

Set Your Deleavening Strategy - Stephan Wilshaw

Oh, good, good. Thank you. It's usually quite easy, isn't it? If it's easy, I can't do it. Well,

Larry, that was interesting. Thank you so much. I feel quite honored to have you bring a message like that. It was touching. And you even showed lots of emotion.

I appreciate that a lot. Well, I got some good news today. And I got some bad news today. news. What do you want first? We're not meeting anymore this winter.

Okay, you know what I'm going to say. Anyhow, spring is almost here, as Reg said, and the warmer sunny days that comes in with the newness of spring, those days that you look forward to, 15, 20 degrees, and the flowers are coming out, and then at night time, it happens like it did last night.

It gets super cold, and it goes down below freezing, wake up in the morning and the frost is on the roofs. I see it today. And that was telling me that, hey, don't get used to it,

winter is still here, but it can't make up as much. mind what it is going to do. So with all that, Passover is occurring a few weeks later this year.

I think it's about three. And the Catholic and Hebrew calendar is set up in such a way that's just the way it works sometimes. And on our Gregorian calendar,

it's going to be the Passover that is on April 5th. 22nd this year which is late well three weeks beyond what we had last year now I don't know why that is if you do let me know during the discussion because I'm not sure why are we looking are we anticipating the upcoming spring holy days because they come fast and furious furious you'll if you've never kept them before everybody here mostly has anything you will

find that out they come fast and furious they're stacked on top of one another in the springtime so with the arrival of Passover comes the night to be much remembered the days of unleavened bread come fast on the heels of that and And as Reg said, the removing of leaven from our personal spaces has to take place. God commands it. And the long winter hibernation comes to a close.

You guys been hibernating? I'm still waiting for winter to show up. It's amazing, just an amazing year. What I want to talk about this day,

on this Sabbath day, is about the process of deleavening that all of us must get involved with prior to the arrival of the spring holy days.

Now, just what does God the Father want, as Larry talked about us? What does God the Father want his children to be doing concerning that?

Should we be 11? And by the way, 11 is not even a word that you can find in the Bible. I put it into my computer and it became underlined telling me,

"Hey, this is spelt wrong." It wasn't even a word. word. So I hyphenated it, then the computer said, "Okay." And it accepted that. But D11 is not in the Bible. 11 is, but D11 isn't. So let's remind ourselves. Let's go to Larry used a whole pile of scriptures. I'm only going to use one.

I'm wondering if you can guess where I'm going to start. Yeah, you probably can't. I heard Jamie say, we listened to Jamie today. He said that a large amount of people don't know the first book of the Bible.

Can you imagine that? What's the second one? Let's go there. Well done. You guys are smart. Let's go to Exodus, the 12th chapter. You know, when you talk about holy days, a lot of time you... come to Leviticus what? Reg, you know what? Which one for the holy days?

Yes, Leviticus 23. That's a little further on. I'm not going to go there. Just this one here today. So during this festival we have to take something and get rid of it.

It's so physical, but it's a spiritual, it's a physical thing, but it's a spiritual lesson. Let's turn to axis 12 and we're going to pick it up once we get to it.

In verse 15 we're going to read down to verse 20. So this, what we're going to read here is all referring to your and my dwelling places. Homes,

now back in this time they didn't have cars, they had chariots and stuff like that, right? right? But homes and cars and personal workspaces and so forth Because these spaces need to receive this thorough removal and examination for a leaven.

We have to remove the leaven from these places Meaning in other words, we're going to clear it out. We're going to throw it away and all these leavening agents such as yeast baking powder,

baking soda, and any sort of bread starter, and the foods that have these ingredients within them. So yeah, your morning toast,

if you're one that eats toast, and I have a fetish for peanut butter by the way. Peanut butter and honey, I get excited the night before if I'm going to eat it for breakfast the next day.

day I get excited about it. I really like it. It's almost a it's almost an addiction I don't eat it every day, but I really like it. So during those days when I'm having bread I can't do that so I'm limited in my choices right that that comes with the deal so during this festival we're going to we're going to Texas 12 still during this festival 11 pictures once What's that Eric?

Sin, yes. Picture sin. Now during the days of 11 bread, God challenges each and every one of us to recognize 11 in our lives so we can replace it with something exactly the opposite that we give it the phrase of unleavened.

We put the 11 out, we put the, or we put the out, and the unleavened in. So Exodus 12, 15 to 20,

I'm going to read that right now, and I'm going to use the faithful version here today. Listen to these words carefully as you follow along. Exodus 12 verse 15,

and I quote, "You shall eat unleavened bread seven days." "Even the first day you shall eat unleavened bread seven days." shall have put away 11 out of your houses for whoever eats 11 bread from the first day until the seventh day.

That soul shall be cut off from the church or from Israel. So you won't fit in here is what it's saying.

You won't fit in this congregation. If we're part of Israel that's what it's saying. You won't fit in. in, you'll cut yourself off. Verse 16, "And in the first day there shall be what?

A getting together." It says here, "Holy convocation. And in the seventh day there shall also be a holy convocation for you. No manner of work shall be done on these two days,

except that which man must eat, eat, that only may be done. So you can make yourself something to eat in the vernacular. Okay?

Verse 17, "And you shall keep the feast of unleavened bread, for in this very day I have brought your armies out of the land of Egypt. Therefore you shall keep this day in your generations as Allah forever." That's all I am by the way in there.

the Hebrew, *olam* forever. In the first month, on the 14th day of the month of sunset, you shall eat on lemon bread until the 21st day of the month at sunset because the day begins and ends in sunset.

Seven days there shall be no leaven found in your houses for whoever eats that way. is leaven, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger or born in the land. In verse 20 to end, you shall eat nothing leavened.

In all your dwelling places, you shall eat unleavened bread. End of quote. quote. So the time leading up to the spring holy days is super precious.

Proper preparation needs to take place to partake of the Passover. So in other words, there's no fooling around about this.

This is serious stuff. Each time, or enough time rather, must be dedicated to thorough self-examination,

repentance towards God, and discernment for the price paid for the sins. We know it was about the scourging and the crucifixion that Christ went through.

Now that is not to do with 11, but I am just talking about that, because many considerations come to it. as we approach this Passover season.

For one, the night to be much remembered or observed, some people call it the night to be much observed, and the days when leavened bread, each one of these deserve our thorough preparation to ensure it's not the night to be much observed.

is the joyous and enriching occasion, the joyous and enriching occasion that the Godhead commands. And we need to consider also,

on top of that, our Holy Day offerings, our meal plans for attending these Holy Days, because these celebrations,

these annual High Days, go beyond what we do on the Sabbath days. They're extra special. These annual Holy Days are highlights within the year that stick out as revelations of God's plan for humanity.

And their days are rejoicing in much gladness. gladness. So there's what I'm what I'm getting at here in this little short paragraph here there's a lot to do in preparation for these spring holy days.

Now what I want to do right now as I continue on is give a quick and general overview of what is referred to as the Passover week that every year and I've already said this.

it comes at us very quickly. It just happens. All of a sudden we're there. We want to take this time to prepare for that. So what I want to focus on a little bit more as I go forward in this message is to point us to this process that it's referred to as D11ing.

Carefully strategizing. with the details on this will ensure that we'll have the proper time to accomplish this very task we need to cover this off this is important now right here today we have still five weeks five full weeks five Sabbath not counting today

there's five more more Sabbaths going forward from now to bring our focus upon the process of the 11th as we progress towards the all important Passover days of unleavened bread. So the best place to start is by taking right now, brethren, charge of time, which will be dedicating to this de-leavening process and in our different spaces that all come into consideration where we live,

okay? Now a good place to start is to consider each and every area of our home and make sure that every one of these areas will be de-leavened.

And who is actually going to do this work? Who's going to put this out? I've looked around the room here. A lot of us live alone. Sandy and I don't. I think I think most everybody else does live alone.

David doesn't and Larry doesn't. So we have to decide how am I going to do this? How is it going to affect other people? So So the reason I say this, the reason I bring this out is because we don't want to fall short of the standard that God expects and run out of time.

I've seen it happen. I've seen it happen to me and I'm scrambling at the very last moment. It's no good. We do not want to scramble. scrabble. Don't leave too much to do as we approach the Passover because that hampers your and my spiritual preparation for the most solemn occasion of this year,

2024. It's the most solemn occasion. We don't want to get in the way of that with anything if we get it all, not have to.

We just don't want to do it. Some circumstances make the holy leavening process more challenging. Perhaps, and Patrice is not here, we've got limited mobility, right? I'm getting old. I'm not like I was when I was 17 or 18 anymore. I've got limited mobility. Sandy might not think so, but I'm limited. We may be living with an unconverted mate. And that throws a different span on it,

doesn't it? They're all of us here basically. basically, maybe with exception of a couple,

just have ourselves. So we know who's going to do the D -Levening, right? I am. She is. So we've got to be familiar with this process.

And these difficulties elevate the problem. So we need to scrap it. for it. We need to make a plan. So take a look at what we have to get rid of.

And when I say get rid of it, I don't mean go and throw it out. I mean start to use it up. If you've got a couple really nice loaves of bread in the freezer, pull those things out. [BLANK_AUDIO] start to eat on those. Get the peanut butter out. Get the honey out. Start to make those things go away.

Okay, that's what you do. Don't wait till the last moment. Oh, I got two loaves. I got to throw them out now. Because that's what'll happen. Strategize, okay. Work through the house in a logical order.

Tackle the... easier location first, and work from there. Keep it simple, but keep it organized.

One area is to build momentum and go forward from that, but be attentive to the lesson of remembering.

the letter. Be attentive to which to them. Why am I doing this? Why does God want me to do this? Because God uses the physical things so much the time to teach us the spiritual things.

It's all together. Okay? Now because all cleaning is not de-levening. You can go cuckoo with cleaning and you're not de-levening a darn thing.

thing Okay for example Most people and I'm one of them standing there like this We don't eat everywhere. I'm not laying in the I'm not going in the closet to have something to eat I'm not going in the bathroom to have something to eat With Sandy and I we usually eat at the dining room table We don't migrate around the house with food Now,

maybe everybody's not thinking like that. That's just how we operate in our house.

Also, consider that as God's people, we probably,

for the most part, strive to keep our houses fairly clean all the time. My wife is always moving me out of the way. Don't walk on that floor.

I just washed it. This is kind of tough to carry. on And I think most of us were the same way in that regard So our homes are generally probably always almost always Fairly clean on a constant basis,

right? now Apply this very same application on a spiritual level with the constant Putting off of the old man remember that we've gone there before putting Putting off of the old man and the constant putting on of the new man.

So we're putting the old out and putting the new in. Putting out, putting in. Putting out the old man, putting on. Putting on the clothes of Jesus Christ if we can put it that way.

Because remember God brought Israel from where? He brought Israel out of pagan Egypt. Right, right. show them what he was talking about in the wilderness to show them something and that was what?

His plan of salvation, intertwined with the process and all this was going on he was taking him out of sinful Egypt and bringing him out to show him his righteousness and this is how we're going to do it from now on the problem was was They weren't listening so they left the Egypt behind Pitch about 11 Which was puffing them up puffs us up to 11 puffs up when you put a piece of dough in there Some bread on lemon

bread in the oven it puffs up becomes something new doesn't it? So, when we're in this physical "delevening" mode, we are to put on something,

and it's called our thinking cap. Think about what you're doing. Think about what I'm doing. While you're doing this "delevening," think about your toaster.

I've been playing around my toaster already, shaking it out and getting stuff out of it, so it becomes much easier. easier as I go forward, but think about your toaster being the most obvious place As I'm doing that task What should come to mind?

Where in my personal life? am I having the most difficulty with all this cluttered sin because actually what it is,

we have areas in our brain that are causing us to fall short. It's called wrong thinking. It's called stinking thinking. Ever heard of that?

Stinking thinking. Yeah. So you may not be able to come up with this, because sometimes we don't see our own 11. Ask God about it.

Ask Him to point it out to you. you ask him to show you all 11 must be put Off of our property white because it pictures sin. We got to put it out for the past We're gonna put it open that is 11 bread So we put this stuff out By sunset This is a physical thing now that closes Abib or Nissan 14 We get that stuff out of our property Now this Sunset I'm talking about Marks the night of the night to be much observed when that Sun hits the horizon the holy day begins now Now, many brethren choose to have their de-leavening work fully completed so it's a little easier, so they can spend more time preparing spiritually for Passover and for the night to be much remembered. So we should permit no leaven on our property after sunset. that closes Abib or Nisan 21, which is the very beginning of the first Holy Day, the last day of 11 bread.

All the leavens have got to be gone by then. This year, 2024, we should have done our 11th in completely, and all the leavens should be out of our property by the evening at 10.

the end of April 21, okay, at this year. So when should we begin our 11 -ing? When? I'm getting close to the end here.

Now our circumstances might somewhat differ a little bit, might differ a little bit. So, no hard and fast rule would apply.

to us. There's no real hard and fast rule, one we're going to begin this. Nevertheless, since we're getting close, I think probably we should all be started by now.

To plan our physical, putting out of leaven, and our spiritual preparations, we're five weeks away, remember? I think Saddy and I have already started ours.

We're already getting organized. Consider when the last garbage pickup happens before the feast of unleavened bread. How can I get rid of this?

Stop. The garbage truck will take it away, but when's the last garbage pickup going to take place? Something to ask yourself. Where can I also deposit my discarded leaven products?

after that last pick up. If it doesn't work out very perfectly for you. Well here in Corothe Lakes, it's April 18th. I don't know where it is in Oshawa or Bowmanville, but it's April 18th here. That is a Thursday. It comes around to our place about 11 o'clock in the morning. Now, also,

do I have an idea? vacuum cleaner bags, or do I have an empty vacuum cleaner bag to do this job, or any cleaning supplies too? Are there any sinful problems in my life?

We're putting 11 out physically and spiritually, so are there any sinful problems that should be examined this year that I have? need to deal with? It's all very personalized.

Now the delevoting process could be some kind of mundane physical ritual or it could be a valuable spiritual teaching tool.

tool. How is that determined? Well, personally for me, it's my mindset that determines the difference.

Am I in the right spiritual mindset for all this stuff? It's a meditate on what you and I are receiving.

This may be new to some, maybe it's just timely reminders for most, but done properly,

they should help us look forward to the upcoming Feast 111 Bread. With, as I've already discussed, the proper mindset in place,

enthusiastic and balanced, let's be that in our preparations, with accent on the spiritual meaning behind the physical symbolic act of 40 years.

out the leaven. It seems kind of childish. Larry talked about children. It seems kind of childish, doesn't it? But it's not. God commands it.

It's nothing to be taken lightly. Again, use prayer. Be studious. Be doing that.

Don't change that. Keep on doing that. Use meditation during these things. And even put aside, if possible, maybe a day to fast about these upcoming Holy Day seasons.

Or about this upcoming Holy Day season, rather. Allow the D -Leavening process to bolster your Passover. and days of unleavened bread preparations.

Now, all this doesn't come all at once. You don't get this first time you go through it. You don't get it all the second or third time you go through it. It's a process that comes at us over time.

When we apply God's Word, what takes place? place? We all grow in grace We all grow in knowledge So let's take some time now.

I'm gonna sit down here. This was not an exhaustive study just a sermon at just to get us going I'm gonna sit down now, but let's take some time and discuss we can discuss what Larry said as well What I just talked about Let's wrap our mind around these things Let's do what I think really works well here in Core of the Lakes.

Let's discuss this stuff. Let's toss this stuff around. Let's share back and forth and ask questions about these processes that Larry talked about being a little child and about this D11ing process.

You know something? This is not my note, but there's no dumb dumb questions okay if you've got something on your mind something you something that you're not sure about ask I might not have the answer but somebody in the audience of 12 here today might so let's do that let's ask some questions about these processes we're involved in here as we see these days days of the spring holy days approaching.

I'll pass it back to you, Reg, to come up here and conduct the rest of the service.