



Pastor's Comments

In large print at:
www.NAOG.ws/pc

Daniel E. Lundmark
pastor@NAOG.ws

Beware of "Leaven"

On Sunday, Sept. 28, in the 10:45 a.m. service our congregation will begin studying the **27th** of the "**49 Commands of Christ**" which is "**Beware of 'Leaven.'**" Jesus said, "*Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees*" (Mt 16:6).

In this Bible study, we will see that leaven causes fermentation and is **symbolic of corruptness of heart and sin** penetrating daily life. It also **represents false doctrine and pictures hypocrisy**. The first mention of leaven in Scripture is in connection with the feast of the Passover when God commanded Israel to prepare a meal on the night that they were to leave Egypt. This meal included a lamb **without spot or blemish** (picturing Jesus Christ the **perfect Lamb of God**), and unleavened bread (picturing Christ the Bread of Life **without sin**).

Jesus warned of the leaven of the religious leaders of His day. Their doctrines contained a mixture of God's truth and man's traditions, which in effect made void God's law. Their teachings were motivated by **secret sin and hypocrisy**. The danger of leaven (**sin**) is that it **spreads quickly, permeating the entire thought process** of an individual, group, city, nation, or civilization as illustrated in the days of Noah and of Sodom. The very nature of leaven requires that it all be removed, since a small portion of leaven will permeate an entire batch. We are warned in Galatians 5:9, "**A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump.**"

Christ's final command was "*Go...and teach all nations...to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you*" (Mt. 28:19-20). Jesus promised, "*If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love...*" (John 15:10). I invite you to join us for this study.

Want this column weekly via email?
Send request to: pastor@NAOG.ws

Northampton Assembly of God

3449 Cherryville Rd., Northampton, PA
Sun. 10:45 am & 6 pm; Wed. 7:30 pm
610-262-5645 www.NAOG.ws