

THE LORD'S SUPPER - THE BREAD AND CUP

By Dr. Kent A. Field, 1982

This study was prepared in response to the ever increasing number of congregations that are using impure bread and fruit of the vine for their Lord's Supper Observation. It is the intention of this study to prove that the use of anything other than pure unleavened bread (flour and water alone) and pure unfermented grape juice is quite simply unbiblical, and that those who are doing so need to repent and begin taking the Lord's Supper as Christ Himself instituted long ages ago. In light of this, it matters little what anyone's preacher, scholar or church theology teaches beyond the Scriptures.

1. Matt.26:19-29; Mk.14:22-25; Lk.22:17-20 Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper.
2. Matt.26:19; Mk.14:16; Lk.22:13 The disciples prepared for the Passover in accordance with the Law of God. This same Passover meal was used to institute the Lord's Supper.
3. 1 Cor.10:16,17; 11:20-34 These with the above passages teach that the bread and the cup represent the pure and uncontaminated body and blood of Christ. Uncontaminated and pure because He was pure and sinless, "unspotted", 1 Pt.1:19.
4. Lk.13:21; 1 Cor.5:6,7; Gal.5:9 Even the littlest amount of leaven leavens or spoils the whole lump of dough.
5. Mt.16:6,11,12; Mk.8:15 Beware of the leaven of the ungodly!
6. Mt.13:33; Lk.13:21 Leavening is compared with corrupt doctrine and error.
7. Col.2:17; Heb.8:5; 10:1 The Old Testament system was actually a shadow of the N.T. system. Therefore, Christ is our Passover, (1 Cor.5:7). And the emblems representing both His Body and His Blood must be pure, as for the Passover.
8. Ex.12:8-20 The institution of the Passover.
 - V.8 unleavened bread in addition to bitter herbs were to be eaten. The herbs were never to be added to the bread inside!
 - V.5 The sacrificed lamb had to be without blemish so as to be an accurate foreshadow of the blood of Christ.
 - V.15 They were to eat only UNleavened bread, and remove anything pertaining to leaven from their houses! Anyone who eats anything leavened for the Passover will be cut off from the children of God!
 - V.18 You shall eat unleavened bread.
 - V.19 No leaven (that which causes fermentation) shall be found in your houses. And whoever eats anything leavened he shall be cut off from the congregation of the children of God.
 - V.20 You shall not eat anything leavened. And you shall eat unleavened bread in all your dwellings.v.34,39 Demonstrates that NO leavening got into the dough for the Passover.
9. Ex.13:3,7 Nothing leavened was to be ingested! NOTHING leavened shall be seen among you, nor in all your borders! This would include "anything" as is stated!
10. Ex.12:8-11 The Lord's Passover bread was a bread made and eaten "in haste". No more time was to be taken in its making than to mix flour and water! Remember, "in haste"!
11. Ex.12:39 Again describes the "haste" in preparing the dough! The point was that they were to remember how quickly that they had to move out of Egypt!
12. Deut.16:3,4 Nothing leavened was to be eaten! Nothing! The Passover bread is not to be enjoyable to the taste! It is the "bread of affliction" to remind the Jews of Egyptian captivity! Adding sweeteners, flavorings, and spices is NOT a bread of affliction that would remind anyone of Egyptian slavery!
13. Ex.29:1,2 Even in the consecration of priests, only pure oil was permitted and required to be mixed with fine flour, and remember, this wasn't for the Passover.
14. Ex.23:18; 34:25 Absolutely no leavening of any kind was to be used in any burnt offering to the Lord.
15. Lev.7:12 The peace offering consisted of unleavened bread made of fine flour and oil only!
16. Lev.8:26 There is even a difference between plain unleavened bread and unleavened bread mixed with oil. And remember that the bread for the Passover itself never allowed for the oil as it is allowed in the various other burnt offerings.

17. Lev.2:4,5 In the grain offering, unleavened bread consisted only of fine flour and oil mixed!
18. Lev.2:11 Even in those breads where oil was to be used with the fine flour, BOTH leaven and HONEY are strictly forbidden by God to be mixed in the unleavened bread! Here, by forbidding both leaven and honey from use in unleavened bread they are both classed together as impurity!!!
19. Nu.6:15,17,19 Even in the Nazarite vows only fine flour mixed with oil constitutes unleavened cakes.
20. Nu.9: 11 The Passover bread here is unleavened and here oil is not mentioned to be used as in other cases. Only unleavened bread, and eaten with, not in, bitter herbs (most likely endives (escarole) and wild lettuce) still used by Jews for the Passover in Egypt and Arabia.
21. Nu.28:5,9,12,13,17,28 All offering bread was only to be fine flour mixed with oil, and even the ratio was given. Nothing else is to be added! And remember oil was never mentioned for the Passover bread--just kneaded flour, Ex.12:34-39.
22. Josh.5:6; Ex.3:8,17; 13:5 Until the Jews entered into the promised land they weren't in a land yet that flowed with milk and HONEY. For them to add flavorings and sweetness such as from honey would have negated the very reason why God wanted them to keep the Passover! God wanted them to remember their haste!, their affliction, their not having access to fine spices, milk, and honey! Addition of such corruption makes a mockery of God's Passover and our Christ, (foreshadowed).
23. 1 Sam.28:24 Unleavened bread was made from fine flour alone!
24. Ezra 6:19-22 Here Israel celebrates the Passover to celebrate total and complete purity from their captors (Babylon) as from Egyptian captivity.

OTHER POINTS TO CONSIDER...

25. W.E. Vine says on page 327 in N.T. Words... "leavening" = "zume" in Greek, Gen.18:6; 19:3; Ex.12:8,11; Dt.16:3--all these passages teach that true unleavened bread is to be a bread "made in haste"— Not something where any special time is needed to be prepared! Vine goes on to say that the Passover bread MUST be insipid (without taste) to the taste! Thus reminding Israel of their afflictions and their need for self judgment!(now consider 1 Cor.11:28).
26. In Hebrew the words used in the passages discussed are:
 - "chamets" = leavened "chamets" = embittered, made sour
 - "machinetseth" = anything leavened "seor" = leaven or sour
 - "matstzah" = unleavened or sucked out or drained
27. International Standard Bible Encyclopedia - Vol•III,p•1862 says "sometimes wine lees were used to ferment or leaven dough according to Pliny, but there is little evidence that the Jews used this method." With few exceptions, leavening is always a symbol of impurity and corruption! Whether in bread or the fruit of the vine, it should be noted that—corruption!
28. I.S.B.E. Vol.IV, p.2256-57 "early Christian folk etymology connected the "Passover" ("pasah or pascha") with "Pascho" which means "to suffer" from which we get the word "passion". Thus the Passover bread is to be a bread of suffering as understood by the early Christians. This would therefore agree with the teaching of Dt.16:3 that requires the Passover bread to be the "bread of affliction".
29. To try to reason that the Lord's Supper bread should not be a bread of affliction ignores many Bible points.
 - a. Christ used the Passover bread to institute the Supper.
 - b. The Old Testament bread was actually an accurate foreshadow of Christ, "our bread of affliction"!(ie.Isa.53:3-9).
 - c. We too are to be reminded of the great haste with which God delivered us from the slavery of sin.
 - d. We too are to remember the insipid taste of our life in slavery to sin.
 - e. We too are to keep the emblems pure, as Israel, which denotes the ABSOLUTE purity of the Body and Blood of our Lord.
 - f. We too are to remember our afflictions under slavery as we partake of the Supper and remember that our Lord died to free us from them!
30. Numerous Rabbis have been consulted, as well as the Talmud (gemorah), the following instructions were given for the only proper way of preparing the Passover bread.
 1. For the actual Passover Feast itself (the Seder) the mixture is: PUREST FINE FLOUR AND WATER ALONE!, and in fact, the mixture must be cooked within 18 minutes to prevent any contamination and resulting fermentation from the air itself. It is a fact that normal air does contain

enough yeast spores (leaven) to leaven a lump of dough or a glass of juice unless proper precautions are taken! Thus, this agrees with the idea of a bread made in "haste", (see Ex.12).

2. Absolutely NO other ingredients are permitted in the mixture!
3. The bread must be tasteless!--no spices!, no sugars!, no honey! (See Lev.2:11), no baking soda!, no preservatives! As the Bible says, "fine four kneaded!" Naturally to knead flour you'll need a little water! But this must be pure.

Please pray for an open heart of understanding for the completely pure Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ! Now???