

Two Types of Matzah

Exodus 12:8

וְאָכְלוּ אֶת הַבָּשָׂר בִּלְיָלָה הַזֶּה צְלִי אֵשׁ וּמִצּוֹת עַל מַרְרִים יֹאכְלֶהּ:

And on this night, they shall eat the flesh, roasted over the fire, and unleavened cakes;
with bitter herbs they shall eat it.

Deuteronomy 16:3

לֹא תֹאכַל עִלּוֹ חֶמֶץ שִׁבְעַת יָמִים תֹּאכַל עִלּוֹ מִצּוֹת לֶחֶם עֲנִי כִּי בְחַפְזוֹן יֵצְאָתָּ
מִמֶּאֱרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לְמַעַן תִּזְכֹּר אֶת יוֹם יֵצִיאָתָּ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם כָּל יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ:

You shall not eat leaven with it; for seven days you shall eat with it matzoth, the bread
of affliction, for in haste you went out of the land of Egypt, so that you shall remember
the day when you went out of the land of Egypt all the days of your life.

Maimonides: Positive Commandment # 158

The 158th *mitzvah* is that we are commanded to eat matzah on the night of the 15th of *Nissan*. This *mitzvah* applies regardless of whether or not we have the Pesach sacrifice.

The source of this commandment is G-d's statement, "In the evening [of the 15th of *Nissan*] you must eat matzos."

Our Sages explicitly stated, " 'In the evening you must eat matzos' — the Torah establishes it as a requirement." It is explained in *Pesachim* that eating matzah on the first night of Pesach is a requirement, while afterwards it is optional.

The details of this *mitzvah* are explained in tractate *Pesachim*.

* See also Positive Commandment # 56