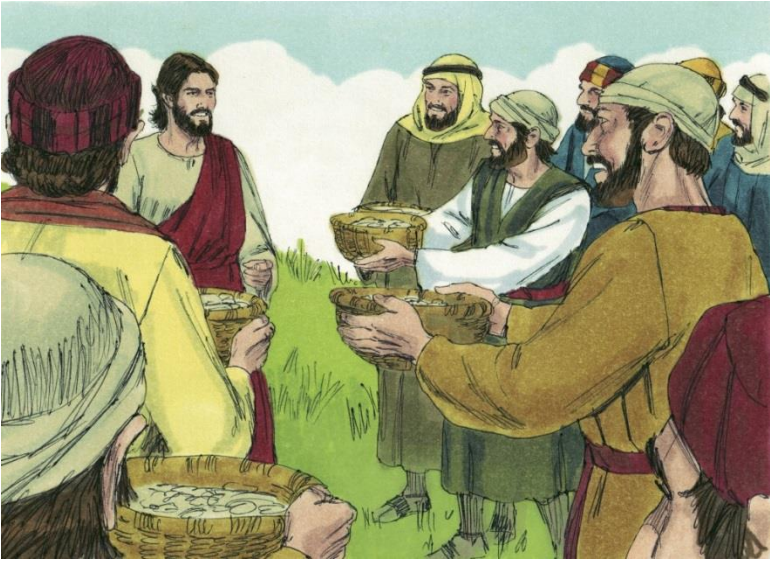


The TRUTH About LEAVEN

“...a little leaven
leavens the
whole lump...”

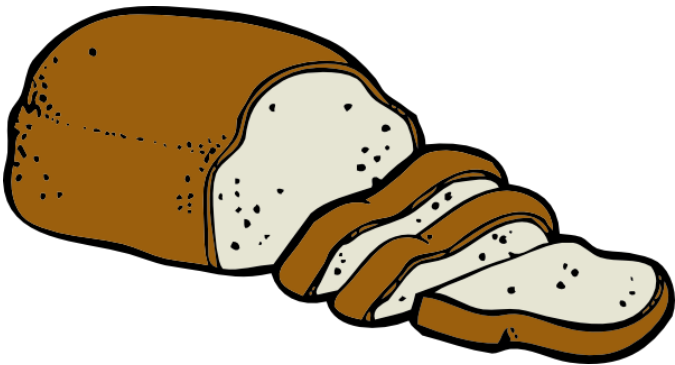
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One day Jesus told His
disciples:

“Beware of the leaven
of the Pharisees and
Sadducees”.

Since LEAVEN is
something that is put
into bread before baking,
His disciples thought He
was talking about bread.



But He wasn't!!!
...He was talking about
something else.

In the
Old Testament, God used
leaven as a picture of
something that CORRUPTS
something else.



Define Corrupt



When these disciples
were growing up
their parents had
taught them about
the
**Jewish Feast
Days.**

In fact, their families
celebrated those
feasts every year –
just like we celebrate
Christmas and Easter.

The **FIRST** feast they
celebrated every year
is called –

THE FEAST OF PASSOVER.

Through this feast
God wanted the
Jewish people to
remember that 100's
of years ago their
forefathers were
ENSLAVED in Egypt.

It was on the very
first Passover that
God freed them from
slavery.



It was right after that first Passover, that God told Moses to tell the people –

“AND YOU SHALL BE TO ME A KINGDOM OF PRIESTS AND A HOLY NATION.” – Exodus 19:6

That was God's purpose
for the Nation of
Israel from the
beginning – He had called
them to be the one
nation that would rule
over all the other
nations of the world;
and the night of that
first Passover was
when God began the
process of bringing
about His plan for them.

But first, they had to
prove themselves
WORTHY to rule. So...



The second feast they were to
celebrate every year was to
demonstrate their obedience!
This feast is called...

The Feast of Unleavened Bread.

This feast began the day
after Passover and
lasted 7 days!

For this feast the
Jews had to clean out
all the LEAVEN from
their houses, AND
they were not to eat
any bread that had
LEAVEN in it.

There was to be no
leaven found in their
houses for the whole 7
days!

(Remember "7" is a number
that shows "completion." So 7
days would mean a COMPLETE
period of time)

If anyone was found
still having leaven in
their house, they would
be CUT OFF

from the people.
This was a very serious
command from God.

So when Jesus told His
disciples to



“Beware of the leaven
of the Pharisees and
Sadducees” that’s why
they thought He was
talking about BREAD

because they had grown
up celebrating The Feast
of UNleavened Bread
year after year.

But Jesus had bigger
things to teach them...

God had given those
feasts to the Jewish
people in order to teach
them about things that
were to take place at a
FUTURE time for Israel.

Jesus wanted His
disciples to understand
that LEAVEN is a
PICTURE of something
that CORRUPTS
something else.

And so...

After Jesus explained a
little more to His
disciples,
they finally realized
that He was telling

them to BEWARE of
the TEACHINGS



of the Pharisees and
Sadducees.

Jesus was showing
them that "leaven"
– or wrong teaching –
corrupts right teaching.

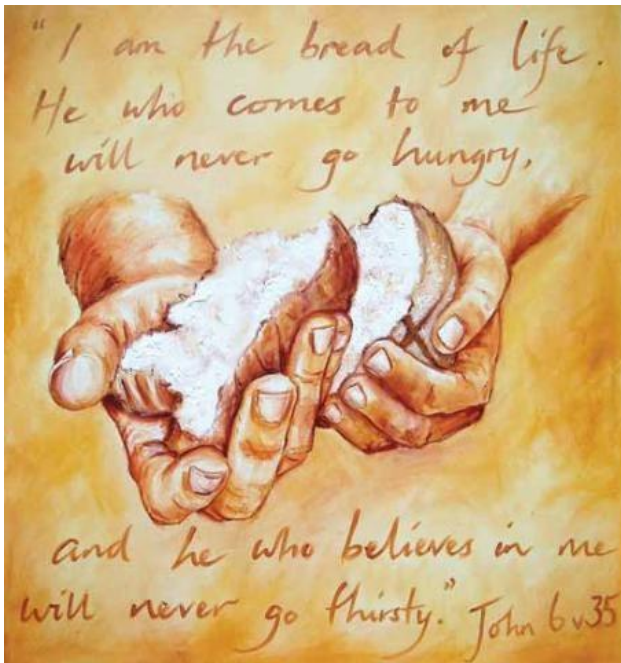
"Leaven" allows a person
to believe something
that is false.



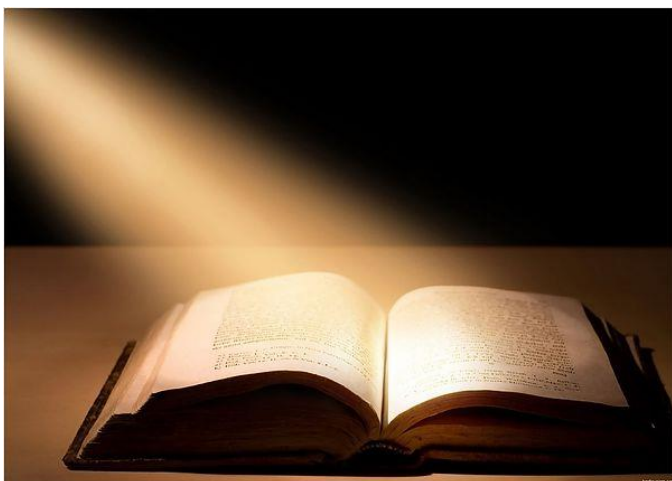
And THAT is NOT good!

So, part of the reason
God told the Jews to
eat bread without
leaven in it, and
to put away all leaven
from their households
for a complete period of
time was so that they
could UNDERSTAND
THE PICTURE – that
false teaching RUINS
correct teaching!
And FALSE TEACHING
was something they
should put far away
from them!

UNleavened BREAD
points to the
WORD OF GOD.



Jesus is the BREAD OF
LIFE, Who came down
from heaven!



HIS NAME IS
THE WORD OF GOD.

And in Him there is
no leaven.
EVERYTHING He says is
pure; all that He
teaches is TRUTH.
God wants His People to
only believe TRUTH.

Jesus' teachings are
different from the
teachings of man – His
teachings are based
WHOLELY on what God
teaches in His Word.

The Pharisees and
Sadducees didn't like
the pure teachings of
Jesus, so they leavened
the message. And
God knows that once
leaven is put into
something, it eventually

takes over the whole
thing that it is put
into. And so...

Jesus was warning His
disciples to "Beware"
of their false teachings.



Do you think Jesus
wants
You to learn anything
from this teaching?



Yes, Jesus wants YOU
to learn this lesson,
too!

Jesus wants you to
be careful what you
learn too.

Because
even a LITTLE wrong
teaching eventually
destroys the purity of
God's Word.

That's why it is so
important for you to
READ and STUDY the
Bible CAREFULLY, so that
when someone teaches
something different
from what Jesus
teaches, you would be
able to tell the
difference.

And so you must always
remember...

...A little
leaven
leavens the
whole lump!