

Computer Generated Transcript - We're going to continue on in our service this morning we're going to continue on in this series we started talking last week about Passover and I want to be referencing that again but there were seven feasts laid out in Leviticus that are God's feasts they're God's holidays all right he specifically called them out he's the one that specifically gave instructions for how they should be used He's the one that specifically said this is what I want you to do and when I want you to do it all right and so God instituted these things we have all these I mentioned it last week you know there's a holiday it seems like every single day on our calendar right if you've got a calendar that shows every one of those things like I don't know is it Friday that was national puppy day you know and today is probably you know national cream filled donut day or something like that some weird I don't I don't know you know I mean we have a holiday every single day of the year it seems like but there are seven that God laid out himself right now I want to be careful I'm going to give this disclaimer again this is not about reinstating the feasts OK when I talk about these things it's not because I feel like we need to as a church designate this time to go through these Jewish feasts again please don't misunderstand that I talked about it out of first Corinthians a little bit last week where Paul specifically says it's not about days it's not about festivals it's not about those things none of this is not saying we need to reinstitute these feast because we've been messing up for the last two thousand years this is simply me saying there is a lot of information about this time that we're in specifically right now that was foreshadowed fifteen hundred years before Jesus took his first breath as a man as the incarnated Jesus the Godhead who came down to this earth and breathed the breath as well as as a man and that we have this this foreshadowed fifteen hundred years beforehand all right and so I want to just encourage you with this concept of this is just. To look at Jesus Jesus is in the Old Testament concealed and he's in the New Testament revealed and it's such an easy easy picture to see Jesus and all these things and I want to kind of go through this week a lot of times we tend to read the bible kind of in as though it was in a vacuum right and I talked about this a little bit last week we talk about like the Old Testament you know we were talking about the plagues in Egypt last week and we talk about it like it's a mano a mano thing between Pharaoh and Moses and no one else was involved when in reality these things were incredibly public and every single person who is within any sort of area within this would have heard about it and known about it heard the heard the challenges heard the responses seen the plagues this isn't done in a vacuum we read in the New Testament a lot of times story by story is specially for reading the Gospels or one of the history books the letters aren't quite like that but if we're reading Matthew Mark Luke and John or X. we tend to just read it story by story as though it's somehow isolated from everything else before and after it right and I'm not trying to say that you're you're a terrible person or I'm a terrible person because we've done it we do that because that's how we handle stories right in every other in every other area of our life we're kind of trained to read that way we're trained to think that way and but these things did not happen in a vacuum and I want you to understand this passion week that would begin this week right as you've got a poem in your hand right or maybe you took away your kids because they'd already been smacking their sister with it right so now you've got two or three of them you know or however that works you've got a palm in your hand because today is Palm Sunday it's what we call the beginning of the Passion Week it's how we mark out the beginning of this time and so Jesus rides in and you can see this I want to look at this Matthew chapter twenty one verses one through eleven I'm not going to read it for. Begum this morning but that's where it is if you want to go and see it you can look it up and you'll see it there Matthew chapter twenty one verses one through eleven Jesus rides into Jerusalem on an unbroken cold just as it was prophesied that he would do OK and he comes in to these thunderous streams right again we've talked about this a lot of you've never been here on our church or at our church during one of these things we've talked about this a lot in the past about how a lot of us have this imagined as this quiet scene because we were taught it on a flannel graph you know at some point in time in our life and so we have it imagine is this this really quiet peaceful thing that happened and they just laid their coats down and up but it literally says if you read through the story that the corners of the city were shaking because of the volume of what was

happening when Jesus Christ came and I don't know if you know this but the palm branch is a national symbol of the Nation of Israel much like we have the bald eagle or the American flag the palm branch was a national symbol and so they're calling him a messianic title again as they as they're greeting him and he's coming and this is a moment where they believe that the Messiah is coming to overthrow the Roman garrison in their city and it's this thunderous loud sounding huge moment of national pride as they're shaking these palm branches and they're laying down their coats before the Messiah and they're ready for him to do what they think he's there for. Right can you relate to that how you were sure God was going to do it your way and then he didn't. And we're left to wonder why sometimes we're angry sometimes we're just confused we were sure that God was going to I was positive that I knew what he wanted me to do I was positive that that I heard that this is what was going to happen and then we're left with that afterwards wondering. How did I miss that. They were positive the Messiah was coming to overthrow wrong to knock them out of the Nation of Israel and reestablish a physical kingdom as Jerusalem. With its capital. With Jerusalem as its capital that was really bad English structure right there sorry. That's what they were expecting that's fully what they thought was happening on that day and Jesus comes in and he does none of those things as a matter of fact what he does is he goes to the temple and if most of you are familiar with your Bible at all some of you might not be at all and that's that's OK We're so glad you're here and we want to help you with that Jesus instead of going to the Roman garrison and overthrowing what was happening there goes to the temple where they believe they've got things figured out where they think that they understand what's actually happened they understand there according to their their thought process is that this is the one thing we really understand and instead of going to the Roman garrison overthrowing that he goes to the temple and overthrows all the money changers there and disrupts everything now I want you to understand as we talk about the feasts there are three feast in the nation of Israel that were mandatory they're called the migratory feast OK three of these fees happened and every male Jew was required if at all possible to travel to Jerusalem for these feasts one of them is the feast that we're talking about this week the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The way the calendar works is Passover happens on a Friday the very next day the Feast of Unleavened Bread starts and it goes to the next Saturday it's seven days long OK So these are a lot of times the Jews would call this the week of Passover though it's just the same week it's one continuous thing that happens in the spring feast but because of the Feast of Unleavened Bread and all of these people that are supposed to be there this is like the biggest day the biggest a week where these people have to actually make money selling things at the temple. This is their Black Friday. I mean now I'm not trying to justify what was happening there were completely taking advantage particularly of foreigners who had to come they were charging far more than the value of what they were selling was because they had supply and there was high demand everybody needed the Passover Lamb. If they couldn't afford a lamb they needed the other sacrifices that they could afford there and there were there were there were sacrifices for some people this was one of the few times that they would come so there would be extra sin offerings this week and there would be extra there would be times where they would be dedicating to this was a huge week for the nation of Israel and particularly the city of Jerusalem where the temple was and instead of going to the Roman garrison Jesus goes to the place where these money changers arrive he goes into the temple and he throws them out he upsets all the cards and he gets everything out of there the one thing they thought they were understood understood the most science says you are messing up everything we had in place and people are ticked and Jesus rides in. On a Sunday to shouts of Messiah. And on Passover Friday five days later to crucify. It's an amazing thing as you study all these things out as you look at how they all play together. As Jesus comes into what he's doing so the way that these fees work is they start the night before OK So if we're talking about Passover they would eat the Passover meal on a Thursday night that's why Jesus was in the upper room with his disciples that night taking what we call communion he was having the Passover night sun goes down that's when the day starts OK and they're in there they're they're doing these things Jesus is taking his Passover meal. And the entire nation is doing this I want you to to hear this the entire nation is remembering

Jesus says or is remembering God sending the Passover lamb and Exodus. Right and they kill this innocent lamb that has become their land we talked about this last week it's become their land and it stands in their place and they're there passed over by this angel and they do this every year to remember many people even to this day for thirty five hundred years plus this festival as happened yearly for the for the nation of Israel this is the oldest continuous celebration known to man. OK and they're there so they're doing this Passover meal Jesus is a part of it and the next day right as the entire nation of Israel is looking at their land as they've gone through their house of the as they've done all these things they've made their meal they've eaten and they've sang songs they've talked about how the messiah how it's going to represent the Messiah all of these things as they are eating their meal. Jesus is being arrested in the garden. And he's been taken. From illegal trial to illegal trial as the nation of Israel is celebrating the Passover Jesus is being tried and on Friday Good Friday instead of Jesus going around and starting the preparation for the next day as as the rest of the Nation of Israel is doing what we're told we're about to talk about as they're getting ready for the Feast of Unleavened Bread as they're going to go through all these things as they're remembering this is the sinless. The sinless lamb as they're remembering and they're thinking about all of these different things Jesus is being tried and they take him. And they scourge him and here's a cat of nine tails I don't know how well you can see this Michael and took this thing. And he put a bunch of deer bone at the bottom of it. Which turns this into from a nice looking thing into something that's pretty. Crazy looking. And the last Jesus was something like this is not a bullwhip when you think about them whipping Jesus this is like what they would use the people who are really good at this could get all nine tails the stick into your skin every time the point wasn't to whip the point was to smack this thing down into somebody's flesh get him stuck and then have to rip it out. As the nation of Israel is preparing for the Feast of Unleavened Bread Jesus is being beaten almost to death with a tool like this. As they're going through their houses and they're removing leaven and fathers are talking to their children about removing all sin from their lives the only sinless man who has ever lived has a thorn a crown of thorns like this crammed onto his forehead as they mock him calling him the king of the Jews. Then they take him. To a hill outside of the city as grandmas are recounting the story to their grandchildren about how they had to flee from Egypt and they didn't have a chance to let their bread rise they take spikes like this this is a reproduction of what they think would have gone through his hands I know you can't see this very well but this is a Roman nail and it's not sharp. I mean this thing is blown on the end and they drive this through his hands and they take another one that's between seven and ten inches long and they drive it through his feet and as the nation of Israel is remembering how they are supposed to be spotting sin and removing it from their lives the sinless Messiah dies on a cross because they needed him to. And they didn't even know. Most people in Israel most people in Jerusalem. Were probably still celebrating on this day. They had to get him off the tree. And they had to get him into a grave before sunset because on Friday night on sunset when the sun goes down that's when the Feast of Unleavened Bread starts and that's when they would say the start. Of their holy day would begin and no work was allowed to be done on the Sabbath so they had to make sure he was dead and get him into a grave and we're going to talk about that in just a few moments but I want you to understand that all of this stuff is related it's not a whole bunch of separate stories that happen in a vacuum every single piece of this is for ordained and timed by God not because Jesus thought it would be great to be tortured and killed on a cross but because he was willing to sacrifice sacrifice himself for you and for me because we needed it. We needed a Passover lamb just like we talked about last week because we're not spotless we're not sinless. And we need a god to remove our sin. And so Jesus is buried. In the feast of unleavened bread begins Leviticus Chapter twenty three verses six through it is where you'll see this feast laid out. It's a seven day festival I talked about that that starts on Passover and this is remembering how they left Israel or how they left Egypt it was so fast got a miraculously signed them or saved them and they needed to go I want you to turn to Mark Chapter eight verse fifteen. Mark Chapter eight verse fifteen. You begin to see the picture of what this is leaven or yeast depending on your translation OK usually symbolizes error or evil in the Bible OK It symbolizes sin error evil Ural if you

have an older translation of might say leaven a modern translation will say yeast OK Mark Chapter eight verse fifteen Jesus tells his disciples watch out Be ware of the yeast of the fair seas and Herod or the leaven of hairs of the fair seas and heaven first Corinthians five three six Paul war five and six Paul warns the Corinthian church don't you realize that this sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough Paul is saying a little yeast goes the whole way right when you Bill I like to make bread I don't know about you I actually like it I man he loves East breads like homemade bread but she hates making anything with the East End So one time when she was gone I went online I was like How hard could it be right and I found I found a recipe and I made some bread and then I like my very first one was a success now I failed like sixty times after that but my very first one was a success but when you make bread or rolls or something with yeast you put in as much as you put in flour no gross right and that would taste awful. But you only need a little bit of east a little packets are like two and a quarter teaspoons for a whole batch of dough because a little bit affects the entire. Loaf of bread a little bit impacts the entire batch of dough it doesn't take much OK then he says Don't you realize a sin is like a little yeast that spreads through the whole batch of dough a little yeast ferment or corrupts the entire loaf acts to twenty seven Peter's talking about a prophecy David made of the Messiah for you will. Not leave my soul among the dead or allow your holy one to rot in the grave he's talking about this he's reading a solemn of of of David and he prophesies that that that Jesus was not going to rot that Jesus would not become corrupted he wasn't corrupted in life and he will not be corrupted in death it has been prophesied since the time of David. But that happens and that's what this feast really becomes all about we see all of this stuff coming. Into play in Exodus twelve fifteen. God tells Moses for seven days the bread you eat must be made without East on the first day of the festival remove every trace of yeast from your homes anyone who eats bread made with Easter in the seven days of the festival will be cut off from the community of Israel ya was right this is a big deal. God is saying as we remember this thing we want you to take this seriously Exodus thirteen seven God says No leavened bread shall be seen among you nor in your quarter's right so it's not supposed to be seen and you're not allowed to hide it in Deuteronomy sixteen for it says no leaven shall be seen among you in all your territory. Everywhere you're a part of there should be no US. Any leaven no matter how small or how discreet is not permitted at this time I want to just take a moment and talk about this because this becomes about sin if leaven is sin I want to ask you this question and I want to ask it again at the end but are you serious about removing are you this serious about removing scent from your life that not a trace is found in public a lot of us are good at that right like in the public eye we're good at it we're good at getting it out of public eye but then it says that. All traces should be removed from your home. For the same at home as you are in public. Are you as good at removing yeast. From Home. As you are from the public eye is really easy to trick people who don't know you are right most of us could do that with our eyes closed. Right we can we can make people that don't know us think that we're all some people would your spouse say about that if I just went to your spouse and I was like How are they like at home are they is are they the same in public as they are at home what would your spouse say or better yet your kids if you have them because kids don't live. What about from your entire territory from everything your hands touch Are we serious about removing every single speck of it I'm not talking about trying to follow some crazy holiness rules here again don't don't mistake me but where's your heart out with this if your heart to get as close to sin as you can and let it live there or is your heart to just get it out of your life that's the question. We're left with observing Jewish household begin their process weeks before this starts. Weeks because they don't want to take a chance. That some use might be left in their house many homes paint every wall in their home they wash out there they wash all the walls and they paint every wall their home now for some of you like decorating that might sound great every year there's a new color to go up on a wall some of you who hate change think I just talked about death right like I haven't painted a single wall in my house and so I bought it and I'm not gonna somebody else who lives are after me can paint the walls right. Many of them would paint their walls every year for sure the walls would be washed. Cooking utensils were all removed from the home and scalded in his hot water as they could make clothing

was washed with all of the pockets inside out because they wanted to make sure there was no crumbs left anywhere in the pocket so they turn him out and wash and now when this started there were no washing machines. OK so you've got to imagine part of this preparation is going out and by hand washing all the clothes because you're that serious about it even if they're clean. You're going to flip the pockets inside out and washroom again. Today vacuum bags are thrown away if you have a bagged vacuum it's thrown away if you have a bag less vacuum it's taken outside and it's cleaned. To make sure that it doesn't represent anything in there every part of the house is clean top to bottom. On the day before this would all begin the father of the house would go around the house and they would take little pieces of bread and they would crack some crumbs on to different surfaces right and they'd scatter them through the house they would take their pieces of bread and they'd scatter on OK they would any large loaf of bread they would go outside and you could still see this today I actually just watched a video on You Tube earlier this week of this actually still happening where they go out in their neighborhood somebody has got a big fire out there and they bring all the bread in their house out and they light it on fire OK And then as this is going on as the big loads are burning the place they make sure that the person who hid the you know crack the pieces of bread around is the one who goes around and they take a goose feather and a wooden spoon and they go throughout the house just symbolically right and they say goop those little pieces of bread onto the spoon and they make sure that every last piece is gotten out of their home and they take that feather and that spoon and the yeast that's on it because of the bread and they dump it into the fire pit and they watch it burn. So that there isn't a speck of yeast. In their home. This is just part of the preparation for this festival that they call the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And for seven weeks as they bake and as they do these things no yeast comes into the house it's all flatbreads it's all motss it's all those kind of things I'm not trying to reinstitute the Feast of Unleavened Bread. I'm trying to tell you that for fifteen hundred years before Jesus was born as a baby in a manger they predicted that he would not be corrupted in the great. There would be no yeast on his body for fifteen years fifteen hundred years before he took his first breath they were pointed at the fact that the Passover lamb would remove any speck of you. And he suspected of sin. From their home Jesus didn't die for a good story Jesus did not die. Because of what prophets do at the end of their life. Jesus did not come to this earth to teach and be a Good Man Jesus came to this earth as a sinless spotless Lamb the Passover Lamb who gave his life in place of the people who could not save themselves for the removal of our sins that they wouldn't just be covered it would be removed. Taking So I ask you again are you that serious. About getting sent out of your life a lot of us have little pet sins that we nurse right we like to keep them alive. We're OK with them little things that we kind of enjoy Well I'm mostly an honest person but I don't like to hurt people's feelings. So I lie I mean there's a cost to being an absolutely truthful people. Some people think you're jerk. Because you will lie to him out you can be tactful I'm not saying be a jerk. Just sayin there's a cost. Some of us have addictions and habits we kind of like. Make us feel good. It's how we deal with things. So even though the whole rest of our life might you know we might do really good everywhere else in our life just gotta let that one keep breathing for a while. We're not going to remove that one now before you start thinking about somebody else check your own heart because there are some addictions that are really easy to see and there are some that are a lot easier to hide were given a picture. Of how to examine our lives was a feast of unleavened bread. And sometimes I myself am not that serious about getting sent out of my life. There are times in my life I've nursed things along times in my life where I thought things were you know it's really just not that bad because I'm better than that person and when we compare ourselves to other people sure we could maybe make some justification but when you compare yourself to the spotless Jesus gives a little hard to make an excuse. Especially when we consider the fact that spotless Jesus died for us to get all leaven. Out of the house Matthew Chapter sixteen. Mark Chapter eight Luke Chapter twelve. Galatians five you can see sin pictured as leaven the rabbis also believe that leaven represented sin offerings had to be pure Jesus Christ comes and he dies Have you ever thought about why a criminal was buried in a rich man's tomb. Most most people who died of criminals death were buried in some place like a potter's field like what they

used the money for the betrayal Jesus for criminals didn't have to means they were buried in big mass graves. Because they weren't worth burying in that society not trying to make a statement about today OK they're buried in gigantic mass graves. Jesus was not put in one of those because it removes doubt. Jesus wasn't put in a mass grave because he wasn't really a criminal Jesus did not become corrupted there is an empty tomb. That anybody who believed in Jesus whether they believed he was the Messiah or not have you ever wondered why the fair sea's didn't just jump out and be like yeah Jesus it's all a big sham it's because they could go to the grave and he wasn't there Jesus Christ was buried in a rich man's tomb so that it would be empty because he wasn't staying dead for a long. And that's the story of Easter we're going to be talking about that next week again I'm going to read an application a lot of what I'm saying today a lot of the study comes out of a book written by two Jewish men. That two Jewish messianic people called the feast of the Lord OK And I want to read a portion of that talking about that it is interesting that Paul used the purging ceremony for leaven to convey spiritual truth to the believers in the city of Corinth First Corinthians five seven through eight said therefore purge out the old leaven that you may be a new lump since you are since you truly are unleavened for indeed Christ are Passover was sacrificed for us therefore let us keep the feast not with old leaven nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness but with the on love and bread of sin seriously and truth Paul's message is simple and direct for believers who by faith accepted the sacrifice of the Passover Lamb upon Calvary Passover is past history the deliverance by my side by Messiah the true Passover Lamb has already been experienced in their lives they are now living in the Feast of Unleavened Bread where purity and separation from leaven are required but Paul expresses. And Paul expresses shock and dismay that the Corinthian believers were still partaking of their old sins it does no good to simply get rid of the large conspicuous of conspicuous loaves on the table and leave the little pieces of leaven scattered on the floor a little leaven will contaminate everything else do you not know that a little leaven contaminates the whole lump First Corinthians five six he commands them to purge it out all of it in other words he pleads How can you enter into the Feast of Unleavened Bread bread still eating your leavened bread it's not kosher get rid of it Paul is simply stating what he later taught in Roman six one through eighteen the believer is no longer under the power of sin that has been broken the believer is no longer a helpless slave to sin but rather chooses dissin when he is drawn away by. His own lust James one fourteen to fifteen The tragedy is that far too few believers realize this truth they continue to be duped by the flesh into thinking and acting as if sin is still a taskmaster they are obligated to obey the price has been paid the battles been won we are no longer bound. So get rid. Of the sin in the house not because some rule of man tells you. You can't just make a list of things you want to follow they tried that it was called the Holiness movement it didn't work because all it was was reinstated reinstating Old Testament law because we love Jesus. Because we respect the sacrifice he made for us. We ask him to reveal the leaven in our lives. And then get rid of it. Not because I tell you to. Not to put some check mark in your spiritual belt but because it's what Jesus came and died for and purge out the old leaven to really remember the sacrifice of Jesus. To honor the sacrifice of the Passover lamb so it's a simple idea today stew questions we have to deal with this morning first is simply the same one that we deal with almost every week and that's this idea of. Jesus came and he died for you. As your Passover lamb he came and he died in your stead so that you could be set free and all you have to do to be set free state ask him and if you have never done that in a few moments among give you an opportunity if you have done that. As we're in this season. Of Easter we are officially in the Passover or the the Passion Week. I'm going to ask you a question. Is there sin in the house. And if there is. What are you going to do about it. You're going to sweep it under a rug. So you can pull it back out after the feast is over you can purge it. From your home burn it and get it out of your life. Not going to ask you stand up about that one this week I believe this is a deeply intimate thing that's between you and Guy. I am going to open up this altar and you can come up here and you can pray about that or anything else that's on your heart this morning. You can come up and pray and John talked about this a few We've been talking about this a lot I think there is a lot to be said about getting out of our seat taking a step of faith and moving to actually making

something down some of you need to go home confess some stuff you need accountability. I must leave it with that today and give you a chance if you haven't chosen Jesus to accept him and if you have how long's it been since you really searched the corners of your heart. And made a conscious choice that today is the day to remove the leaven from the house. So I'm asking about your hearts as you close your eyes. As you honor this moment for people who may not already know Jesus. Jesus Christ came to this earth we've been talking about it all morning he died for you and if you're in this place and you have never accepted that sacrifice you've never experienced the forgiveness of Jesus you've never asked him to be the Lord of your life and this morning you're ready. I'd like you to just raise a hand I would like to pray with you sir anybody in here you've never done this before and this morning you're ready to anyone at all we're not going to wait long I don't like to motivate out of guilt I want to give you a moment to respond you're in here and you've never chosen Jesus All right you can look at me now. My prayer. And my challenge you to examine your heart. And if you could start some music quietly back there I'm going pray and we're going to do with our service but you're done when you feel like you've. I don't what you need to do this morning. And you've adequately searched through your heart. You've adequately spoken to Jesus given him a chance to speak back to you. And see if there's anything in there it's easy to coast as a Christian. Some of you have been doing this a long time. You know what it's like it's easy to let little things creep back in your room your fights and your struggles aren't the same as they were when you started and that's awesome. That's easy to let something else walk in. And go undetected. I'm afraid. And I'm going to ask you to do whatever you need to do if you need to go you can go. And I challenge everyone in this place to not leave until you've given got a chance to search your heart and speak to you about a God you're good. I think you God. That is so long before you came to this earth. And were born in the manger that we celebrated Christmas. You told us what all of this stuff was about you prophesied your death you prophesied that you would not be corrupt that you prophesied that you would rise again. Through your prophets. Pray this morning. Pray first of all that you help us not to get stuck in this whole pride thing through this process. To just be looking at other people stuff and judging ourselves by them. I pray Secondly Jesus that you speak to us about stuff that may have become lax and. Help us to be serious. About purging the leaven from the house. To not tolerate the smallest bit. Not for some holiness Mark to put on our belt. But because we honor your sacrifice. By living how you want to. TRUST YOU JESUS. Thank you God for me. For everyone. Your good. Name. To go you go. You've got a chance to.