

1. **Biblical Holidays:**

Holiday	Date/Day	Verse
- Passover	- 14 th day	Ex. 12/Lev. 23:5
- Unleavened Bread	- 15 th day	Ex. 12/Lev. 23:6
- First Fruits	- "day after the Sabbath."	Lev. 23:10
- Feast of Weeks		
Hebrew: Shavuot	- "count seven full weeks ."	Lev. 23:15
Greek: Pentecost	- "count off fifty days "	Lev. 23:16
- Feast of Trumpets	- 1 st day of the 7 th month	Lev. 23:24
- Day of Atonement	- 10 th day of the 7 th month	Lev. 23:27
- Festival of Tabernacles	- 15 th day of the 7 th month	Lev. 23:34

2. **Unleavened Bread (Ex. 12:17-20):**

- A seven-day ritual of abstaining from leaven.
- Leaven represents sin and the world.
 - Jesus **IS** the Unleavened Bread. Jesus is without sin but also separate from the world.
 - It becomes an annual spiritual exercise of separating ourselves from the world.

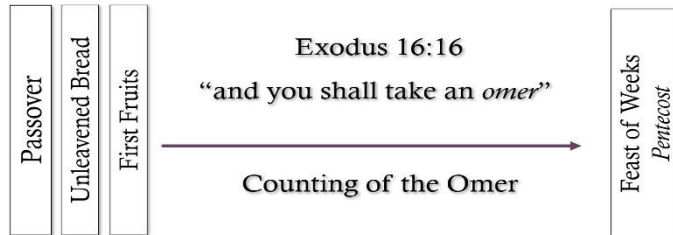
3. **First Fruits:**

- Jesus **IS** the First Fruit of the Resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20) – God's initial offering of what is to come.
 - "Easter Sunday" is the Biblical holiday – First Fruits
- Individuals bring the first barley harvest as an offering, expecting God to provide the remainder needed for the year.
- From the holiday of First Fruits – begins the counting of the *Omer*.
 - The fifty-day countdown to the next holiday, the Feast of Weeks.
- Counting of the Omer:
 - Lev. 23:10 – "bring to the priest a sheaf (*omer*)."



4. Exodus and our Daily Bread (Omer) -

- Before Leviticus 23 and the command to bring a "sheaf" (*omer*) to the priest, the only mention of "omer" is in Exodus 16:16 – when God delivers daily manna.



5. A Spiritual Journey to Receive God's word and enter into His Covenant:

- **Passover** – We celebrate being graciously delivered by the blood of the Passover Lamb.
 - We recall the saving acts of Jesus as our Passover Lamb
- **Unleavened Bread** – a ritual of removing leaven from our lives to separate ourselves from the world.
 - Each year we actively participate in the sanctification process.
- **First Fruits** – an offering of thanks to God for the future resurrection
 - We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus as a first fruit offering.
- **Counting the Omer** –
 - We celebrate God providing spiritual and physical sustenance.
 - We prepare ourselves spiritually to receive God's word, the Holy Spirit, and renew our covenant with him.
 - An ascending (anagogical) approach to our worship and preparation – like ascending Mount Sinai.
- **Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)** –
 - We receive God's Word and the Holy Spirit and renew our covenantal vows.

6. Psalms 67 and 68:

- In some Jewish communities, it is tradition to recite **Psalm 67** on each of the forty-nine days leading up to Shavuot/Pentecost
- And to read **Psalm 68** on Shavuot/Pentecost.

Psalm 67
- 49 Hebrew words
- Salvation for the gentile nations!! (Ps. 67:2)
- Harvest theme (Ps. 67:6)