

**LEAVEN** - Leaven in the Bible is always referred to as affliction or separation or sin.

**Deut 16:3 NAS77**

(3) *"You shall not eat leavened bread with it; seven days you shall eat with it unleavened bread, the bread of affliction (for you came out of the land of Egypt in haste), in order that you may remember all the days of your life the day when you came out of the land of Egypt.*

This of course is the Passover feast. The Jews were "afflicted" in the wilderness.

**Exo 12:15-16 NAS77**

(15) *'Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, but on the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses; for whoever eats anything leavened from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.*

(16) *'And on the first day you shall have a holy assembly, and another holy assembly on the seventh day; no work at all shall be done on them, except what must be eaten by every person, that alone may be prepared by you.*

They were to remember their affliction in the wilderness as they celebrated the Passover in the city of God, Jerusalem. The leaven had to be removed from their houses by burying it, burning it or blowing it into the wind. In other words, leaven was dead to them.

**Mat 26:17 NAS77**

(17) *Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where do You want us to prepare for You to eat the Passover?"*

**Mat 26:26-30 NAS77**

(26) *And while they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body."*

(27) *And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you;*

(28) *for this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.*

(29) *"But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom."*

(30) *And after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.*

The Lord's supper was born out of the Passover Feast. There was no leaven in the Passover nor the Lord's Supper, not in the loaf nor in the cup. The Lord's Supper, among many other things, is a reminder of Christ's affliction on the cross and throughout His life. Sin was dead in His eyes, He was separated from it.

**Luke 12:1 NAS77**

(1) *Under these circumstances, after so many thousands of the multitude had gathered together that they were stepping on one another, He began saying to His disciples first of all, "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.*

Leaven is always depicted as evil of divisive.

**Matt 13:33 NAS77**

(33) He spoke another parable to them, "The kingdom of heaven is like leaven, which a woman took, and hid in three pecks of meal, until it was all leavened."

In **Matt. 13:24, 31, 33** are parables that refer to a polluted Kingdom. **Matt 13: 33** is NOT talking about the "denominations" emanating from the first church, Jesus is talking about a contaminated church or Kingdom. Notice carefully The Kingdom of heaven is not leaven, but like a woman hiding leaven in a pure unleavened loaf until it is all polluted. We see the results of these parables being acted out in the 21st century church clearly.

### **Gal 5:9 NAS77**

(9) *A little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough.* Notice the destruction once again.

### **1 Cor 5:4-8 NAS77**

(4) *In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus,*

(5) *I have decided to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.*

(6) *Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump of dough?*

(7) *Clean out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, just as you are in fact unleavened. For Christ our Passover also has been sacrificed.*

(8) *Let us therefore celebrate the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.*

"When you are assembled" could very easily refer to the Lord's Day or some special assembly in order to discipline an erring brother. "Clean out the old leaven" certainly refers to the erring brother. "Christ our Passover" and is unleavened as we should be. "The feast" could, perhaps be the Lord's Supper but I think it means the grand festival of being in Christ Jesus daily "without the leaven of malice or wickedness." Regardless, we have nothing in common with leaven. "The feast" must extend way beyond the Passover and the Lord's Supper. We must celebrate Christ in us, the hope of glory, each minute of life.

This in no wise is complete, just some thoughts. Keep the good and discard the bad.

Dad/Pops/Pop-Pop