

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Seven

Seven Days of Unleavened Bread

Unleavened bread was first associated with the Passover feast in which the feast was to be observed with unleavened bread. The day immediately following the Passover, the children of Israel were to observe seven days in which they would eat no leaven.

The parameters of this feast of unleavened bread are set forth for us in Ex. 12:15 "Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel. 16 And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done of you. 17 And ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.

18 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even. 19 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. 20 Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread."

The pure, perfect, complete body of Christ is represented in the communion service by unleavened bread. We know the bread was unleavened because the communion was first established on the day of the Passover. Therefore, only unleavened bread could be used. Furthermore, leaven represents false doctrine, false worship, pride, malice, wickedness and ultimately sin (Matt. 16:6, 11, 12; Mk. 8:15; Lk. 12:1; 1 Cor. 5:6-8; Gal. 5:9). Contrariwise, the body of Christ is complete and completely without sin. Additionally, nothing needed to be added to the work of Christ as the children of Israel were to observe a holy convocation on both the first and the seventh day of the feast of unleavened bread. They were to do no servile

work in these days. Thus the works of men are completely excluded from having any effects on the work of Christ in redemption.