

Unleavened Bread. WHO is it?



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For seven days after we participated in Passover, many of us will be eating unleavened bread during the Days of Unleavened Bread, not regular bread and crackers. Ezekiel 45:21 speaks of “Passover, a Feast of seven days...”. So I refer to it as “the Passover season”. But WHO does that unleavened bread that we eat, picture? I believe this study will open a lot of exciting new outlooks for many of us. It did for me, even as I prepared it.

For many years many of us believed, were taught, and I taught that it pictures US putting sin out of our lives once our sins are forgiven, pictured by Passover. But is that correct? DOES the unleavened bread we eat for a week picture US?

Unleavened bread is bread that is absent any yeast or leavening, which is usually a picture of sin, malice and wickedness (1 Cor. 5:6-8), false doctrine (Matt. 16:12-13) or even hypocrisy (Luke 12:1). All of those are things that spread quickly if allowed in. So leaven usually pictures bad stuff but not always. Yeshua also used leaven to picture the kingdom of God in that it will spread rapidly (Matthew 13:33) when his rule starts over the earth.

To help us be crystal clear who the unleavened bread represents, let me ask you:

What did we all do with our leavened products? Did we try to salvage, fix or “convert” any of it to unleavened bread? Would you have even been ABLE to pick out any of the leaven out of a leavened loaf? Of course not. ***We had to throw it all out. In terms of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, leavened products had no further use. And so then what did we do?*** We had to either bake or buy brand new bread – but this time it’s Unleavened Bread and that becomes our bread for a week.

Do you see where I’m going with this?

This next point is crucial to this theme. Remember that leaven is a type of sin.

Unleavened Bread has never before been leavened. Ever. And once unleavened bread is baked it never can be leavened, never will be leavened. So Unleavened Bread pictures a life that has never ever sinned and never ever can sin and never ever will sin.

So can that picture you and me? Who alone can be the one being pictured by Unleavened Bread during this time?

At Passover we're forgiven of all our sins by the blood of the Lamb of God (John 1:29). So it follows that we should want to live a life that is different now, living more righteously. That much was correct.

Therefore in the past it was usually taught that eating unleavened Bread pictures US after Passover now living God's way, living righteously as we have now put sin (leaven) out of our lives. *We've put out sin (leaven) and now we are to show we are going in a new way by eating Unleavened bread and all it represents.*

But I think it's incorrect to say Unleavened Bread pictures **us** putting sin out.

First of all, the days of Unleavened bread are many weeks removed from **Pentecost** when the Holy Spirit was given. We won't be very successful living righteously without the Holy Spirit. And even *with* God's spirit, we ALL still stumble and sin as even Paul admitted. Probably all of us will even sin during the Days of Unleavened Bread! **Paul says in Romans 7:14-20** that in his flesh nothing good dwells. Of course he had the good Holy Spirit, so he said "in his *flesh*" there was nothing good. And he admitted he still did things he hated. If our flesh has nothing good in it, could anything be salvageable of "nothing good"?

Apostle Paul explains that the old self needs to be tossed out just like we did to leavened products. **We cannot salvage or fix or improve our old fleshly nature and we're not even trying to salvage it.** But many of us DO try to make the old carnal fleshly nature better! Instead we should let God REPLACE IT with the new creation spirit life and the new nature that is Christ!

That is a key point. Remember: **we cannot pick leaven out of leavened bread.** It has to be trashed and replaced with new Unleavened Bread. *And we can't make our old nature good. It must be trashed and replaced with Someone who has nothing but good in him.*

So key to understanding this is to remember that now **we have two natures inside of us.** We have the old sinful heart that is deceitful and desperately

wicked (**Jer. 17:9**) and cannot submit to God or his Way. But now we have the new creation life of Christ in us who loves God and wants to obey and submit to him. This new heart is NOT deceitful and it's not something you create. It's something you and I receive. David pleaded for the Creator to "create in me a clean heart, O God and restore a right spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10).

If you have God's spirit, if someone asks you what your heart is like, PLEASE do NOT cite Jeremiah 17:9 anymore. That was your old wicked deceitful heart. Our new heart wants to do right, wants to obey, wants to fight sin. Your new heart LOVES GOD. But remember you still also have that old heart that you do everything you can to destroy. But that's not you anymore! That was the old self.

Our old self could not submit, obey or please God. But that should be the OLD self now. So we're not trying to make our fleshly nature "good enough" for the kingdom of God. It has to be trashed and replaced. Actually it should die.

Are you in the flesh?

In fact, if I asked you "Are you in the flesh?" – what would you say? Most people I've asked that question have responded with, "I'm still flesh and blood aren't I? I still bleed. So of course I'm in the flesh."

Watch these verses, especially verse 9.

Romans 8:6-10 NASB

"For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, *7 because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so; 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

9 However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him. **10** And if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, *yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.*"

So now we have a new spirit life living for righteousness. **You can now say you are "in the spirit"**. And now we *can* please God. I didn't say you are a spirit *being*, but you are "in the spirit". And that new you is alive because of righteousness. *But whose righteousness is it?* I've had several teachings about the GIFT of God's own righteousness (Romans 5:17; 4:20-25). Is it your own righteousness from all your own hard work at getting better? True righteousness is by faith, not by our own efforts. Tip: Our new life is not

about you and me. *It's always about Jesus our Savior who saved us and continues to save us day by day.* We are now a part of his very bones and flesh (Eph 5:30). We are now IN Messiah. So as we stumble in sin, his blood continues to cleanse us, much like your body does when you cut yourself. Your body sends out white blood cells to war against the bacteria streaming in. The dead cells become pus. God saves us day by day, by the LIFE of Jesus (Rom. 5:10). I recommend you listen to the recent sermon on being saved by his life.

Going back to our analogy, has this righteousness we now have come about because we've picked the leaven out of the leavened bread? Or is it because we brought in perfect new unleavened bread into our homes, unleavened bread that has never before been leavened and never will be? Hallelujah... now we see that Unleavened Bread is our Savior!

I've been capitalizing "Unleavened Bread" because it pictures the One who is our new life: Jesus Christ, or some prefer the name his mama called Him – Yeshua the Messiah. He's the only one who has never sinned and never will and certainly won't sin during the days of Unleavened Bread -- or ever! And he lives to save us day by day to continually cleanse us from sins we still commit. I love Romans 4:25, NLT. "He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God". Now the very Son of God is living in me. We need to listen to his instructions as we walk through each day.

This Unleavened Bread we eat for seven days cannot picture US because we all had been sinners (like leavened bread) and who still occasionally sin. And even during the days of Unleavened Bread, we'll all very likely sin. Our old selves is what the LEAVENED bread that we throw out pictures, as Paul equates in 1 Cor. 5:6-8. The Unleavened Bread has to picture our new life, Christ!

So eating unleavened bread simply cannot picture US putting sin out so much, as it pictures taking in the Only One, the perfect son of God, who is and was and will forever be unleavened, forever sinless.

OUR part is a conscious effort to let our old self die in figurative terms and then actively invite Christ into our lives and to BE our lives. SAY it to him. Confess him. Speak of HIM. Our life is now all about HIM, and not about us.

Unfortunately, we can't separate the old self and watch it being tossed into the garbage cans. It remains inside us, but must be starved until it's no longer a factor. More on this in a minute.

Romans 13:13-14

“Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But **put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make NO provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.**”

Our part is to go to Yeshua and bury our pride and **SURRENDER** to him. Let's say the words in prayer to our Master Yeshua the Messiah, the anointed one. He's the conquering king. LET's LET HIM really conquer YOU and me. Everything about us must be given up and surrendered to our new Lord, Master and Conqueror. But I realize now that though I thought I had surrendered in my younger years, I kept WAY too much of my old fleshly nature un-surrendered. I heard and preached sermons on unconditional surrender, but most of us HADN'T really done that. And I kept it alive by feeding it in ways I see now were entirely wrong – all while I also went to church, worshipped, prayed, and thought I was also in the spirit.

But the Days of Unleavened Bread show us **TOSSING OUT** the old self, all of it. ALL of it.

Our part is to open the door to him and invite him in to have dinner with us, as Zacchaeus did and as the Laodiceans are urged to do at the end of Revelation 3. We must stop feeding that old self with desires and lusts that keep it alive and strong. Instead we starve that side, and we instead focus on the new life coming into us. We feed the spiritual side.

Let's read again

Romans 13:13-14

“Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But **put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make NO provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.**”

I hope you can right now list some areas of your life that you are changing so you're sure not to be feeding the old nature. Maybe it's what you watch on TV. Or people you hang out with. Or what you allow yourself to think about.

Look how Apostle Paul puts it:

Galatians 2:20-21

“I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

21 I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”

Philippians 3:8b-10

“... that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in Him, NOT having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, **the righteousness which is from God by faith**; 10 that I may **know Him and the power of His resurrection**, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death...”

Galatians 5:24 NIV “Those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified the sinful nature** with its passions and desires.”

Passion is often put in context of sin. Passions and emotions can lead us to trouble.

Colossians 3:3-4

“For YOU died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. 4 When **Christ who is our life** appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.”

Do you remember Romans 8:9 – “but you are NOT in the flesh, but in the spirit” if you have God’s spirit?

So you and I should be “in the spirit” now (v.9). I did not say we are spirit *beings* yet, but we ARE *spiritual* beings, “in the spirit”. As we now eat Unleavened Bread for 7 days, that’s showing our PERFECT, new, *spiritual* life by and in Christ who has never sinned, will never sin, and certainly not during these days of Unleavened Bread. We are to “PUT ON Christ” and Yeshua is now the One the Father sees as your new creation life. (2 Corinthians 5:17).

BELIEVE we are NEW CREATIONS IN CHRIST

Galatians 3:27 “For as many of you who have been baptized into Christ **have put on Christ.**”

2 Corinthians 5:17

“Therefore, **if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new”

So from now on, we must ACTIVATE Jesus the Anointed One more in our life and ask him to give us the strength and power to quit the other side of our lives – the fleshly carnal side. This will take more prayer. More Study. More actively WARRING against temptations. **Be sure we’re truly RESISTING and defeating doing things that our carnal old self still wants to do!**

Galatians 5:16-17 NIV

“So I say, **LIVE by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.** 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.”

Romans 8:12-14 NKJV

“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors — not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you **put to death** the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are **LED by the Spirit** of God, these are sons of God.”

Our whole life now is being lived solely and wholly *for* Christ Jesus and more and more – BY Jesus Christ. The old self is called “the old man” by Paul. In **Ephesians 4:22-24**, we’re told to rid ourselves of that old self and “put on the new man in TRUE righteousness and holiness.”

But we all still see our own weaknesses and failures so we have a hard time believing we’re new CREATIONS. So it’s hard to really believe, when we focus on our failures, that God has bequeathed to us a wonderful GIFT of his very own righteousness (Rom 5:17; Please read Romans 4:20-25) by faith in Yeshua. *Sometimes it takes a while to see something we want to see by faith, as it’s “the evidence of things NOT seen (yet)” (Hebrews 11:1). It can take a while to see this new, holy new life. But believe anyway.*

It's key to understand that the new you and the new me takes a while to fully develop “to the stature of the fullness of Christ”, as we’re helped along by elders and others in ministry (Ephesians 4:11-14).

So Jesus was clear. HE is the bread from heaven (Please read **John 6:47-58**). HE is the Unleavened Bread of Passover. He’s the Unleavened Bread of the days of Unleavened Bread. **“Take, eat, for this is MY BODY given for you.”** Remember. *The Unleavened Bread can only picture Jesus Christ. And Unleavened bread throughout the week after we partook of the bread and wine, surely has to picture Yeshua, our wonderful Savior. HE is our bread.*

Romans 4:25 NLT

“He was handed over to die because of our sins, and he was raised to life to make us right with God.”

When we eat of HIM and his bread, picturing his body and his life, we are admitting we want our old “leavened” self gone and replaced by HIM, JUST as we wanted the old leavening gone and replaced with fresh unleavened bread.

Alas, we have both natures still. They war against each other. OUR part is to starve that old nature. See **Romans 13:14** again: “Make NO provision for the flesh...” Don’t be spending time with activities, chats, and thoughts that stir up the fleshly nature of hatred, gossip, violence, lust, vanity, depression or worry or sin. That’s feeding our flesh. That’s why I cancelled Netflix that we had tried for a short time. It was like inviting people into my home who cussed, lied, stole, and had lots of sex sins. No need for that!

Instead, what we can do is to spend much more time feeding the Spirit in quiet meditation with God, in prayer and Bible study. Be filled with his word. **Be in constant contact** with our Maker and Savior – many times a day. Feed the spirit in those ways and that New Creation life that is Christ, will grow more and more dominant in your life. For **“you are NOT in the flesh but in the spirit, if the Holy Spirit dwells in you” (Rom.8:9).**

KEY we understand this: God is not trying to change our old self, and neither should you. **We are not reformed or simply refurbished now. We are being made completely new** by our union with Christ and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Christ in us can transform our minds but it’s HIS doing, as we submit and follow his lead. The new creation is by the Creator. There is only one Creator. It’s not you and me. God does it. We open the door. We follow. We listen. We obey. We let him lead us by His spirit as he nudges us and speaks to us. And WE follow. But it’s HIS creation. So those are things WE do. But the changes and the newness is all by God and Christ working in us.

Do this in all areas of your life. Forgive and love one another as Christ has forgiven us. Husbands, love your wives as Christ does the church. Wives, submit and respect your husbands like you would to Messiah himself. ALL areas have to be surrendered to the obedience to Yeshua our Master.

It might look to others as US changing – but it’s not our doing, but God’s.

For seven days, as we eat Unleavened Bread, tell yourself “this is the Son of God coming into me”. Tell Yeshua, “Master, I’m welcoming you to come into me with your resurrection life and live again in me the way you lived before – obediently, happily, humbly and PERFECTLY. Let me now be displaying the fruit of your righteousness (Phil. 1:11) and YOUR works.” Jesus in us is our hope of glory (Colossians 1:27).

Let me finish with reciting more of God's word. When we throw out the old leaven, I'm encouraging you to think "that's the old me I'm throwing out." Then consciously eat of HIS body and his flesh as we eat Unleavened Bread. It's HIM. It's not us we're picturing or taking in. Hallelujah. See how Paul compares leaven or unleavened bread to US:

1 Corinthians 5:6-8 "Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? 7 **Therefore throw out the old leaven, that YOU may be a NEW lump,** since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. 8 **Therefore let us keep the feast,** not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and TRUTH".

2 Corinthians 5:21 "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that **WE might become the righteousness of GOD in Him.**"

John 14:23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and WE will come to him and make Our home with him."

We become the temple of the living God as he comes to live in us with his holy presence. Eating of Christ each day of the Days of Unleavened Bread should make us aware of the holy powerful presence of our God and Jesus Christ inside of us, changing me, changing you, "UNTIL Christ is formed in you" (**Galatians 4:19**).

Hallelujah! Praise God our Abba and Yeshua our Salvation! Enjoy your time with Abba (our dear Daddy in heaven who happens to be God Almighty, God in the Highest) and with Yeshua the king of Kings, mighty God, everlasting Savior, Prince of Peace, Emmanuel – God with us. May their presence inside of you change you, make us new, make us a holy saint

CLOSING PRAYER. Here's to the a most glorious Passover season.