

A Time of Remembering

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Feast of Unleavened Bread

The season that you and I are here celebrating is always very inspiring, this time of year. And we understand that God has a very specific purpose for why you and I keep this Feast. This Feast of Unleavened Bread that we are here keeping, God tells us that it's a time for you and me to reflect. It's a time for you and me to remember, to remember our calling and how we got to where we are in God's Church.

So, that will be our subject today, *A Time of Remembering*.

We keep this Feast year by year, and we come here to learn more about our God. And we understand that He will deliver a people to become Elohim. So, you and I come before God, and we obey His instructions, and we follow Him; we follow what God says. We understand that we are His people. We understand that we are the Church of God that is preparing to become Elohim. We understand that there will be a remnant at the end of God's Church when Christ returns, and a deliverance will take place for God's Church at that time.

So, when we look at what is taking place upon this earth with Iran and other countries that are in this conflict that is ongoing, we understand that it's perilous times for mankind. God said it would be so. But we can see Russia, China, we see the other countries getting involved in the Middle East, and we have North Korea, so we understand that there are many weapons upon this earth that can destroy all living things upon this earth. That's the time that we find ourselves in.

We understand that we are that end-time Church that will be here at the return of God's Son to this earth, so God is preparing a people to be delivered at His return, God's Son. We understand that there will be some in God's Church that will be in the first resurrection, and we understand that there will be others that will live into a new age when Christ will be here and when Christ's Kingdom will be established upon this earth. So, it's exciting times to live at the time we live in in God's Church.

God tells us that what took place in Ancient Israel, that those things are for our admonition and for our learning. So, we will look at what took place in the past and see how we can apply it to our lives today, and we can use it to teach us how we are to live our lives. God says that we can learn from the past, so that's what we will do today: We will look at some of the past, of what took place.

God had it written that after being in captivity, it was time for a deliverance to take place, and for them it was their deliverance from Pharaoh, as we know, and from the land of Egypt. So, let's turn over to the book of Exodus, chapter 13, and we'll begin in verse 3. So, everyone put a marker here as we'll be coming back and forth to chapter 13.

Let's notice what Moses told the people, **Exodus 13:3—Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt.** So, when we look at that and apply it to our lives, and what took place in our lives, you and I are to reflect on this and remember our calling and remember how our Savior made it possible for our sins to be forgiven by becoming the Passover. That's how He did it. And this was the beginning for you and me, for our deliverance to begin. That's when it actually began.

All of us need to remember what we said to our God at baptism, and it's a time to reflect on what we said, and it's a time to remember what we said. We ought to remember how we were drawn to the truth. We are to remember how we were brought to baptism and then having hands laid upon us.

It says here, "Remember this day." So, we apply that to our lives because that is this day when our journey began. I hope everyone reflects on the sacrifices that were made so that we could have that blessing to be freed from sin eventually. And also, we'll be freed from a sick, sick world that Satan has created upon this earth. But God turns around and uses what Satan has established upon this earth to mold and fashion those that will become Elohim. God uses it to teach.

We understand that it's God's purpose for us in time to become a part of His Family, and we are to remember that God is delivering you and me from sin eventually. And we come together on the Night To Be Much Remembered to reflect on these things that we're speaking about today. We understand it's not a Holy Day, it's not a commanded assembly, but it is a time when God says that we are to remember. We are to remember that it is through God's sacrifice of His Son that has made it possible so that we could become in His Family in time.

So, let's notice what was written, and let's see what we can glean from what took place, and see how we can apply it to you and me. It says **...in which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage; because by strength of hand...** So, we understand that it was God that did it for them, and we understand that without God's help for you and me that none of us could make it. All of us have to have God's help and the help of His Son as our Passover to become free of sin eventually.

Let's notice how they had help: The Eternal brought them out from there, and He gave instructions. **... and no leavened bread shall be eaten.** So, we understand that in our time we have help, just as they did, and the instructions are just as valid for you and me as it was for them. And that's what this season is about: It's God's instructions for you and me at this time, and it's about striving to keep sin out of our lives and to live the way God says we are to live our lives. We are to do whatever it takes, brethren.

As I just referenced earlier, we are at the end. We don't have much time left to get our lives cleaned up. God says His Church would be clean.

Paul wrote in the book of Romans (and I'll just read through some of this about what Paul wrote), and Paul wrote about us giving thanks to God. That's what we should do because we have so much to be thankful for – for calling us out of Satan's world and bringing us to His truth. And Paul said, "We are to

give thanks to God, although you and I were the servants,” in other words, “the slaves of sin.” That’s what we were. We were servants of sin.

So, to kind of paraphrase what Paul said, we began to obey God when God began to call us, and a way was opened up for you and me to be delivered by our Passover, through what He did. God has brought you and me to His Church, and He’s in the process of delivering you and me out of sin into His Family. He’s doing that now through His end-time Church at this time, to be fed so that we can become in His Family, Elohim, to become Elohim. This is where it takes place. This is where it’s done.

Paul wrote that “having been made free from sin, we became the servants of righteousness.” So, we want to live the way of life that God instructs us to live. So, God says we are to become servants, servants of righteousness. And that’s what this season is actually about: to put sin out and become servants of righteousness.

[Exodus 13:4] On this day, you are going out in the month of Abib, and it will be when the Eternal brings you into the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, which He swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, and you shall keep this service in this month. So, He’s giving instructions.

Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there will be a Feast to the Eternal. Unleavened bread shall be eaten seven days, and no leavened bread shall be seen among you, nor no leaven be seen among you in all your quarters. So, for you and me, we are to remember our calling that led to the beginning of our freedom from Satan’s world and obey our God by following these instructions.

So, this is the beginning of God’s plan for you and me at this time, and it started with Passover for you and me. God is instructing you and me about this season that we are keeping, these days of Unleavened Bread. So, we are to strive without leavening for seven days, which pictures no sin, and no leaven shall be seen with us, no leavened bread.

God is preparing a Church to be clean, and He’s given us instructions of how to be clean. Some will be changed and resurrected and become a part of the 144,000, and also, there are those who are going to live on into the Millennium as a Church and then join the rest at the Great White Throne to become Elohim in God’s Family.

Verse 8—And you shall show your son in your day, saying, This is because of what the Eternal did for me when I came forth/was brought forth out of Egypt. So, shortly, we will have a thousand-year reign of Christ upon this earth to tell those living through that 1,100 years how we were brought out of sin and brought to become Elohim. So, this is ongoing.

Verse 9—This will be as a sign to you upon your hand. It has to do with our mind, and our work is what we’re reading. And it says, **for a memorial between your eyes.** It’s about the mind. It’s about how we

think. **...so that the Eternal's law may be in your mouth.** So, what comes out of here, what we speak about with this little tongue. And it's an untamable thing, the tongue is. That's what God says. But it should always agree with God. But we know that's not always the way it is. But thankfully, we have a Passover, because we can sin mightily with this little member that is between our teeth.

Verse 9 ...for with a strong hand the Eternal has brought you out of Egypt. So, we understand we have to have God's help, and we have to have Joshua the Christ, our Passover, so that we can be forgiven.

And here we see the instructions again about **You shall keep this ordinance in its season**, or as the word means "appointed times." We know when that is. We know when the Holy Days come around. We know that they come around from year to year. All of us carry this little calendar around with us so that we won't forget, so that we can remember when these days are.

So, God is telling you and me about what took place a long time ago, and we are to use it for our admonition and for our learning. So, that's why we go through this every year during this Feast of Unleavened Bread, so that we can apply it spiritually in our lives.

Let's turn over to the book of Hebrews. Let's turn over to Hebrews 10. I love these examples that were given. The examples show us that only God has the answers for you and me at this time, only God can show us the path to take. The Israelites could have gone another way, but it would have been without God. But it was God that led the way for them to the Red Sea, so only God can lead us in His way, the way that He wants us to walk. But we have to make choices along the way, and we have to want what God is leading us to, to become in His Family. And there is no other way under this sun.

Hebrews 10:19, it says, **Therefore, brethren...** And it says "**boldness**" here, but we understand what it's actually saying. By what Christ did through the veil that was torn from top to bottom. We understand that it was about freedom for you and me. It was about freedom for you and me to go before our God and make our request known.

So, we're able to go before God. That's what it's speaking about. And when it says, "the blood of Joshua," it's about Him spilling His blood to the ground so that we can have the forgiveness of sin. So, when we have sin, and we know we all do, we can repent and now be able to enter into that Holy of Holies through the blood of Joshua the Christ, by what He did. That's how you and I have the freedom to go before our God.

Verse 20 it says, **By a new and living way.** So, when that veil was torn in half from top to bottom, we know, we understand that in the past that only the High Priest could go behind that veil, and he could only do that once a year, and that was on the Day of Atonement. But now, when that veil was torn from top to bottom, it opened that veil so that you and I could go through that veil. We have that freedom now to go at any time. So, that was the new way that this is speaking about that was made for you and me, and it was made through what Christ did.

Verse 22—Let us draw near...near to God with a true heart. So, this is speaking about our inner being, what's inside. What's in our mind, it's in our inner being. **...in full assurance of faith, having our hearts** (our inner being, our minds) **sprinkled from an evil conscience.** So, it's about repentance.

And let's notice what is said: **our bodies washed with pure water. And let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering.** We know that all of us have sin that has to be repented of, and we have it on a continuing basis because all of us have these lusts of the flesh that are in each and every one of us. All of us are selfish. We are selfish human beings with this selfish human nature that we all have, and we all have this pride that we are full of. But God says here that we are to obey Him, and we are to do it without wavering. So, we repent quickly when we find sin; we don't let it linger. We nip it in the bud, brethren, right in the mind. Hopefully, always there before it gets any further.

Let's turn over to 2 Peter. There's a warning in 2 Peter about turning back from God's way. And we've seen so many do that very thing.

2 Peter 1:1, let's begin, and it says, **Simon Peter, a bondservant and apostle of Joshua the Christ, to those who have obtained like precious faith with us by/through the righteousness of our God and Savior Joshua the Christ. Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Joshua our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness** (the way to live), **and it's done through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue.** And what this Feast is giving us is more knowledge, brethren, about how to live and have true godliness in our lives.

...by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. Those lusts of the flesh are what cause all of that corruption, brethren. Has so much to do with it. Maybe not all, but a lot of it. Satan has his part also.

Those lusts, we have seen them take so many out of God's Church. But this is a warning here for you and me that was given. We've all had the sorrow of those that have left, that walked side by side with you and me to God's house every Sabbath. So, we see what those lusts can do. They can take you out so quick, brethren, out of God's Church.

But also for this very reason, exactly what we are reading, about what we are reading, **giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if all these things are yours and abound...** It's telling us the way, telling us the path, telling us the road, telling us how to live our life. **...you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Joshua the Christ.**

But let's notice what else is said: **For he who lacks these things is shortsighted, even to blindness.** If you lack any of these things and you're not living like this Feast pictures, striving to keep sin out of your life,

you will become blind. ...**and has forgotten that he was cleansed from his old sins.** That's very true of what actually happens to those that leave.

Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure. If you do these things, you will never stumble. For so—let's notice—an entrance... an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting—let's notice—Kingdom of our Lord and Savior Joshua the Christ. To become Elohim, brethren, to be free of sin for an eternity.

2 Peter 2:20—For after they have escaped, this is about that warning, **the pollutions of this world, Satan's world, and the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Joshua the Christ, they are entangled again, and they are overcome again. The latter end is worse for them than the beginning.** It should strike fear in all of us, brethren.

For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment, the holy commandment that was delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: It's like a dog returning to the vomit. It's pretty graphic, brethren, to turn back. God says it would have been better for them not to have ever been called or known the truth.

So, let's go back to Exodus 13, and let's drop down to verse 20. **Exodus 13:20—And they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness. And the Eternal went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud to lead them by the way.** In other words, to lead them the way. He was leading them to the Red Sea.

God gave us these Days of Unleavened Bread, and if we obey it, it's the path, it's the road that we are to follow so that we can follow God and become in His Family. And I've said this about the road that we are to follow, sometimes we ride in the ditches. We're either in the left ditch, or we're in the right ditch. Sometimes we make it back to the center of the road, where it's smooth. And that's the best place to be, as we all know. But we do have the ability to repent and get back on the right road. But eventually, we will have total freedom with eternity, brethren, if we stay on this road.

God gives us instructions about this Feast and about keeping our road clean, our path clean that we travel, and it's about the correct way for you and me to live our lives while we are in this flesh. We are on that road to be completely free of sin, brethren, if we don't take a detour off that road. But that's what God is offering you and me at this time, and we can tell that we are at the end of time, so don't take a detour.

Hopefully, all of us think about this Feast and how God has led us, and it's a beautiful thing to look back and reflect on how we got here. When we look back at this analogy of what happened to Ancient Israel and what took place, and how they were freed from slavery, it's a beautiful story for them, but it's an even more beautiful story for what God is doing now to those that will become Elohim.

And it says, **And the Eternal went before them by a pillar of a cloud to lead the way, to keep the cool during the day, and by night the pillar of fire to give them warmth during the nighttime.** So, God was looking after them. And these examples are given to you and me, and we are to look upon them spiritually. God is looking after you and me if we stay obedient, and He is leading us. And God was delivering them, and He is also delivering us, just as He was delivering them.

God lets us know that He's with us to lead the way. He's always there, reminding us of His way, and He does it Sabbath by Sabbath, Holy Day by Holy Day. So, the cloud led them, was protecting them on their journey, and that's the spiritual lesson for you and me.

Let's turn over to Revelation 12, and it's about more of the history of God's Church, and it tells us about what happened to God's Church.

Revelation 12:13— Now, when the dragon (Satan) saw that he was cast unto the earth... This tells us about the history of what took place, and let's notice what happened: **he persecuted the woman who brought forth the male Child.** It's about Satan and His battle against God and His Church.

And Ron just gave a series on how Satan wanted to have Joshua put to death. And we know about the time when Herod killed the children trying to get to Joshua to kill Him. He has constantly tried to destroy the Church of God. But God, like I said earlier, uses everything; everything that Satan does, God uses it to mold and fashion those that will become His people. And it's part of God's plan.

So, when we speak about Satan, those of us in the Church have always used Pharaoh as being symbolic of Satan, and we use it on a spiritual plane also because he wants to destroy us. And we are here celebrating this Feast of Unleavened Bread that pictures a time and into the future, from Pharaoh's time to where he came after the Church to destroy it. It says "he persecuted the woman who brought forth the male Child." So, from the very beginning, Satan has tried to destroy Christ, and he's tried to destroy the people of God various times through history.

And it said, **To the woman**, talking about the Church, **was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness into her place, where she was nourished for a time, times, and half a time from the face of the serpent.** It's telling us a story of what finally happened in time here to God's Church, that God had to intervene and protect His Church from that being in a very powerful way, and it says three and a half years of protection had to be given to God's Church.

John goes on to tell what led up to this, to this event, because, as it says here, **And the serpent...** This is what happened. We lived it. **Because the serpent had cast out of his mouth water like a flood after the woman**, to destroy the Church (better said). That was a flood, and it was massive, so massive that it brought about an Apostasy in God's Church. And it was like a flood that came after us, **that he might cause it to be carried away of the flood**, to destroy us.

Satan tried to destroy God's Church, and Ezekiel tells us about how this took place, where a third, a third, and a tithe of that last third was all that would be left at that time. God had to call some out of that that was left and awaken them, and then called some others into His Church.

Verse 16—And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had cast out of his mouth. So, this is about that remnant that will continue on to the end as a Church until the return of God's Son to this earth. This is where we are in time, brethren. We don't have much time left.

Verse 17—And the dragon—let's notice—was wroth with the woman (the Church) and went to make war—let's notice—with the remnant of her seed, who keep the commandments of God. So, we are that group of people, brethren, that God is leading, that keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread, who keep the commandments of God, who want to live righteously before their God, **who have the testimony—** and this means to have **the testimony of Joshua the Christ.**

This means that Christ is living in them and through them, and they in them. So, we understand what is being said. God is leading us just as He did Ancient Israel.

So, let's turn over to Ephesians 5. We understand that we are being led out of spiritual Egypt just as He led Ancient Israel to deliver them from captivity, and now, He is leading us to be born into His Family, to become Elohim, to be freed from sin, from captivity that that sin causes, and free from sin for an eternity.

We are so blessed to be able to partake of this Feast that shows the way that God leads us. It's a beautiful, beautiful picture, this Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the story of the Exodus is a beautiful story that actually happened. It's not a fairytale or a story tale. But God says what happened to them is for our admonition and our learning.

Ephesians 5:1—Therefore, be followers. In other words, this is a word that means "imitators," brethren, **imitators of God as dear children.** So, we want to follow God. We want to be of the same mind of God. We ought to live the way God says we ought to live our lives, so we want to be imitators of all of this, all of the ways of God.

And walk in love... That's the way of life we all want, is God's love, agape. So, this sums up everything about God. We are to walk in it, in God's love, **and walk in love as Christ also loved us and gave Himself for us as an offering and as a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.** So, it's a beautiful thing, and it's like the prayers of the saints that came up before God. It's like the incense that was brought into the altar behind the veil, and it was given to God that Revelation tells us about.

So, let us be ever so thankful for this Feast of Unleavened Bread and all that it teaches us about our deliverance from bondage. We look so forward to the rest of mankind, those that will be there, for their minds to be opened. And it's not long before the first of that will begin, brethren, and God's Son gets to

this earth. Minds will become opened. But for you and me, we are to learn from what was written about Ancient Israel. The most important thing is to remember the meanings of what everything pictured.

It's like remembering the Passover. We remember it from year to year, and we observe it. We know when it begins. We know the things that happened on that night and that following day throughout that day. We partake of the bread and wine and the washing of feet that God has told us how to observe it. The Feast of Unleavened Bread is so much about God delivering us from sin out of Egypt. That's what it pictures, and it's a lifelong process.

So, we're to learn these lessons at this season of the year, and we are to ever be on guard, brethren. We have a being that is like a roaring lion seeking to devour each and every one of us, so we are to be spiritually watchful. That's what they did on Passover night, they watched. And also, on the Night To Be Remembered. They watched as they were being delivered.

Many have been called, but now they are gone. So many are no longer here. Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt." Don't forget how you and I were drawn. Don't forget what it was like at baptism and what you said to God at that time. We are to remember when hands were laid upon us.

Brethren, to come out of sin is not an easy task, and it was not meant to be easy. So, we have to watch and pray so that we do not enter into temptation. This carnal human nature is in each and every one of us, and so we have to be so on guard about it, these lusts. "The lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life" is in each and every one of us, and it can reach out and grab you so quick, so we have to be on alert, brethren.

And all of this should be at the forefront of our thinking, especially where we are in time. So many have come and gone. More have left than have stayed. Scripture said, "Many are called, few are chosen." And that should be a fearful thing for you and me.

And when we look at this world scene that I spoke about earlier, what is taking place, we can see that we are on the doorstep now. We see the things in the news that are ready to explode at any moment. It's whenever it's God's time for it to take place.

It's written, "Hurt not the oil or the wine." And we know it has physical meanings, but it also has spiritual meanings for you and me. Don't let the physical things of Satan's world hurt this spirit that is in your mind and take you out of God's Church. Things can happen quickly, and we are there. We're at the door, and it's just God's timing as to when it will take place.

So, it's so important that we stay focused on the meaning of this Holy Day season about sin. So, all of us need to take heed and stay close to our God. And for you and me at this season, it's a time to reflect on our calling.

And so, it is a time for you and me to remember how we got here, how God called us, and to understand what God is offering, has done for you and me. The most awesome offer that could ever be offered to anyone, brethren, it's that pearl of great price, that treasure that was in a field. It's so valuable that there is not enough gold upon this earth to equal it in value.

So, brethren, stay focused on this Holy Day season and stay close to our God.