**A Lesson of Unleavened Bread**

By Bert Devin

 Each year, we get out our recipe books to find our favorite Unleavened Bread recipe, from years past.

 However, when the morning after Passover came, if not before, the Egyptians were pressing the Israelites to hurry up and get out, unless the Egyptians should all die. Fear of death is a tremendous motivator, as Israel was to soon discover themselves.

 A little flour, a little water hastily baked while hastily packing what they could carry, was scant preparation for the wilderness journey ahead. Who knew that they were not going by the way of the sea, anyway? That would have been quicker, and easier, considering that they were walking. Just as many desire today, they would have expected the easy way, as if God has no lessons of faith and trust to teach.

 With so little preparation, for the wilderness, it is no wonder they ran into trials of faith, so quickly after leaving Egypt.

 We do not know what lies ahead of us. We do know that eating unleavened bread does more than simply remind us of the hardship of liberation from slavery. It also assures us that the God, who frees us all, will give us all we need to face the challenges of freedom. It is not easy to walk in freedom, but He who rescues us from bondage, will also equip us to live free.

 Almost the entire adult generation that left Egypt were kept out of the promised land.

 Look at the pictures from the last Feast of Tabernacles you attended. What do you see? I’m sure that you see mostly white haired, old timers of the church. The older generation is passing from the scene.

 The younger generation of Israel, that entered the Promised Land, had to contend with the religions of those around them. Instead of setting the example, the books of Joshua and Judges tell stories of apostasy and deliverance among the Israelites.

 Today, the younger generation is having to contend with the world around them, being pulled back and forth between obeying their own lusts and desires or obeying God just like Israel of old.

 Our lives are like sailing across a lake. We dip our hands into the water, and hold it in our hands, for a moment, watching as it slips through our fingers. We think that what we hold in our hands is so precious, yet God is offering us the water of the entire lake, eternal life in His Kingdom, that we cannot yet hold in our hands.

 As we eat the unleavened bread, remember, God chose to free us from slavery to sin. We are all ordained to bear fruit. Jesus said, in John 15:16 “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.”

 So, take a little unleavened bread, and trust in the God who freed us, for the rest of what you need.