bread”

Leaven is symbolic of sin and the Passover was a memorial to God’s delivering them from slavery in Egypt, but also a time of repentance and the putting away of sin. Galatians 5:9 says, “A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.” Leaven when placed in a lump of flour which begin to grow and spread until it permeates the whole lump. The picture is that of one diligently searching for and getting rid of sin even the smallest sin in one’s life. Even as a little leaven (sin) will spoils the whole of the lump, therefore any and all sin is to be confessed and put out of one’s life.



The Feasts of Israel

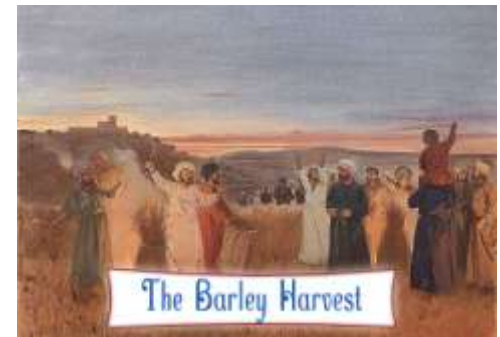
In the Lord Yahsua's supper, the believer is to examine (1 Cor. 11:28) and to judge (1 Cor. 11:31) himself in regard to having unconfessed or remaining sin in his life.

The regular daily sacrifice was offered after the special offering. The 1st and 7th day like a Sabbath everyone rested with the exception of those preparing the food.



The Feasts of Israel

The 2nd day a barley sheaf of the new harvest was symbolically offered to Yahweh, by waving it before the Lord (not burned). Those attending offer a freewill burnt offering of not less than sixteen grains of corn, a festive offering of not less than 32 grains, and a peace or joy offering (Deut. 27:7) determined by the giver. (Deut. 16:16-17)



The Feasts of Israel

1 Corinthians 5:7-8. Paul referred to the Passover and Unleaven Bread.

“Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us: Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.”



The Feasts of Israel

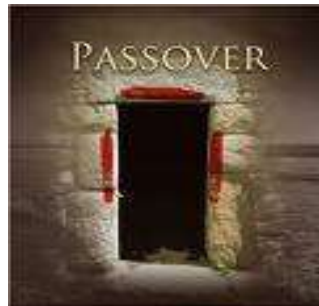
The History of the Passover.

The Bible records that the Passover was kept three times until they entered the Promised Land.

Leaving Egypt (Exodus 12:28)

The Second year after the Exodus (Numbers 9:1-5).

When they entered Canaan (Exodus 13:5).



The Feasts of Israel

It is recorded as being observed only three times between entering the Promised Land and the Babylonian captivity.

Under Solomon. (2 Chron. 8:13)

Hezekiah and Josiah (2 Kings 23:21, 2 Chron. 35:1-9)

After the postexilic period (after the Babylonian captivity) it became more regular.



The Feasts of Israel

Yahshua was born in the city, whose name means: “House of Bread”
Bethlehem.

John 12:24 *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.”*



The Feasts of Israel

Yahweh fed the Israelites in the wilderness with manna and He feeds believers “the bread of life.” John 6:48

Unleaven bread pictures the suffering of the Messiah. Isaiah 53 prophesied of the suffering of the Messiah. The unleaven bread used in the Passover and during the feast of the Unleaven Bread is called “Matzo or Matsoh”.



The Feasts of Israel

Matzah has stripes

Isaiah 53:5 *“But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

1 Peter 2:24 *“Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.*



The Feasts of Israel

Matzoh has holes:

Zech. 12:10 And I will pour upon the house of David, and upon the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the spirit of grace and of supplications: and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for *his* only *son*, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for *his* firstborn.

John 19:37 And again another scripture saith, They shall look on him whom they pierced.



The Feasts of Israel

Matzoh has no leaven:

Hebrews 4:15 *“For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”*

Hebrews 9:28 *“So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.”*



The Feasts of Israel

The bread is placed in the middle section of the linen cloth with three pockets.

Most Jews have no idea why the Matzoh Tash (Tash) has three pockets. Some rabbis teach that these represent Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; others say they portray the unity of worship -- priests, Levites and congregation; still others say they stand for the crowns of learning, priesthood and kingship. But there's no explanation for breaking and hiding the middle one. It involves the "bread of heaven," spoken of in John 6:32-59. He was beaten, crucified, buried and then raised.



The Feasts of Israel

A verse that is very holy to the Jews is the *shemah* of Deuteronomy 6:4-9,

"Hear, O Israel: the LORD thy God is one LORD. And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children ... and thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thy hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates."

The Feasts of Israel

That word "one" in the Hebrew is *echad*, meaning a composite oneness, not just the number one. It's the same word used in Genesis 2:24, where Adam and Eve are said to be "one flesh," and in Ezekiel 37 to describe the two sticks becoming one. Here it is describing the unity of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit -- the fullness of the Godhead, acting as one. Yahshua is the Second person of the Godhead and He was "broken" for our transgressions.



The Feasts of Israel

This is the true meaning of the unity of the three matzohs in the *matzoh tash*. And which of these is the middle one? That is obviously God the Son -- Yahshua the Messiah, our Lord. Let's see how He could be represented by a piece of unleavened bread. Read John 6:32-59. Verse 35 says,

“And Yahshua said unto them, "I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."



The Feasts of Israel

Yahweh subtly emphasized this truth in choosing the spot where His Son would be born. The meaning of the name "Bethlehem" is "house of bread." (By the way, the name "Nazareth" means "branch." That meaning clarifies the prophecy in Isaiah 11:1.)



The Feasts of Israel

Now we can see why the middle matzah is broken during the Passover, then hidden or buried.

Yahshua's body was broken for us, He died, and was buried. But He didn't stay dead -- He came back to life, came out of the tomb! That is represented by bringing out that matzah later in the ceremony. It is then broken into pieces, and passed out to each person. And this is the exact spot during the Last Supper, when Yahshua said, *"This is my body which is given for you."*



The Feasts of Israel

But why isn't the sacrificed lamb still used? And how did matzahs come to prominence?

Deuteronomy 12:11-14 says that people were not to offer sacrifices except at the location that Yahweh chose. Other scriptures make it clear that He chose the Temple site on Mount Moriah in Jerusalem.

When the Roman army, under Titus, destroyed the Temple in A.D.70, there was no more acceptable place for sacrifice of the lamb. That's why today's Passover meals don't include the meat of a lamb, merely a symbolic shank bone.



The Feasts of Israel

Yashua was buried at sundown of the Passover Day.

1. Why did Christ died so quickly. Normally it took three days. Person died slowly, little by little.

2. The Centurion did not think Christ was dead in six hours, he pieced His side.

3. Yahshua died in time to be buried at sundown that day. He was placed on the stake (pole) at 9 AM and taken down at 3 PM. There was time enough to prepare the body and place it in the grave.

John 2:19 “Yahshua answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.”



The Feasts of Israel

The feast lasts seven days. It was one of the three feasts to be physically attended by all male Israelites physically able to do so. (Ex. 23:17, Deut. 16:16) Feasts of pilgrimage upon which the Israelites were to return to Jerusalem was Unleaven Bread, Tabernacles and Pentecost.

Special sacrifices were offered. Numbers 28-29.



The Feasts of Israel

In the Bible, Yahweh referred to the leaven of different groups of people. These are listed as follows:

The leaven of Herod (Mark 8:14-15; 6:14-18; Matthew 2:7-12).

The leaven of the Pharisees (Mark 8:15; Matthew 16:5-12; 23:1-3; Luke 11:37-44; 12:1).

The leaven of the Sadducees (Matthew 16:6-12). The Sadducees did not believe in the supernatural. They denied the existence of the Spirit of G-d, angels, and the resurrection (Mark 12:18; Acts 23:6-8).

The leaven at Corinth. The leaven at Corinth was sensuality, chiefly fornication (1 Corinthians 4:17-21; 5:1-13; 6:1,9-11,13,16-18; 8:1; 13:4; 2 Corinthians 12:20-21).

The Feasts of Israel

How to Keep the Feast

Spiritual Application (Halacha). Spiritually, the feast is kept in sincerity and truth. Sincerity involves purity and serving Yahweh with a pure heart. It involves putting away the sin in our lives, and separating ourselves from all evil that has a corrupting influence in the life of the believer in *Yahshua*. Historically, Israel learned that keeping the feast meant a complete separation from Egypt's religion, bondage, food, and slavery, as well as its worldly glory, wisdom, and splendor.

The Feasts of Israel

The children of Israel took the dough before it was leavened because they could not tarry in Egypt. There was no time to let the leaven get in and work up the dough (Exodus [*Shemot*] 12:34,39).

As believers, we are to flee the world's ways and philosophies that are contrary to the Word of God. Sincerity (1 Corinthians 5:7-8) involves purity and sanctification, which means holiness and separation. The Bible uses water and washing to instruct us concerning sanctification and separation (Joshua 24:14; Ephesians 5:26; 6:24; Philippians 1:10; 1 Peter 2:2).

To sanctify means to make holy, to purify, or to consecrate. The believers are sanctified by obeying the entire Word of God, including the Torah and the *Tanach* (John 17:17,19; Acts 20:32; 2 Chronicles 30:15; 35:1,6; Exodus 19:10,14; 28:39-41; Leviticus 8:30; 11:44; 20:7; Hebrews 10:10,14; 1 Corinthians 1:2).

The Feasts of Israel

In First Corinthians 6:11, sanctification is connected to washing (Acts 22:16).

Historically, after Israel celebrated the Passover, they were immersed (washed) in the water of the Reed Sea (1 Corinthians 10:1-2). Likewise, after we accept the Messiah into our lives, we must immerse ourselves in studying the Bible and, by so doing, enable the knowledge of the Word of God to transform and change our lives.

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