### Deuteronomy

## Chapter 16

1‘You must celebrate the month of New Grain and sacrifice the Passover to Jehovah your God, because that’s the month when you left Egypt during the night.  
  
 2‘You must sacrifice your Passover sheep and oxen in that place where Jehovah your God will select to have His Name called, 3and you may not eat bread that’s fermenting for 7 days. You may only eat fermentation-free bread, which is the bread of hard times, because you left Egypt in a hurry.  
  
 ‘You must remember the day when you left the land of Egypt for as long as you live.  
  
 4‘Fermentation must not be seen anywhere inside your borders for 7 days, and none of the flesh that you sacrifice in the evening may be left over until the next morning. 5Nor are you allowed to sacrifice the Passover in just any of the cities that Jehovah your God is giving to you.  
  
 ‘6The Passover may not be sacrificed anywhere other than in the place that Jehovah your God will choose to have His Name called, in the evening, after sunset… Which is the day that you left Egypt.  
  
 7‘You must boil or roast [the meat] and then eat it in the place that Jehovah your God will choose; and then you should go back to your homes the next morning!  
  
 8‘You must eat fermentation-free bread for 6 days, and then the 7th day is to be a holiday and a feast to Jehovah your God, during which you may not do any work other than that which is common to everyone.  
  
 9‘Then, start counting off 7 weeks from the time that you first cut the grain with a sickle, 10and you must celebrate the Festival of Weeks (Pentecost) to Jehovah your God with as much strength and with as many things as Jehovah your God has given to you.  
  
 11‘You must rejoice before Jehovah your God with your sons and daughters, with your male and female servants, and with the Levites, strangers, orphans, and widows that live among you in that place where Jehovah your God will choose to have His Name called.  
  
 12‘For you must show that you remember the [time] when you were slaves in the land of Egypt by doing all these things and by obeying these Commandments.  
  
 13‘You must also celebrate the Festival of Temporary Dwellings for 7 days, after you’ve stored away your grain and made your wine. 14Then you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and the Levites, strangers, orphans, and widows in your cities should rejoice.  
  
 15‘You must hold a feast to Jehovah your God for 7 days in the place that Jehovah your God will choose for Himself. And you must rejoice over all the harvest that Jehovah your God has blest you with, and for all the things that you’ve accomplished.’  
  
  
 16‘All your males must appear before Jehovah your God three times each year in the place that Jehovah will choose, for these festivals:  
  
 • The Festival of Fermentation-free Bread,  
 • The Festival of Weeks, and  
 • The Festival of Temporary Dwellings.  
  
 ‘And don’t appear before Jehovah your God empty handed! 17Each one must bring whatever he can, as Jehovah your God has blest him.’  
  
  
 18‘You must appoint judges and officials in the cities that Jehovah your God is giving to each of your tribes, and they must judge the people righteously... 19They must not be unfair, show anyone special favor, or accept gifts, because gifts blind the eyes of the wise and twist the words of the righteous.  
  
 20‘You must always work at being just, so you may live and inherit the land that Jehovah your God is giving to you.’  
  
  
 21‘You must never erect poles or plant any trees for yourselves near the Altar of your God, 22nor may you erect sacred columns for yourselves, because Jehovah your God hates such things!’