

# OUR REMAINING BIG “HIDDEN Leaven”

## The Most important home to clean; the worst leaven there is

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### **Summary:**

This message goes way beyond my blog about the "Hidden Leaven". Your home may be perfectly unleavened but could we be missing the biggest leaven still lurking in our more important house? Have you and I really unleavened 100%? Probably not. This heart-felt sermon is not the standard message about unleavening. Topics include: how we all protect and retain certain "leaven" in our lives; unleavening of the true leaven must be 100% or we're still leavened; who does the true unleavening; total absolute surrender of everything we are and have been - and much more.

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Shalom brothers and sisters to Light on the Rock. Welcome, from wherever you are hearing or reading this. We have so many now coming to this site from all over Russia, China, Japan and Great Britain – as well as the USA and Canada.

Right now many of you are beginning to unleaven your homes so you don't have it all crashing down on you at the last minute as we come up to the Passover and the days of Unleavened Bread. I'm titling this message "the Hidden Leaven". You've heard of "the hidden Manna" in Revelation 2:17. ***We'll, I believe there is also "the hidden leaven" in too many of our lives.***

If you're new to the concept of unleavening your homes before the Passover each year, read **Exodus 12:1-20 and Leviticus 23:4-8** before continuing with this message. I'll include those scriptures at the end of the sermon notes.

There will be SEVEN days coming up soon when there is to be NO leaven in our homes. What is leaven? Leaven is usually yeast added to dough to make it rise and ferment. It can include yeast, baking soda and any edible item that has yeast or baking soda in it, like cakes, crackers, breads, cookies, breaded foods, some boxed cereals, and so on. The Days of Unleavened Bread is a "feast" of seven days – picturing completeness – when we are to *eat* unleavened bread and have NO leavened products in our homes. Leaven is often used in scripture to depict sin. It's not enough just to put sin out, but we seek first the kingdom of God and *its* righteousness and ask Yehowah to put HIS righteousness into our lives. So it's not enough to avoid leavened food, we must daily eat unleavened bread to remember we are to constantly, daily and completely take Yeshua – Jesus Christ – into our lives.

**Think carefully about this: If there's still leaven in your house, then you haven't unleavened –whether hidden leaven or not.**

**But the startling fact is this: When we talk about this spiritually, some of us have been intentionally leaving some leaven in our homes. It would be like purposely leaving in your home just before and during the days of Unleavened Bread -- one of your favorite pastries. We wouldn't do that physically, but we might be doing that spiritually!**

**Find out what I mean! This is serious. As we finalize our preparation for Passover, we're getting rid of the *leaven from our homes*. But I'm going to cover some hidden leaven that so many of us leave and this year maybe could be different. Please listen carefully to this teaching, even if you've practiced deleavening all your life.**

I know in years past, sometimes we get halfway thru the day of Unleavened Bread and then found an old cookie one of the kids stuck somewhere, or we find a box of breaded frozen foods or discover the Grape Nuts had leaven. Or God forbid, we'd forget to replace the full vacuum cleaner bags after we had vacuumed the house of all the leaven. But that was years ago. I'm sure most of the time, we probably all do a pretty good job of getting the physical leaven out.

*But doing the physical is always easier than doing the spiritual things.* It's easier to sweep, vacuum and throw leavened items out – than it is to spiritually deleaven. But we tend to FEEL better about what we can see physically, than the more important spiritual.

**Are you deleavening your REAL home, your MORE IMPORTANT home? What do I mean by that?**

We know that Yeshua cleansed the temple a few days before the Passover because He was spiritually deleavening His Father's House – the temple. The religious frauds of His day had turned the House of God into a house of thieves and were forbidding Gentiles from going beyond a certain point! That was never Yehowah's intention! In fact, Gentiles had a big part in building the original temple. King Hiram of Lebanon had sent down his gentile workers, made beautiful cedars available and lent expertise, for example. In fact the 153,000 workers who quarried the stones were all aliens (2 Chronicles \*\*\*). So Yeshua wanted to put SIN -- pictured by leaven -- out of His Father's house.

### **THE MAIN HOUSE THAT NEEDS DELEAVENING**

It wasn't just Yeshua who tried to clean out the temple quarters pre-Passover. Do you remember the times in Scripture when a righteous king of Judah succeeded a prior unrighteous king? (I say "of Judah", because Israel didn't have that many righteous kings). One of the things that, let's say Josiah, Uzziah or Hezekiah would do would be to "deleaven" Yehowah's House, the House of Yehowah, the temple. They had to take out the pagan idols, sweep out the garbage and make the temple of God, the House of Yehowah, a holy place again.

**But in the meantime there is another house – another home and another "TEMPLE of Yehowah" – that needs to be deleavened badly!**

**Where is the House of God today? Where does He live today by His spirit?** Yes, I know He is in heaven, but where else does God live by His Spirit? Once we find out, that house must be cleansed and deleavened too!

Remember Leaven pictures sin. I'm afraid so many spend so much time physically deleavening their physical house that they miss and forget the reason for that exercise: *to point to the real house we have that has to be deleavened.*

But another HUGE point: the house I speak of – if WE try to do all the deleavening ourselves, by ourselves, we will fail miserably and miss the POINT of the season. I will give a couple huge keys that I've learned the hard way over my 60 years that will allow us to correctly and successfully deleaven this most important house we have.

### 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.**"

*[This paragraph not in the audio] Your body, your life, if you have God's Spirit, has become the holy dwelling place of Elohim! Your life, your mind, your body, your eyes, your ears – now house God and Yeshua. Imagine the Shekinah Glory now that should be bright in our lives. Do we talk about this enough? Do we realize this enough? Imagine if you heard God the Father and Yeshua were coming over for dinner. How hard would you "clean house"? Now how would you feel if you were later told they weren't coming just for dinner, but to move in, to live with you? That's what is happening if you have God's spirit.*

### 1 John 4:12-13

"No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us. **13 By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us,** because He has given us of His Spirit."

So here we read that God the Father and Christ abide in US – and we abide in the Father. But how can YOU or I – imperfect as we are – abide/live in God the Father? Some feel that would be impossible because of our imperfections. But Paul gives us the answer "how" in Colossians 3.

### Colossians 3:1-10 (Holman Study Bible)

So if you have been raised with the Messiah, seek what is above, where the Messiah is, seated at the right hand of God.

2 Set your minds on what is above, not on what is on the earth.

**3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with the Messiah in God.**

4 When **the Messiah, who is your life,** is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

5 Therefore, **put to death whatever in you is worldly:** sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. [How many of you are 6 for 6 so far?]

6 *Because of these, God's wrath comes on the disobedient,*

7 and you once walked in these things when you were living in them.

8 But now **you must also put away all the following:** anger, wrath, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. [So many now use the F word...we should never, ever be part of that.]

9 Do not lie to one another, **since you have put off the old man with his practices**

10 and have put on the new man, who is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of his Creator.

If you are a part of the body of Messiah, you are holy. You must be holy. For every part of Messiah's body has to be holy. Whatever you are thinking, speaking, watching, hearing, or

places you're going, or conversation you're having – ask yourself: “Am I really bringing Yeshua to be part of THIS?”

So **Colossians 3:3-4** tell us how we can live in God the Father: through Yeshua our Master, who is now our life. We are “in Christ in God” – v. 3.

We're now getting to the CRUX of true spiritual deleavening. This is much more than being about throwing out bread, washing out the toaster or vacuuming out the car.

**HERE'S MY POINT: we CAN'T TAKE THE LEAVEN OUT OF THAT CAKE OR LOAF once leaven has been put in. We have to chuck out the WHOLE loaf. But some of us are trying to pick pieces of leaven out of our lives. That misses the point. That's impossible. The entire leavened bread has to be cast out and start over with new, unleavened bread. We can't pick the leaven out of leavened bread.**

**LIFE and my life are the leavened loaves of which I speak, and our LIVES have become the HOUSE/temple of the Living God which must be deleavened.**

**What does that mean? It means like Paul said – NOTHING prior to Yeshua in our lives is worth bragging about. NOTHING. It's all tainted.** Paul had a LOT to humanly brag about: he was a student of Gamaliel. Do you know what that meant? You couldn't even BE CONSIDERED to be a student without demonstrating you could recite the entire Torah – the first 5 books, verbatim, from memory. He logs all his human boastings in *Philippians 3* and then essentially says – “but all that is a pile of dung compared to the glory we have in Yeshua”.

*So what do you do with dung? You throw it out! You get rid of it. That's our former life.*

*We're so preoccupied with crumbs and toasters that we forget the REAL deleavening. What we ARE, WHO we are, what we've been – and ALL THAT has to be chucked out!*

**We can't be NEW in Yeshua without getting rid of the old. He is not into overhauling the old junk but in discarding the junk and giving us a new life. A new START – regardless of what people want to think, you and I in Yeshua are BRAND NEW. We are more concerned now with what Yeshua is doing with you presently. We have to be brand new in Yeshua.**

**So for TRUE deleavening to occur, WE have to crucify the self, WE have to absolutely surrender 100% to our new Master, we have to give up EVERYTHING we held dear – at least if it is coming between us and Master Yeshua.**

**You heard that: 100%. I've said it too, and it's gotta stop though – “This is who I am and if you don't like it, tough. I am who I am.”**

**NO, NO, brethren. We are not to stay the way we are or were. We must let go of the old “me” and let Christ live in me, transforming me and you head to toe.**

**Here's the problem: we HAVEN'T learned this yet.** We're still focusing on the elementary crumbs in the kitchen drawers and forgetting the LESSON that our LIVES are

pretty crummy right now and need replacing. We surrender the half-consumed box of crackers, but don't 100% surrender our LIVES. Without 100% absolute surrender, we're still leavened. Without giving up ALL of what we put so high on our list, we haven't loved Yeshua more. Remember what he said: We have to love Him MORE than our loved ones, MORE than our grandchildren, MORE than our spouse – and more than our own life, or we are not worthy of the kingdom.

**Matthew 10:37-39**

37 He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter [or granddaughter/grandson] more than Me is not worthy of Me.

No human relationship can be put ahead of Messiah.

38 And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

39 He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

Remember Paul says – we read it – Col 3:3 – “for YOU died, and YOUR life is hidden with the Messiah in God.” Then in verse 4 he says our new life is now Messiah himself.

But first things first: we die to the self. We surrender absolutely and completely. Then we make ourselves available and submit to the cleansing process. There are – as we'll see – some things Yeshua MUST do, and some things we do. But EVERYTHING we do must be thru the power of the Holy Spirit or it's our own power doing it and we can boast. But Yeshua said “Abide in me and I abide in you; for without me you can do NOTHING!” (John 15:5).

[Remember we are being trained to have dominion over the earth. But before dominion, we read that first we must be in the image of God. That means being LIKE Him, not just looking like Him. Gen. 1:26-28. Before dominion we must first get rid of self and be like Him because HE is living in us.]

I really don't feel ANY of us will experience the FULLNESS of the Holy Spirit working in us until we completely throw out the leaven of SELF, the old ME, all of it. Absolutely surrendering ALL of it! We can't hold back the sinful delightful pieces of our carnal lives. Whether it's gossip - - which is a horrible thing. One who will gossip TO you, will gossip about you. Don't participate in it. Or sex sins. Or vanities. Or selfishness.

We all still harbor some of the old self. We all still hold back on *some* of the sins in our lives. Some of the ways we are – we want to hang on to it. Or are you lying to yourself? That's like purposely leaving leavening around the house just before and during the days of Unleavened Bread. We all do it. And we all have to stop doing it. We hold back with some sins.

I remember someone who was trying to overcome smoking and he was very successful – except when he wasn't. Why? I found out that he was keeping a pack in an emergency drawer, in case the cravings just got too great.

Some of us are that way with sins of vanity. Or sex sins. We hang on to just a little dalliance with sex sins, in the privacy of just us – and the computer. And all the angels in heaven, and Yeshua and God the Father. They live in us (John 14:23), so what we see, they see. What we do, they do....to a point. At some point, the Holy Spirit will leave us if we keep going the

wrong way. We're the temple of Yehowah's presence. Where are you taking Him? What we hear they hear. There IS NO secret kept from God!

So what's YOUR carnality, your leavened chunk that you're allowing to stay in your life? If *we're not deleavening our LIVES, then we are still not deleavened, regardless how deleavened your physical house is!*

Here's a BIG, BIG KEY: Just as Messiah cleansed the physical Father's house before Passover, so HE must once again be the one cleansing YOU, for we are the temple of His Spirit. You and I are the House of God individually and collectively – and you “house Yeshua and Father” in your body, through their spirit. I think if we really understood that, really did, we'd be far more diligent in throwing the sin/the leaven, out of our lives. So we surrender ourselves to Yeshua and then let HIM do the cleansing and living by making ourselves available to HIM, by opening our hearts and minds to Him, by seeking Him.

If WE try to deleaven ourselves, we will end up like Paul in romans 7 saying he keeps trying, but keeps failing. He says several times “that which I hate I do”. So what's the answer? The answer is not that he finally figured out how to quit failing on his own. Well Paul asks the question and gives the answer.

**Romans 7:24-25**

24 O wretched man that I am! [Do YOU feel that way about yourself? Or are you feeling like Laodiceans, I'm OK-you're OK?"] Who will deliver me from this body of death?

25 I thank God — **through Jesus Christ our Lord!** So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

Then he continues in Romans 8:1 that there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ, who no longer walk according to the flesh but the spirit.

WE died. HE lives. It's now HIS life that should be more and more evident. Deleavening is about our new life being evident. We should have more and more victories over sins and temptations that used to trip us up all the time. I can say I'm having victory, even completely in some areas – through Him. Other areas, like my appetite for example, I'm still battling. I need to 100% surrender that to Him too and things will change when I do. I'm still battling them frankly, because we haven't surrendered those things 100%. We justify ourselves and use phrases like “not as much as I should” to explain the amount of prayer or no-prayer we engage in.

SURRENDER to Yeshua; accept Him as your Master, your LORD. Kneel and tell him so! Beg him to be Lord of your life. Then get out of His way and let HIM work.

The Holy Spirit changes us, does the work – but our work is to get so close to Yeshua that the Holy Spirit is ACTIVE In us. If we abide in Him we will bear much fruit (John 15:5). We have to LET His mind work in us (Philippians 2:5). We have to work hard at abiding in Him – constant prayer and making contact many times throughout the day. *We have to OPEN the door to Him who knocks at our door (Rev. 3:20). He is very polite. He knocks. He doesn't just barge down the door. What's He doing outside His own house?* We must now PRESENT ourselves as servants of righteousness. We have to open the door. We have things

to do – mostly opening the door to HIM, abiding in Him, surrendering to Him – and let Him go to work.

**Romans 6:18-19**

“And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now **present your members as slaves of righteousness** for holiness.”

OFFER yourself, your mind, and your thoughts to holiness.

**Philippians 2:5**

“LET this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus...”

But I see us humans presenting ourselves to Facebook, to TV, to entertainment, to non-stop texting and “smart phone” usage, to computer *games*, to our pleasures and desires, to work overtime, to *our* hobbies – FAR more than we do to prayer and walking with God! Am I wrong? How does the time you spend with Father and Yeshua compare to the time you spend on Facebook, texting, emails, computer games, and all the falderal we do?

Now here's the KEY – in John 15:4-8. Note the word “abide”, similar to “abode”. Home.

**John 15:4-8**

ABIDE (REMAIN) in Me, and I in you. As **the branch cannot bear fruit of itself**, unless it abides in the vine, *neither can you, unless you abide in Me.*

5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. **He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; *for without Me you can do nothing.***

6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned.

7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

To me, this is the focus of the hard work I am to exert: working hard to abide in Him. To hang on to him like a branch to the main trunk of the tree.

You can do ALL THINGS through Christ who strengthens you (Philippians 4:12). HE is our new life. HE is the unleavened matzah of our lives. We need Him to clean us up. If we abide in Him, the fruit will come through naturally. The branch that stays attached to the trunk of the tree will bear fruit. The tree, the roots – they do the bulk of the work, not the branch.

The KEY to removing the true spiritual leaven – which is our lives, our old selves (FAR more than those crumbs you're looking for), is for the Holy Spirit to flourish in our lives. Without the Holy Spirit, there is no new life. It is by the Spirit that Yeshua abides in US and helps us bear much fruit. Let's read Romans 8 carefully.

**Romans 8:1-14**

There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. *[I'm not condemned if I'm walking by the Spirit.]*

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: HE condemned sin in the flesh.

4 that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in US who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

8 So then, those who are "in the flesh" cannot please God.

*So are you in the Flesh? If you have God's spirit, you are NOT in the flesh but in the spirit. That's what the next verse says!*

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

12 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.

I'll say it again: the key is to be filled with God's spirit and "if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body" — we'll be doing real deleavening. That takes a lot of abiding in Him, prayer and letting the old self be crucified — as Paul says in Gal. 2:20.

**If WE do the deleavening of the Father's house, then that's our own self-righteousness doing it.** If Yeshua does it IN us, by our willingness to open the door to Him, then it's HIS righteousness. We have a part to play, that's for sure. But we have to learn to let GOD and God's righteousness be what's changing us and cleaning us.

SO OUR hard work is to ABIDE IN HIM so we can get rid of the leaven/sin in our lives.

And as we come to Passover, our MAIN deleavening is to deleaven our hearts, our attitudes, our minds, our thinking, our thoughts, our very essence. Even as you search out the physical crumbs, remember the more important deleavening is to search out your heart! Clean up the House of God, which you are.



Remember again: YOU individually – and the group of believers collectively – are now the HOUSE of God. 1 Timothy 3:15 – refers to “the house of God, which is the church of the Living God”. Hebrews 3:6 says We are the Master’s house.

Then on top of that, NUMEROUS scriptures say we are the actual TEMPLE of God now –1 Cor. 3:16-17; 2 Cor. 6:16; Eph. 2:19-22).

*So how clean is your temple – your life – that you and I present to God as His dwelling place?*

As we come to Passover, things have happened in the last 2 months in my life that really derailed me spiritually. I went into a royal “funk” – a real depression. My spiritual life skidded. I didn’t care, I wanted to give up. But thanks be to my Savior, I really believe Yeshua came to wake me up in the last few days and my heart was saying “wake up, get out of your stupor, you have work to do, a holy life to live, get back up and pick up your sword and shield of faith and get back in the battle against sin, against depression and carnality.”

Thoughts that were coming to me, and now I know they were the words of Messiah speaking to me in my depressed heart. They were strong words. The words were saying, “Don’t listen to Satan – or even ones Satan is using to discourage you. I’ve bought you! You’re mine now – and listen to ME, not the Slanderer! That’s his M.O. Listen to ME! Remember that Satan will especially use people you know and love, if he can, to derail you. He’ll get you focusing on your past failures. We’ll, I bought your past and buried it all in my blood. You accepted Me as your Savior – or have you forgotten that? Satan wants to get you down but I lift you up. I give you life and hope. I’m here to give you your new life. Now get up. Be well, be healed, get up and WALK, walk with Me, in Me....”

*But first I had to repent of the kind of house I had been providing the last 2 months to my King and my God.* THIS is the more important deleavening we must all do. We have to care about what HE thinks – not what anyone else thinks. We have to make HIS house – our lives – our priority for deleavening.

This is the background to understanding THE HIDDEN LEAVEN.

You see, Father and Yeshua want to live in your heart. Paul explains the fullness of this to the Ephesians. My wife and I have been in the excavated fabulous remains of ancient Ephesus on the coast of Turkey. Here’s what Paul says:

**Ephesians 3:14-19**

“For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, 16 that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, 17 **that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith**; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height — 19 to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; **that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.**”

I know some make fun of the syrupy-sounding phrase “give your heart to the Lord”—but several times that is exactly what we’re told to do. He wants our HEARTS. IF we give it to Him, He will come and reside in our bodies and lives by His Spirit. (2 Pet 1:19; Gal. 4:6).

What HE wants to give us is “the FULLNESS OF GOD”. The Fullness of God. There is no depression in that. I had the horrible leaven of depression going on. Now that has to be thrown out.

**Father and Yeshua take up residence in you and – get this – they get to see what you see, hear what you hear, go where you go, do what you do.** If it is not of the Father’s Way, they will go down a different path and you will not have God’s spirit in you for long! Remember even David prayed in Psalm 51 when he was repenting of murdering Uriah after he stole Uriah’s wife – “Take NOT thy spirit from me...”

David, Moses, Elijah – and all people – are people of like passions to us. They had high highs, and low lows – and knew where to go. All the things David says to get rid of this leaven of evil depression, malice, bitterness, hate, slander, sex sins, vanity, selfishness – APPLY to us. These are the big chunks of leaven that have to come out.

Sometimes big chunks of leaven can be hiding in plain

So if Elohim reside in you once you have His Spirit, where are you taking Him? What are you putting God through? What sins, thoughts, vanities, hurts, lack of forgiveness, selfishness are you making our Father experience?

### ***So, back to Our HIDDEN LEAVEN.***

The main points about SPIRITUAL DELEAVENING are these:

- **Just like physical leaven, sin can be anywhere, even disguised as unleavened flat bread** when it isn’t unleavened. Sin can be disguised as righteousness if our motives and hearts aren’t right. Look for it.
- **Just like physical leaven, sometimes a big chunk of leaven can be “hiding in plain sight”** – right there in front of us, and we end up missing it somehow.
- **MOST importantly: WE CAN’T DELEAVEN LEAVENED BREAD. IT MUST BE 100% THROWN OUT.** *You can’t keep some portions of some sins in your life. It must ALL be thrown out. What are our “secret sins” and passions?*
- What really hurts is when you know you – and mostly Yeshua – HAVE thrown out some old leaven of your life and others think you still have it lurking in you. Some still feel you haven’t changed, that you are that “old self” still. Believe the truth. That Yeshua has made you new. Don’t let anyone discourage you. There are still other big chunks of sin to get out.

By leaven, again – I mean SIN. Iniquity. Lawlessness. Remember that “Sin is the transgression of God’s law – or Torah”. That’s what 1 John 3:4 says. Sin is lawlessness. Sin is working the things that go against God’s commands.

***Many of us like to think we’re pretty righteous because we keep the sabbath, we pray, we will keep Passover, and we aren’t killing anyone or stealing from***

***anyone or committing adultery – so we feel pretty good. But all the while, SPIRITUAL LEAVEN – the Hidden Leaven – is staring us right in the face.***

When we see sin, we have to pick it up and throw it out. ALL of it. Sin must go – without mercy. Yeshua used an illustration to show how serious He was about taking decisive action against anything that can **keep us out of the kingdom. Don't be harboring any sins!**

**Matthew 5:29-30 Holman Study Bible.**

“If your right eye causes you to sin, gouge it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of the parts of your body than for your whole body to go into hell!”

*Now we all LOVE our right eye and right hand. We protect our eyes. But look what he says. If IT is causing us to sin, get rid of it. I really feel Yeshua understands He's making the point to take serious action. If we all literally plucked out our eye when it caused us to sin, we'd all be blind. ALL of us. But get his POINT: take it seriously, take serious action to throw the leaven of sin out of your life.*

**Matthew 18:7-9**

7 Woe to the world because of offenses. For offenses must come, but woe to that man by whom the offense comes. [We've all offended someone, haven't we?]

8 If your hand or your foot causes your downfall, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life maimed or lame, than to have two hands or two feet and be thrown into the eternal fire.

9 And if your eye causes your downfall, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye, rather than to have two eyes and be thrown into hellfire!

***We can't knowingly keep some leaven – even just 1-2 pieces in our house and say we are done deleavening.*** I'll keep saying that because many of us feel good about being deleavened our house but have left big chunks of hidden, private sin – the hidden spiritual leaven – in our lives! Covered up. The secret sins! And we're not yet deleavened!

***I also speak of the sins of what we ARE. We do what we do because of what we are.*** (repeat). This is why we have to change what we ARE. Cats are mouse-chasers, because that's what cats are – mouse-chasers. We are by nature – sinners. That's what we are: sinners, so we sin. So we have to change what we ARE. Only GOD can create in us a clean heart.

**Psalms 51:7-12 David's prayer of repentance**

“Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

8 Make me hear joy and gladness, That the bones You have broken may rejoice.

9 Hide Your face from my sins, And blot out all my iniquities.

10 **Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

11 **Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.**

12 Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And uphold me by Your generous Spirit”

Here are examples of what we are, or are not.

- We are either selfish – or not selfish.
- We are either humble – or proud.
- We are either content – or lustful.
- We are either at peace – or we're worried, which is a lack of faith and trust.
- We are either always kind – or sometimes we have the monster leaven of meanness or unkindness. These are sins of what we ARE, or are not.

We must repent of what we are and give up these traits, surrender them all 100%, or we are still heavily leavened. If we ARE worried, selfish, proud, unforgiving – and more – we haven't dealt yet with the leaven. We still have it in our hearts.

This is very, very hard to do. We have to be completely broken of our carnality. We have to get to the point like Paul where we can say "everything I've ever been or ever done, is just a pile of dung compared to the righteousness of my Savior which He can cover me with by faith". (Philippians 3:2-11).

**Then we PROVE our salvation by showing a CHANGED and *changing* life.**

Obedience does not earn us salvation, because salvation is a free gift (Ephesians 2:8-10). But we are GOD'S workmanship created FOR Good works. *The changed life, the changed actions, the changed behavior PROVE Christ has saved us and continues to save us day by day. We PROVE our salvation BY letting Messiah live His life again in us* as we throw out the old way, bury the old self, come up a new self in Messiah – who is the unleavened matzah from heaven!

It's not enough to praise Him, prophesy in his name and heal the sick in his name. You and I would be certain that person was surely a child of God if they had the gift of healing and prophesying. But look at what MESSIAH says:

**Matthew 7:21-27**

21 "NOT everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he **who does the will of My Father in heaven.**

22 Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

23 And then I will declare to them, '**I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!' (workers of iniquity)**

24 "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, **and does them**, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house **on the rock**:

We have a House to build and we must build it on the Rock that is Yeshua. That's why this website is called Light on the ROCK. That's the focus.

25 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

26 "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:

27 and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

That ROCK is Christ (1 Cor. 10:4). This website is Light on the ROCK. HE is our ROCK, HE is our strength, HE is our goodness. I look around and see too many of us accepting too much leaven in our lives.

Don't forget that sometimes our God has been longsuffering with us and sometimes He acted swiftly or decisively to show His displeasure with sinful mankind. The Flood. Turning Lot's wife into salt – bam, instantly. Achan's sin by taking of the gold and silver that belonged to God – as everything from Jericho was to go to Yehowah's treasury. Judges 7:1-2—He was angry at ALL ISRAEL for what this man did.

He is the same, yesterday, today and forever. The God of the “Old Testament” is the same God today. Sure, He so loved the world that He sent His only begotten son – all true. But it's also true that if we don't change, if we don't put the leaven out of our HEARTS.... It's all in vain.

**We are supposed to CRUCIFY ourselves with Christ (Galatians 2:20).** Someone being crucified, no doubt about it, would have struggled, kicked, clawed, screamed, spit – done everything in his power to keep from being nailed down and tortured in a slow death. But that's what we have to do with the traits, the sins, the parts of our lives that don't comport to the standard of the Kingdom: nail them down, crucify those attitudes and sinful ways we still harbor in our lives.

When do we come to the point of saying “enough is enough” – and do whatever it takes to get rid of the sins in our lives. Don't justify the dead man that you and I are supposed to be. Don't excuse sins in your life.

Sometimes we don't think something is all that bad. That thinking is deadly. If it's not Godly, it has to go!

### **THE BIG HIDDEN LEAVENS IN OUR LIVES**

**Solomon was inspired to mention the Big 7 sins:**

**Proverbs 6:16-19**

- 6 These six things YHVH hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him:
- 17 A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood,
- 18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil,
- 19 A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.

(read list again slowly)

Now you go read it on your knees. Ask Father to help you see where those big 7 are in your life. Be honest with yourself.

**What are some sins we accept as “acceptable sins” or “respectable sins”? Here are more examples of some of the HIDDEN LEAVEN we may have in our lives. I have some, you have some, but we ALL have to identify these during these days of self-examination and cast out the leaven!**

**Here are some more areas I see so many letting down their guard:**

- **HAVING AGAPE love for one another in spite of our differences.** Instead, we see “sheep wars” as ministers try to control the greatest number of sheep.
- **Taking God’s name in vain.** OMG. Discuss.
- **Not forgiving** someone who has repented, and accepting him back into your fellowship. **Read 2 Cor. 2** and see how this is so important. *We have to let someone be new* and acknowledge them if past bad behavior is not continuing.

(Discussed the point at the end of the story “Les Miserables”. Who is the Cosette in your life, as she inspired Jean Valjean and assured him that he was a good man in spite of something in his past. Find your Cosette. But more importantly, Yeshua - Jesus Christ - has come to give you hope and believe in you, at least to believe in what HE can do in you. Find Him.))

- Are we getting soft on **keeping sabbath holy**? Be ready for sabbath. Not conducting business on sabbath or even going to restaurants. No work on the sabbath, especially work related to work. Hard – when you’re an entrepreneur.
- **SEX sins** – start in the mind. Now with a computer you can within seconds see ANYTHING you want. We see and think. Then we imagine and lust. Strip Clubs in most American cities now where for a beer you can see whatever you want. OK, I don’t hear preachers talking much about this anymore, but many of you hearing or reading this KNOW this is a problem for all too many believers. It sets a very bad example to the world when we behave as they do. Men and women, if you have blood flowing in your veins, we will always have to be on guard against sex sins. If any of you think you would never do a sex sin, you don’t know yourself yet. And it’s a bigger problem for some than for others.
- **Breaking marriage vows.** Unless you have a Biblical reason for divorce that you know in your heart is exactly that... you have no reason to divorce. If there has been adultery or infidelity, you have a reason to divorce. Without that, you do not. Without a Biblical reason, you’re lying, you’re breaking your marriage vows. This has to stop.
- **Getting more and more involved in Babylon and its entertainment and ways.** Enjoying their movies that mostly show sinners sinning... why should we be watching any of that kind of thing? We say we like “action films” and thereby justify our lust to see someone’s throat slit or brains blown out. Can that be of God? Perhaps this too is a “hidden heaven” you should dispose of.

*We all have our own heavens. They will differ somewhat from person to person. I just wanted to give some examples to get you thinking as you examine yourself before Passover so that ON Passover day, we can come before Master and take his cup and eat of His bread in a worthy manner. HE is the One worthy. We repent, acknowledge our need for Him, acknowledge the work we have yet to do to put sinful ways and habits out of our lives as we change to living the Kingdom Way.*

**Good news: In the end, it’s HOW WE END UP IS WHAT COUNTS**

**Remember also this: Scripture is CLEAR. It is how we END UP that counts.**

**Ezekiel 18:20-31**

The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son. The righteousness of the righteous shall be upon himself, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.

**21 "But if a wicked man turns from ALL his sins which he has committed, keeps all My statutes, and does what is lawful and right, he shall surely live; he shall not die.**

Notice v 21 says 'FROM ALL his sins'. There is to be NO leaven found in our quarters for 7 days. Decisive action must take place.

22 "NONE of the transgressions which he has committed shall be remembered against him; because of the righteousness which he has done, he shall live.

23 Do I have any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" says Adonai Yehowah, "and not that he should turn from his ways and live?

24 "But when a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, and does according to all the abominations that the wicked man does, shall he live? All the righteousness which he has done shall *not* be remembered; because of the unfaithfulness of which he is guilty and the sin which he has committed, because of them he shall die.

25 "Yet you say, 'The way of Adonai is not fair.' Hear now, O house of Israel, is it not My way which is fair, and your ways which are not fair?

26 When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness, commits iniquity, and dies in it, it is because of the iniquity which he has done that he dies.

27 Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive.

28 Because he considers and turns away from all the transgressions which he committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die.

29 Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of Adonai is not fair.' O house of Israel, is it not My ways which are fair, and your ways which are not fair?

**30 "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says Adonai Yehowah. "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin.**

**31 CAST AWAY from you ALL the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel?**

**TOTALLY deleaven. Cast away ALL the transgressions. Get a new heart and new spirit, as David prayed for that.**

Maybe you're hearing or reading this in prison or in a mental prison of despair. You can have hope. It's how you end UP that counts. Trust in our Master and ask Him to clean you up and help you change. Then start throwing out the sins out of your life. We could have had a FILTHY past, but if we put that away, change, start being someone different with God's spirit – God sees how we end up! That's what counts. But that means chucking the HIDDEN LEAVEN in our lives – the sins we KNOW we have but hope nobody finds out. *I refer to the sins that lurk in our thoughts, in our head* – but we know how to put up a righteous façade. And that's all it is – a façade.

IN fact, we should start believing that GOD IN US **IS** perfecting us, changing us.

Start believing the BEST about one another – and about yourself – even if EVERYONE seems to want to bring up your past sins. We become what we think. So let's think positively, righteously. 1 Cor. 13 says love keeps no record of wrongs! NONE. No, love covers a sin, especially those repented of. Love believes the best.

**2 Corinthians 5:14-17**

For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; 15 and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.

**16 Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer.**

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

**REPLACE THE LEAVEN WITH UNLEAVENED BREAD**

**Let's review one more point: replace the sin with something far stronger. We REPLACE leavened bread with unleavened bread. Listen to our Abba speak through Paul in the book of Ephesians:**

**Ephesians 4:20-32**

But that is not how you learned about the Messiah,<sup>21</sup> assuming you heard Him and were taught by Him, because the truth is in Jesus:

22 you took off your former way of life, the old man that is corrupted by deceitful desires;<sup>23</sup> you are being renewed in the spirit of your minds;

**24 you put on the new man, the one created according to God's likeness in righteousness and purity of the truth.**

25 Since you put away lying, Speak the truth, each one to his neighbor, because we are members of one another.

26 Be angry and do not sin. Don't let the sun go down on your anger,<sup>27</sup> and don't give the Devil an opportunity.

28 The **thief** must no longer steal. Instead, he must do honest work with his own hands, so that he has something to share with anyone in need.

29 No rotten **talk** should come from your mouth, but only what is good for the building up of someone in need, in order to give grace to those who hear.

30 And don't grieve God's Holy Spirit, who sealed you for the day of redemption.

**31 All bitterness, anger and wrath, insult and slander must be removed from you, along with all wickedness.**

32 And be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God also forgave you in Christ.

**Ephesians 5:1-12**

Therefore, be imitators of God, as dearly loved children.

2 And walk in love, as the Messiah also loved us and gave Himself for us, a sacrificial and fragrant offering to God.

**3 But sexual immorality and any impurity or greed should not even be heard of among you, as is proper for saints.**



4 And coarse and foolish talking or crude joking are not suitable, but rather giving thanks.

5 For know and recognize this: no sexually immoral or impure or greedy person, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of the Messiah and of God.

6 Let no one deceive you with empty arguments, for because of these things God's wrath is coming on the disobedient. 7 Therefore, do not become their partners.

8 For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light—9 **for the fruit of the light results in all goodness, righteousness, and truth**—10 discerning what is pleasing to the Lord.

11 Don't participate in the fruitless works of darkness, but instead, expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to mention what is done by them in secret.

What's Paul talking about? The leaven in our lives that has to be thrown out – and replaced with the unleavened actions of a changed life. *Don't just stop sinning, but start doing righteous things relative to those areas of sin in our lives.*

Anyway, I'm done. I have a lot of deleavening to do in my life – which is FAR more important than the physical leaven in our house, which we will also dispose of.

My brothers and sisters, I'm a man like you, a man with like passions as anyone else. I want to be in the kingdom. We're saved by His grace, but we prove our gratitude by now letting a changed and changing life be more and more evident. We won't be in God's kingdom if we don't deleaven our lives. Remember physically, the Israelites were told that anyone who did not deleaven their homes would be "cut off from Israel". The same applies spiritually.

Let's conclude this with 1 Cor. 5, apparently written right around the days of Unleavened Bread. Notice how Paul even swings to the spiritual intent of the deleavening. We have to throw the whole leavened loaf out – and replace it with Yeshua. You invite Him to be your Savior and come live in your heart. Give NO quarter to ANY sin.

### **1 Corinthians 5:6-8**

Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? [we have to get rid of ALL the old leaven]

**7 Therefore purge 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.**

May Yehowah bless you and keep you. May he watch over you and guard you. May He help you put all the sin out of your life as you accept the risen and resurrected Yeshua as your new life.

I pray and trust we will have a blessed, comforting, gracious, peaceful Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread wherever you are, my dear kin in Christ. May Yehowah bless you and keep you!

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**Addendum:**

For those of you who are new to all of this, here are the verses that tell us to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Remember the first month of God's calendar began with the official sighting of the new moon in Jerusalem on the night of March 13, 2013, making the first full day March 14. There were telephoto shots made on the 12<sup>th</sup> that showed a crescent moon when it was enlarge and enhanced, but the naked eye never saw a new moon on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Anyway, I think it's very important for us to keep the Passover on the right appointment day that Yehowah established: on day 14 after the new moon was seen with the unaided eye.

**Leviticus 23:4-8**

4 'These are the feasts of Yehowah, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at their appointed times.

5 On the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight is Yehowah's Passover.

6 And on the fifteenth day of the same month is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to Yehowah; seven days you must eat unleavened bread.

7 On the first day you shall have a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it.

8 But you shall offer an offering made by fire to Yehowah for seven days. The seventh day shall be a holy convocation; you shall do no customary work on it."

**Exodus 12:14-20**

14 'So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the Lord throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance.

15 **Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread. On the first day you shall remove leaven from your houses.** For whoever eats leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that person shall be cut off from Israel.

16 On the first day there shall be a holy convocation, and on the seventh day there shall be a holy convocation for you. No manner of work shall be done on them; but that which everyone must eat — that only may be prepared by you.

17 So you shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this same day I will have brought your armies out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall observe this day throughout your generations as an everlasting ordinance.

18 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread, until the twenty-first day of the month at evening.

19 For seven days no leaven shall be found in your houses, since whoever eats what is leavened, that same person shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he is a stranger or a native of the land.

20 You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your dwellings you shall eat unleavened bread."

