

## A long night for the Israelites

Most of our young believers know about Passover. Yahweh's true people still observe this very special night. Have you ever wondered what it would have been like to experience the very first Passover thousands of years ago? It was not a fun time in history to be a part of! You and your family would have been under terrible bondage. The Israelites were being treated very badly as slaves of the Egyptians.



There came a time when Yahweh appeared to Moses and commanded him to begin a process that would set the Israelites free from slavery. But a lot had to happen first before the Hebrews could taste freedom. Through a series of plagues, Yahweh slowly weakened Pharaoh, the powerful ruler of Egypt. The final plague was so severe that we are to

remember it throughout our generations! The Israelites were commanded to stay in their homes, after killing a lamb and swabbing its blood on their doorposts. That night, the death angel had permission to pass through the land and slay any firstborn in any house that was not marked with blood. But the death angel had to "pass over" the blood-marked homes of the Israelites. That is where we get the term, "Passover."

Can you imagine how frightening it must have been for the Israelites? They must have heard the terrible cries of the Egyptian firstborns who were dying in their houses! Let us thank Yahweh that now we have Yahshua, as our true Passover lamb, Who has saved us from our sins, so that we can one day dwell peacefully in Yahweh's kingdom.

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"Take out all the old yeast so that you will be a new batch of dough without yeast, which you really are. For Messiah, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed,"

1 Cor. 5:7-8 NCV

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# What is meant by "unleavened bread"?

Around this time of year, you may hear your parents talking about removing leaven from your home. Leavening refers to any substance that is added to bread products that cause it to rise, such as yeast and baking powder.

Before Passover, we go through all our kitchen cabinets, pantries, refrigerators, and freezers, to find items that need to be used up or discarded. These items include bread, buns, muffins, cakes, cookies, most crackers, biscuits, flour tortillas, and breaded meats, fish, and poultry.

The very first time that "unleavened bread" is mentioned in Scripture is when the Israelites were escaping Egyptian bondage. They had to leave so quickly that they did not have time for their bread to rise. So they ended up with flat bread called matzah. In modern times, removing leavening can represent removing sins and faults from our lives.

We still keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread today. We bake bread without any leavening and other items. There are still lots of things we can eat, despite the fact that bread is a large part of our daily diets. Here are some items that we can eat freely during the seven days of unleavened bread: vegetables, fruits, pasta, rice, dairy, corn tortillas, nuts, seeds, eggs, unbreaded meats, fish, and poultry, and of course any unleavened bread, crackers, or other baked goods that your parents or the Assembly provides. Have a very blessed spring Holy Day season!

## **Discussion Questions:**

1. Imagine that you are an Israelite living in the land of Egypt. How do you think you would have felt being trapped in your home while the death angel passed through the land?
2. Why did the Israelites have "flat bread" when they left Egypt?
3. What can you learn from the Feast of Unleavened Bread now? Are there any areas of your life that you'd like to change or "remove leaven" from?

### UNLEAVENED FOOD

Find the following safe foods to eat during the Feast of Unleavened Bread:

	Chicken							See						S
	Pasta		Vegetables			Eggs		Meat		Rice				
Ε	I	F	U	Р	Χ	Ε	L	J	S	J	J	M	V	Y
В	С	P	Н	F	Τ	N	G	D	Τ	U	Т	E	Н	R
S	M	I	, I	W	E	0	Ε	G	0	F	G	A	Q	I
V	Т	S	R	T	0	Ε	U	Y	S	E	A	Τ	Н	А
J	Н	I	Ε	Τ	S	F	U	Τ	Τ	N	0	Z	Р	D
Y	N	Н	U	Ε	X	S	U	A	V	V	X	V	В	G
Н	Т	K	A	R	Q	Y	В	J	D	A	В	K	Ε	P
P	A	S	Τ	A	F	L	N	Ε	K	С	I	Н	С	0
R	D	N	N	P	Ε	С	Р	S	Т	U	N	Р	U	N
0	Н	I	N	S	В	L	С	P	S	С	S	N	J	K

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## Are you ready for spring?

Leviticus 26:4 says, "I will send you rain its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees their fruit." Time to start working on our gardens! Help the children below get to Grandma's garden so they can help her start planting!

