## Bethany Bible Study & Discussion



Deuteronomy
Part 15
(chapter 14)

3.29.2023

#### Chapter 14

(Body + Diet restrictions)

Who are we? (1-2)

How must we not mourn for the dead? (1)

What can we eat and what must we not eat? (3-21)

How must Tithing be practiced? Why & how must the Levites and other needy be taken care of (22-29)

What is the connection between diet and worship?

## Worship (ch.12 & 13)

#### CH.12 PREPARING for WORSHIP

Destroy the idols

Go to the "chosen" place, Shiloh  $\rightarrow$  Temple  $\rightarrow$  Our Body  $\rightarrow$ ?

<sup>22</sup> I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple (Revelation 21:22)

#### **CH.13** DANGERS/DISTRACTIONS TO WORSHIP

Miracle worker &False prophets | Family & Friends | City

#### CH. 14 Body, Diet, Tithes

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(Body + Diet restrictions)

Who are we? (1-2)

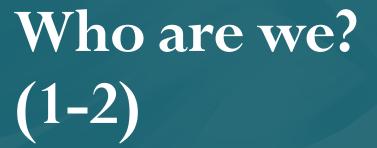
How must we not mourn for the dead? (1)

What can we eat and what must we not eat? (3-21)

Where must we eat? What is the alternative for tithing? (26)

Why & how must the Levites and other needy be taken care of (27-29)

What is the connection between diet and worship?



#### Who are we?

Ye are the children of the Lord your God: ... <sup>2</sup> For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God, and the Lord hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth (1-2)

Children of God Holy People Peculiar People Chosen People Above all nations

We are different ... we must think & act differently

# How must we not mourn for the dead? (1)

Ye shall not cut yourselves, nor make any baldness between your eyes for the dead (1) Do not cut/harm your body (for health and spiritual reasons)

Do not shave your head (not to mimic the culture of this world)

<sup>27</sup> Ye shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shalt thou mar the corners of thy beard. <sup>28</sup> Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you (<u>tatoos, NIV</u>): I am the Lord.

(Leviticus 19:27-28)

#### Do not copy worldly practices

**BE DIFFERENT** And **be not conformed to this world**: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God (**Romans 12:2**)

LIVE FOR HIM And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again (II Corinthians 5:15)

GLORIFY HIM Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God (I Corinthians 10:31)

### How must we mourn?

Sorrow, <u>but</u> with living hope (Not to sorrow is not human)

But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. (I Thessalonians 4:13)



### **Dietary Prohibitions**

Thou shalt not eat any abominable thing (3)

God created everything good. Not permitted does not mean unclean or sinful or unfit for this world.

**God classifies** what is abominable/acceptable: Animals, Fish, Birds

#### God's creation

<sup>20</sup> And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. <sup>21</sup> And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup> And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let fowl multiply in the earth. <sup>23</sup> And the evening and the morning were the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup> And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

<sup>25</sup> And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

## Two Rules for Animals (6)

And every beast that parteth the hoof, and cleaveth the cleft into two claws, and cheweth the cud among the beasts, that ye shall eat.

#### Can eat if:

Animal has split or divided hooves (hard covering on the toe) (ex. Goats, sheep, deer)

and

Animal cheweth the cud (partially digested food sent from stomach to mouth to chew again) (ex.: cows)

## Disqualified Animals (7-8)

<sup>7</sup>Nevertheless these ye shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the cloven hoof; as the camel, and the hare, and the coney: for they chew the cud, but divide not the hoof; therefore they are unclean unto you.

<sup>8</sup> And the swine, because it divideth the hoof, yet cheweth not the cud, it is unclean unto you: ye shall not eat of their flesh, nor touch their dead carcase.

CAN EAT animals that has split or divided hooves & Cheweth the cud

#### Disqualified (examples)

Camels & rabbits chew cud, but do not have cloven hooves (7)

Pigs have cloven hooves but do not chew cud (8)

#### **Fishes**

<sup>9</sup> These ye shall eat of all that are in the waters: all that have fins and scales shall ye eat:

<sup>10</sup> And whatsoever hath not fins and scales ye may not eat; it is unclean unto you

Can eat if fish has fins and scales (salmon, Tuna, etc.)

**Prohibited** if no fins and scales (crabs, lobster, oysters, etc.)

#### Birds (11-20)

- <sup>11</sup> Of all clean birds ye shall eat.
- <sup>12</sup> But these are they of which ye shall not eat: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the ospray, <sup>13</sup> And the glede, and the kite, and the vulture after his kind, <sup>14</sup> And every raven after his kind,
- <sup>15</sup> And the owl, and the night hawk, and the cuckow, and the hawk after his kind, <sup>16</sup> The little owl, and the great owl, and the swan,
- <sup>17</sup> And the pelican, and the gier eagle, and the cormorant, <sup>18</sup> And the stork, and the heron after her kind, and the lapwing, and the bat.
- <sup>19</sup> And every creeping thing that flieth is unclean unto you: they shall not be eaten.
- <sup>20</sup> But of all clean fowls ye may eat.

## Birds (11-20)

Can eat clean birds (non-carnvivorous) (such as chicken)

Cannot eat Carnivorous birds (like eagles, vultures) (birds that eat flesh/blood/dead animals and fishes) (could be carrying diseases so unhealthy)

Creeping thing that flieth is unclean (19)

All fowls that creep, going upon all four, shall be an abomination unto you <sup>21</sup> Yet these may ye eat of every flying creeping thing that goeth upon all four, which have legs above their feet, to leap withal upon the earth; <sup>22</sup> Even these of them ye may eat; the locust after his kind, and the bald locust after his kind, and the beetle after his kind, and the grasshopper after his kind. <sup>23</sup> But all other flying creeping things, which have four feet, shall be an abomination unto you (Leviticus 11:20-24)

## Cannot eat (12-19)

- Eagle, Ossifrage, Ospray
- Glede, Kite, Vulture
- Raven, owl, night hawks, cuckow, hawk
- Little owl, great owl, swan
- Pelican, Gier eagle, Coromorant
- Stork, Heron, lapwing, bat
- Every creeping thing that flieth

#### Dead items prohibited

Ye shall not eat of anything that dieth of itself: thou shalt give it unto the stranger that is in thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien: for thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God.

Thou shalt not see the a kid in his mother's milk (21)

Prohibition also connects with not eating blood (12:23)

Do not cook kid in mother's milk

### Why Diet restrictions?

Health/hygiene reasons

Religious reasons (maybe used by pagans in rituals)

## Kosher Food Shopping?

Fruits and vegetables are Kosher

Animals: split hooves + chews its cud

Fish: must have both fish and scales.

**Birds**: non-carnivorous

Most insects prohibited

- Meat + Milk cannot mix
- Anything from kosher animal is also kosher (such as eggs or milk)
- Kosher + non-kosher food cannot mix

#### Diet + Worship

<sup>19</sup> What? know ye not that your **body is the temple of the Holy Ghost** which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? <sup>20</sup> For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's (**I Corinthians 6:19-20**)

#### Diet, Lifestyle & Worship

#### Body Abused and made unhealthy by:

Poor eating habits

Lack of exercise

Drugs, Alcohol, Cigarettes

Laziness

Etc.

**Don't forget:** 

Our Body is His Temple

#### Internal Versus External

#### God's decision

#### Condition of Heart More Important than diet

And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; <sup>19</sup> Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? <sup>20</sup> And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. (Mark 7:18-20)

#### God Decides what is unclean

<sup>11</sup> And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending upon him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: <sup>12</sup> Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. <sup>13</sup> And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. <sup>14</sup> But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean. <sup>15</sup> And the voice spake unto him again the second time, **What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common**. (Acts 10:11-15)

How must we practice tithing? Why & how must the Levites and other needy be taken care of (22-29)

## Tithing (22-26)

<sup>22</sup> Be sure to set aside **a tenth of all** that your fields produce each year. <sup>23</sup> Eat the tithe of your grain, new wine and olive oil, and the firstborn of your herds and flocks in the presence of the Lord your God at the place he will choose as a dwelling for his Name, so that you may learn to revere the Lord your God always. <sup>24</sup> But if that place is too distant and you have been blessed by the Lord your God and cannot carry your tithe (because the place where the Lord will choose to put his Name is so far away), <sup>25</sup> then exchange your tithe for silver, and take the silver with you and go to the place the Lord your God will choose. <sup>26</sup> Use the silver to buy whatever you like: cattle, sheep, wine or other fermented drink, or anything you wish. Then you and your household shall eat there in the presence of the Lord your God and rejoice.

### Tithing: What?

10% of first fruits from the harvest and herds and flocks brought to the chosen place

If living far from tabernacle, 10% exchanged for money; and money used to buy at the chosen place

10% is enjoyed in the <u>presence of the Lord</u> with others

Why in the Presence of the Lord? To remember and Recognize that He is the source of <u>all</u> blessings (harvest, flock; rain; strength to take care of land and animals)

Be compassionate: Take care of Levites and other needy people

<sup>27</sup> And <u>do not neglect the Levites</u> living in your towns, for they have no allotment or inheritance of their own. <sup>28</sup> At the end of every three years, bring all the tithes of that year's produce and store it in your towns, <sup>29</sup> so that the Levites (who have no allotment or inheritance of their own) and the foreigners, the fatherless and the widows who live in your towns may come and eat and be satisfied, and so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands.

#### Be Compassionate

Take care of Levites at Shiloh and in local towns as they don't have land to raise crops and animals for food.

Take care of foreigners, widows and fatherless.

- Faith without works is dead
- Worship without love (for others) is also dead

<sup>44</sup> All the believers were together and had everything in common. <sup>45</sup> They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need (Acts 2:44-45)

### For the sustenance of Lord's work and His people

#### Why Tithe?

Numbers 18:21 And, behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tenth in Israel for an inheritance, <u>for their service</u> which they serve, [even] the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.

#### Why Tithe?

#### II Chronicles 31:4-10

Moreover, he commanded the people that dwelt in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites, that they might be encouraged in the law of the LORD. 5 And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel **brought in** abundance the firstfruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithe of all *things* brought they in abundantly. 9 Then Hezekiah questioned with the priests and the Levites concerning the heaps. 10 And Azariah the chief priest of the house of Zadok answered him, and said, Since the people began to bring the offerings into the house of the LORD, we have had enough to eat, and have left plenty: for the LORD hath blessed his people; and that which is left is this great store.

#### Proverbs 3:9

Honour the Lord with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase.

#### Why Tithe?

## Tithing/Offering is God's plan to provide for:

- Ministries
- Ministers
- Maintenance
- Members in-need

Tithing in NT

And he said unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which be Caesar's, and unto God the things which be God's (Luke 20:25)

#### How to Give?

Give Generously: For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required (Luke 12:48)

Give Cheerfully: not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver (II Corinthians 9: 7)

Give Secretly: But when thou doest alms, let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth: 4 That thine alms may be in secret: and thy Father which seeth in secret himself shall reward thee openly. (Matthew 6: 3-4)

#### Blessings of Tithing/Giving

We will grow in faith as we learn to trust in the Lord

Obey God with 10%

&

**Trust** God to bless the 90%

#### Blessings of Tithing/Giving

Blessings will bless others and return to us (in different ways)

Luke 6: 38 Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

II Corinthians 9:6 But this [I say], He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

#### Malachi 3:8

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. 9Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. 10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

#### Nehemiah 10:39

"We will not neglect the house of our God."

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