

On Health and Holiness



Does God Really Care About
What We Eat?

2020 Corona Edition

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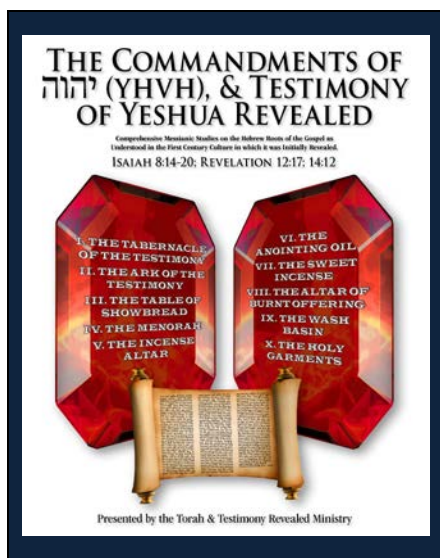
**Does God Really Care
About What We Eat?**

**Presented by the Torah & Testimony Revealed
A Jews For Yeshua Apologetics Ministry**



The Torah & Testimony Revealed

Apologetics Ministry



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Explanatory notes

- ✚ The name of God as expressed in the Hebrew letters יהוה and commonly translated in Catholic Bibles as "LORD" is properly pronounced in the English as, "Yehovah".
- ✚ { } = Embedded Commentary
- ✚ () = Literal translation
- ✚ [] = Words added to clarify that which is evident from the plain reading of the text.

Preface

Erroneous Doctrines Concerning the Consumption of Unclean Animals

So you think you can eat everything and still be healthy do you? Of course you don't, but many religious leaders, contrary to Scriptural and medical evidence, will tell you that you can.

Today's Covid-19 (Corona Virus) pandemic is a prime example of how consumption of a single bat can result in a disease outbreak so serious as to cause the economies of the entire world to all but shut down. And what about Ebola and HIV from monkeys? Bubonic plague from rats? And any number of other diseases such as SARS, Bird Flu, and Swine Flu, all acquired from the consumption of, or handling of, unclean animals?

But yet, Gentile believers have taught for 1900 years that all things are now clean and fit for food contrary to the plain reading of Scripture, and contrary to the scientific record.

And now that error has all but shut down the world's economies, and resulted in tens of thousands of preventable deaths. But yet these preachers, though emphasizing that Chinese shouldn't eat bats, still fail to see that not all things are fit for consumption - still refuse to give up their human appetite for the wisdom that comes only from Heaven in the form of God's dietary law as revealed in **V'yikra (Leviticus) 11** and **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14**.

Throughout the centuries many of the pure and unadulterated doctrines of the early assembly have become influenced and corrupted by pagan tradition, commerce, and human appetite. The corruption of Scripture addressed here will be concerning the erroneous teaching that somehow all animals are now made clean for consumption through Yeshua.

Adam and Havah (Eve) also made a similar misjudgment when through the simple consumption of a single piece of forbidden fruit, all creation was likewise thrown into an immediate downward spiral to disease, destruction, and death – the consequence of which has been going on now for almost 6,000 years.

So concerning the erroneous and dangerous teaching that somehow all things are now fit for consumption, let's begin with that which is evident even by these Pastor's own teachings, with the point that when they say "all" animals are clean now, that they are really only referring to creatures like pork and shellfish which our culture has bred into their diet and mentally conditioned them to accept as food.

These same people often would never consider eating a dog or rat, **a bat**, vulture, cockroach, centipede, spider or fly - but often are the very same people who worry over having too much salt or sugar in their diet! {Even though the Scriptures state salt is good!} **See, Luke 14:34; Mark 9:49, 50; V'yikra (Leviticus) 2:13.**

The contradiction is evident, for if all things are clean through

Messiah - then that means *all things*, including sugar, salt, vultures, **bats**, cockroaches, maggots, and green peas alike.

The Words, “Clean” and “Unclean” in Hebrew Defined

The words translated as “Clean” and “Unclean” in the English come from the Hebrew words pronounced “Ta-hor” {meaning “non-toxic, pure”} and “Tah-mey” {meaning “toxic, contaminated”}.

With outbreaks of things like “Covid-19 (Corona Virus)”, “Swine flu”, “Bird flu”, “Bubonic plague”, and the like, which are transferred to humans from animals such as bats, rats, snakes, and so on, it becomes evident, even from the simple perspective of infectious disease, that these animals are still “unclean/toxic/contaminated”; and that respecting this wisdom from Heaven would have prevented millions of unnecessary deaths over the centuries.

Toxicological studies done by Dr. David Macht at John’s Hopkins University in the 1950’s confirms that indeed all the animals declared as “unclean” and as “clean” in **V’yikra (Leviticus) 11** and **D’varim (Deuteronomy) 14** of Scripture are still respectively “toxic”, and “non-toxic” today.

Additionally, how does one justify the eating of unclean animals through the Scriptures when, God, who changes not, states clearly in His word in **V’yikra (Leviticus) 11** and **D’varim (Deuteronomy) 14** that certain things are not meant as food or allowed for human consumption?

If I at one point in my life do drugs, then it reflects my standard of acceptance of drugs, and shows me to be one kind of person. But if after ten years, I decide that drugs are not acceptable to do, and I then stop doing drugs, then I make myself into a different kind of person.

By changing my standard, I myself become a different person, for my standard reflects ultimately, who, and what I am.

God’s standard is a divine blueprint to us of His mind, and He changes not, and so His standard changes not.

The problem is that people do not practice the consumption of unclean meats through a thorough understanding or application of Scripture; but rather through what they have been taught by others, and through the conditioning of their human appetite through the dietary and commercial customs of their culture. This development revolves around certain passages in Scripture that have been grossly misunderstood and misrepresented over the centuries.

As a result, believers have erroneously adopted a dangerous, unhealthy desire for forbidden things as a part of their cultural and doctrinal practices; practices that can be easily remedied by placing these passages back into the context and understanding of 1st century Israel, and its original assembly of Jewish/Israeli founders, believers, and Apostolic leadership.

Part II The Biblical Evidence

Kepha's (Peter's) Vision (Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:1 thru 11:18)

The passage at hand reads as follows:

Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:1-22:

10:1 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band;

10:2 A *devout* man, and one who revered יהוה with all of his household, and who gave gifts and services of compassion to the poor of the people and prayed to יהוה always.

10:3 “He saw in a vision, around 3 pm, a Messenger (Angel) of יהוה coming to him and saying, “Cornelius,”

10:4 “And when Cornelius looked at the Messenger (Angel) he became afraid and said, “What is it Sir,” and the Messenger (Angel) said to him, “Your prayers and deeds of compassion for the poor have come up for a memorial before יהוה.”

10:5 “So go now, send a man to Joppa and ask for Simon, whose surname is Kepha (Peter).”

10:6 “He is lodging with one called Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside; he shall tell you what you must do.”

It is important to note at this point in history {a minimum of 10 years or so after the resurrection} that the Gospel was not yet allowed to be taken to the people of the nations [the uncircumcised]; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 10:5,6; Yehochanan (John) 4:9; Ma'aseh (Acts) 11:1-18.**

This is consistent with the requirement of the Torah that forbid both the believing and non-believing Jewish community from intermingling with unconverted people of the nations. **Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:28 and 11:1-3.**

Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:7-10 goes on to say,

10:7 And when the Messenger (Angel) which had spoken to Cornelius had departed, Cornelius called two of his household servants, and a devout

soldier of them, who waited on him continually,

10:8 And when he had explained all these things to them, he sent them to Joppa.

10:9 Now, the next day as they went on their journey and drew near to the city, Kepha (Peter) went up on the housetop to pray at about 12 pm.

10:10 And Kepha (Peter) became very hungry and would have eaten, but while they prepared [for lunch], he fell into a trance.

In this trance Kepha (Peter) received a vision, and in this vision...

10:11 ...he saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending to him, as it had been a great sheet fastened at the four corners, and let down to the earth,

10:12 which contained all kinds of four footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and crawling things, and birds of the air.

10:13 And there came a voice to him saying, arise Kepha (Peter), slay and eat.

10:14 But Kepha (Peter) replied, not so, Master, **for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean.**

Note at this point that this vision was received no sooner than 36 CE (AD), {about 8 -10 years after the death and resurrection of Messiah}, that at this time Kepha (Peter) had still never eaten anything unclean, or anything sold in the common market.

So with this in mind, we see that,

- 1) Kepha's (Peter's) resistance to the command to slay and eat unclean animals was in complete harmony with the requirements of God's dietary law, that,
- 2) Kepha (Peter) did not suddenly jump for joy that he was now free after all these years to eat vile, unclean creatures like vultures, bats, rats, and maggots that have been the source, and continue to be the source, of numerous pandemic diseases in the world; and,
- 3) As can be seen in **Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:17** below, Kepha (Peter) was confused about the vision and did not immediately understand what it meant.

This **3rd** point is important, because had Yeshua taught during His ministry that unclean animals were now good for food, then,

#1, no such vision would have been required to tell Kepha (Peter) something

that he would have already known from the time of Yeshua's ministry, and,

#2, he would not have been confused about the meaning of the vision, as shown in **verse 10:17** below, and,

#3, if Yeshua had made unclean animals clean, they would have been clean from the time of His ministry not from a time beginning a minimum of 8 years after His death and resurrection.

#4, Yeshua would have been teaching in violation of Torah (God's Law) and therefore be guilty of sin; **I Yehochanan (I John) 3:4**; thereby disqualifying Himself as Mashiach (Messiah) and as the "Word of God" manifest in the flesh, and therefore disqualified Himself from being able to take our sins upon Himself.

Now let's go on to **Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:15**,

10:15 "And a voice spoke to him again the second time, 'What **ההה** has cleansed you must not call common'."

What has God cleansed? The clue is in the very next verse, **Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:16**,

10:16 "This was done *three times*, and the sheet was taken up into heaven again.

God showed the sheet 3 times because 3 uncircumcised Gentiles (people of the nations) were approaching Kepha's (Peter's) door to speak with him; and God was telling Kepha (Peter) that he was not to consider those 3 uncircumcised men as unclean, as is clearly stated in the following verses; **Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:17-22**.

10:17 "Now while Kepha (Peter) *wondered what this vision he had seen meant*, behold, the men who had been sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate."

10:19 And while Kepha (Peter) *thought about the vision*, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, *three men* are seeking you," {*In the vision the sheet came down "3 times"*}

10:20 "*Arise* therefore, go down and go with them doubting nothing, for I have sent them." {*In the vision he was also told to "arise"*}

10:22 "And the men said, 'Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who reverences **ההה** and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a Holy Messenger (Angel) to summon you to his house, and to hear words from you.' "

Then in **Ma'aseh (Acts) 10:28**, Kepha (Peter) himself provides the interpretation of the vision.

10:28 “And Kepha (Peter) said to them, ‘You know how it is an unlawful thing for a Jewish man [circumcised man] to keep company with, or to come to one of another nation [an uncircumcised man], *but* **קָדָשׁ** *has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean*’.”

This is further explained in **10:35** when Kepha (Peter) says,

10:35 “...but that in every nation, whosoever reverences Him, and works “*righteousness*”, is accepted by Him.”

And in **Ma'aseh (Acts) 11:15,18** as Kepha (Peter) spoke,

11:15 “...the Ruach haKadosh (Holy Spirit) fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.”

And when the Jews heard these things they also understood the vision to mean the same thing as demonstrated in the following verse, and the Jews...

11:18 ...they exalted Elohim saying, “Then **קָדָשׁ** has also granted to the people of the nations repentance unto life.”

To assign any other interpretation to this vision other than what Kepha (Peter) assigned to it, and that his fellow Jewish believers understood it to mean, is an intellectually dishonest twisting of Scripture.

The Twisting of Timothy

(I Timothy 4:1-5)

Another passage that is commonly quoted out of context of Scripture to support the consumption of unclean creatures is **I Timothy 4:1-5**, which reads as follows,

The *italicized* words in these verses will be the primary focus of our discussion.

4:1 “Now the Spirit of **יהוה** specifically states that in the latter times some shall depart from the Faith, giving their minds over to deceiving spirits, and to doctrines of demons,”

4:2 “Speaking lies with deceptive words, having their own moral convictions seared as if with a hot iron,”

4:3 “Forbidding marriage, and commanding people to refrain from eating *foods* which **יהוה** created to be received with thanksgiving by those who *believe and know the truth.*”

4:4 “*For every creature of יהוה is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving,*”

4:5 “*For it is sanctified with the word of יהוה* and through prayer.”

In **verse 4:3**, two doctrines are clearly identified as doctrines of demons. Those two teachings are identified as:

- 1) Forbidding people to marry, and
- 2) Commanding people to refrain from *foods* which God created to be eaten with thanksgiving.

In our unabridged version of this study the Essenes are identified as the group that was teaching these doctrines in the 1st century. However, for purposes of this abbreviated edition we will only address the 2nd doctrine of the Essenes - abstinence from that which God created to be used as *food*.

In **B'reshet (Genesis) 1:29** it states,

1:29 “...I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.”

In **B'resheet (Genesis) 2:16,17** it states,

2:16 "...of every tree of the Garden you may freely eat".

2:17 "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat; for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die".

So before sin entered in to the world we were vegetarians, and in **B'resheet (Genesis) 1:29; 2:9,15-17** God provided for a us the standard for determining which vegetables and fruits can be eaten, and which cannot. That is, green plants and fruit trees that yielded seed within itself could be eaten, and green plants and fruit trees that did not yield seed within itself could not be eaten.

Also, the Tree of Life could be eaten from, and the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil could not be eaten from. Violating this command caused sin and death to enter into the world. At this point now animals became incorporated into our diets, and as God had distinguished for us before which vegetation was good for food and which was not, now He also gave us the standard for which animals are good for food, and which are not.

Noach (Noah) himself was aware of this standard, as it is written, **B'resheet (Genesis) 7:2**,

7:2 "You shall take with you seven each [7 pairs] of every pure animal, a male and his female; and two each [2 pair] of animals that are contaminated, a male and his female."

Almost 1,200 years later in **V'yikra (Leviticus) 11 and D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14**, this distinction between the pure and contaminated is shown to be the basis of God's dietary law for all those who worship Him.

D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14, begins as follows,

14:2 "...You are a Holy people to יהוה your Father, and יהוה has chosen you to be a people for himself, a special treasure above all the peoples on the face of the earth,"

14:3 "[Therefore], *you shall not eat any detestable thing.*

For a complete list these, see **V'yikra (Leviticus) 11 and D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14**. So it is God, who through His Word, has defined for us from the beginning what is, and is not, food.

Shaul (Paul) then continues in **I Timothy 4:3** to state that what God created as food He,

4:3 "... created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe *and know the Truth.*"

It is to be received with thanksgiving by whom? **By those who know the truth.** So then, “what is truth”? Once again, the Scriptures provide our key to interpretation and define the “Truth” as follows:

In **Mizmor (Psalm) 119:142 & 151** it states,

119:142 “Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and **Your Law (Your Torah) is Truth.**”

119:151 “You are near, O' אלהים, and **all Your Commandments are Truth.**”

And in **Yehochanan (John) 17:17-19,**

17:17 “Purify and make them Holy through **Your Truth, Your Word is Truth.**”

17:18 “As you sent me into the world, I also have sent them into the world,”

17:19 “and for their sakes I have kept Myself Holy and pure so that they also may be made Holy and pure through **the Truth.**”

We see from this, *Truth* manifested in 3 ways,

- The Word** of God
- The Torah** of God, and
- The Commandments** of God.

The **Word** of the Almighty, our all knowing, and loving Creator, at that time extended from **B'reshet (Genesis)** to **Malachi**. His Holy **Torah** is likewise contained within *His Word*, and His righteous and life giving **Commandments** are contained within *His Torah*; and these 3 are one and in harmony with one another.

We see in **Yehochanan (John) 1:14** that **the Word** became flesh,

1:14 “And **the Word** became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His splendor, the splendor as of the only begotten Son of the Father, full of favor and Truth.”

This Word revealed in the flesh was Yeshua the Messiah, our Anointed King and Savior, and the dietary laws are part of that Word of God made flesh. And Yeshua, is that Word of God made flesh as is plainly stated in **Yehochanan (John) 14:6,**

14:6 “...I am the Way, **the Truth** and the Life, and no one can come to the Father except through Me.”

Once again, we see “the Word” associated with “the Truth”, and that

“the Word” and “the Truth” were perfectly reflected in Yeshua’s sinless life and character.

We also know that Yeshua was without sin; as it is written in **Evreem (Hebrews) 4:15**,

4:15 “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, *yet without sin.*”

And in II Corinthians 5:21,

5:21 “For **חַטָּאת** made Yeshua, *who knew no sin*, to take on the penalty of sin for us so that we could obtain righteousness from **חַטָּאת** through Him.”

This means that Yeshua never violated any of God’s Law, for,

I Yehochanan (I John) 3:4 ,

3:4 “Whoever commits sin violates the Torah of **חַטָּאת**, *for sin is the violation of Torah.*”

I Yehochanan (I John) 3:5 ,

3:5 “And you know that Messiah was revealed in order to take away our sin, *and that in Him is no Torah violation.*”

Is **V'yikra (Leviticus) 11** and **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14** part of God’s “Law”, of the Torah of God?

Absolutely! In **V'yikra (Leviticus) 11:46 & 47** God states plainly,

11:46 “*This is the law* of the beasts and the birds and every living creature that moves in the waters, and of every creature that creeps on the earth,”

11:47 “to distinguish between the unclean and the clean, and *between the animal that may be eaten and the animal that may not be eaten.*”

Had Yeshua ever violated the dietary law of God His Father, He would have been guilty of sin. But Yeshua was the very manifestation of the Word of God, and so was entirely without sin, and therefore innocent of ever violating, or of teaching against, the dietary law of His Father which is clearly part of the Word of God His Father. He was literally the full Word of God, from Genesis to Malachi, manifested in the form of a sinless human.

Yeshua likewise stated in **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 4:4**,

4:4 “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by *every Word* that proceeds out

of the mouth of יהוה.”

The Torah (God’s Law), which includes at least 613 commandments, is that Word that proceeded directly out of His mouth.

Did this word of the clean and the unclean proceed directly out of the mouth of God?

Absolutely, for in the very beginning of **V'yikra (Leviticus)**, where God’s dietary law for us is presented, it states plainly:

11:1 “And יהוה *spoke* to Moshe (Moses) and Aaron, *saying to them...*”

So going back to **I Timothy 4:3**, we see that,

4:3 “...*those who believe and know the Truth...*”

...are those who believe and know the Truth about what is clean and unclean, and about what animals may and may not be eaten, as defined by the Holy Scriptures, *the Word of God – in particular those words spoken directly from God’s mouth and dictated verbatim by Moshe (Moses).*

4:4 “For every creature of יהוה is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving,”

4:5 “...for it has been declared Holy and pure by the Word of יהוה and prayer.”

Verse 4:4 is the portion of this passage that is used to justify the consumption of pig flesh by those who do not believe and know the Truth as taught by Scripture. And indeed, at a glance it does appear to support such a doctrine.

However, in light of “*the Truth*” referred to in **verse 4:3**, and to that which has been declared Holy and pure by “*the Word of God*” referred to in **verse 4:5**, we see that **verse 4:4** is to be understood in light of the dietary law of God as inferenced in **verses 4:3 and 4:5**.

By this we understand that when **verse 4:4** states that “every creature” of God is good, it is referring to every creature that God made as good *for food* as defined by His Torah of health given in **V'yikra (Leviticus) 11** and **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14**.

No early believer understood “every creature of God”, in the context of food, to have included unclean animals like bats, rats, and centipedes which were *not* considered as food to begin with.

And in light of the abundance of scientific data against the consumption of meats that the Scriptures define as polluted, and that clearly to this day

continue to cause infectious pandemic diseases in humans such Covid-19 (Corona virus), Swine Flu, Bubonic Plague, and the like, it is evident that these creatures are still contaminated and not created for human consumption.

The context of this passage is not about people who eat any kind of animal versus people who eat only some kinds of animals, but about people who eat meat versus people who had been conditioned all their lives by the ascetic upbringings of the Essenes to eat no meat at all.

Eating Meat vs. Vegetarianism (Romans 14)

This takes us to our next passage of Scripture which is commonly taken out of context. That is the passage of **Romans chapter 14**, which is comparing meat eaters with vegetarians, and not meat eaters with other meat eaters.

This is made quite evident by the fact that **verse 14:1-3** begins with the statement:

14:1 “Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things.”

14:2 “For one believes he may eat *all things*, but he who is weak *eats only vegetables*.”

14:3 “Let not he who eats [meat], despise him who does not eat [meat], and let not him who does not eat [meat] condemn he who does eat [meat], for **יהיה** has received them [both].”

Once again, in the writer’s mind, “all things” means “all things” that the Almighty ordained in the Torah to be fit for food, not all things ever created; and as **verse 14:2** clearly defines, is comparing one whose diet includes meat versus one whose diet does not include meat.

For example: If we were Hindus and you ask me what my favorite food was, and I told you, “Oh, I love to eat all things!” You as a fellow Hindu would understand that my statement of loving to eat all things does not include cows which the Hindu religion forbids to be used as food.

Or if we were vegans, and I told you, “I love to eat everything”, you would understand that to mean, “I love all kinds of vegan dishes”, not meat, which is repulsive to the vegan mindset.

Likewise, if you ask me what I like to eat as a Jew, I too, will tell you that I enjoy eating just about anything; and you, understanding my Faith, would understand my statement to be within the context of what the Torah teaches me is food. You would know that I do not consider bats, rats, flies, spiders, pigs, or cockroaches to be food.

But you see, that’s the whole problem. People have a tendency to interpret the Hebrew Scriptures {which in their entirety were written by Jewish people of the Faith}, through the customs and diets of their own non-Hebrew cultures.

In this passage we run into the problem of Greeks leaving vegan lifestyles to join a religion that sacrifices and eats animals.

This issue made the transition of vegan converts difficult because it is something that required the slaughter of an animal which was repugnant to them, even as it is offensive even to vegans today.

However, the solution to this conflict in diets was simple. Since the Scriptures do not require or forbid the eating of meat, the meat eaters were not to compel the vegan converts to eat meat; and the vegan converts were not to condemn the meat eaters for not being vegans.

As a result, no great conflicts or debates ever arose over this particular dietary issue {though the issue of eating meat offered to idols did become a fairly large issue}.

So Shaul {in perfect harmony with the Torah} responds to this issue as follows,

Romans 14:1-23,

14:1 “Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things.”

14:2 “For one believes he may eat *all things*, but he who is weak *eats only vegetables*.”

14:3 “Let not he who eats [meat], despise him who does not eat [meat], and let not him who does not eat [meat] condemn he who does eat [meat], for **יהוה** has received [them both].”

14:4 “Who are you to condemn another’s servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for He is able to make him stand.”

Then in **Romans 14:5,6** Shaul uses an analogy concerning Holy days to show how favoring one type of food to another is like comparing one Holy day to another.

This is further supported as an analogy by the fact that the entire text of **Romans 14**, both before and after these two verses, is entirely about the issue of food, not about Holy days. So the purpose of Shaul’s analogy here is to show that meat eating vs. vegetarianism is just a matter of preference {a preference of which happens to be in perfect harmony with the established boundaries of Torah}.

14:5 “[For example] one person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Each is fully convinced in his own mind.”

14:6 “For he who observes the day, observes it to **יהוה**.”

The remainder of the verse is not in the oldest of manuscripts, but was added by Gentiles later, and so is not part of the original inspired text.

“...and he who does not observe the day, it is to God that he is not observing it. [Likewise] He

who eats [meat], eats for God, and gives God thanks, and he who does not eat [meat], it is for God that he does not eat, and he gives God thanks.”

14:7 “For none of us lives for himself, and no one dies for himself.”

14:8 “For if we live, we live for יהוה, and if we die, we die for יהוה. Therefore, whether we live or die we are יהוה’s.”

14:9 “For this (end result) Messiah died and rose, and lived again, that He might be Master of both the dead and the living.”

14:10 “Therefore, why do you condemn your brother? Or why do you despise your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of יהוה.”

14:11 “For it is written: “As I live, says, יהוה, every knee shall bow to me; and every tongue confess to יהוה.”

14:12 “So then each of us shall give account of himself to יהוה.”

14:13 “Therefore let us not condemn one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block, or a cause to fall, in our brother’s way.”

14:14 “I know and am convinced by Yeshua our King that no [clean animal] is unclean of itself; but to him {the vegan who is weak in the faith **verse 14:1,2**} who considers any animal flesh to be unclean, to him {the vegan} it is unclean”.

14:15 “Therefore, if your brother is grieved because of *food* {you are compelling him to eat}, you are not walking in love. Do not lose {in the sense of destroying a relationship} with your *food*, the one whom Messiah [also] died.

In this last verse, and in the verses that follow, the word “food” comes from the Greek word “broma” *which refers specifically to things allowed to be eaten as food as authorized by the dietary laws of the Torah.*

14:16 “So do not let your good be spoken of as evil.”

14:17 “For the kingdom of יהוה is not about (eating and drinking); but about (doing what’s right) and about shalom, and joy in the Ruach haKadosh (Holy Spirit).”

In other words, the emphasis about what constitutes acceptable behavior from a fellow believer is not whether they like and eat the same *foods* as you

do, but about righteousness, that is, about doing that which is right; and that which is right is ultimately defined by Torah. If we walk in harmony with the Torah, then all disputes and divisions cease.

In this case, the Torah states that it is not proper to compel someone to eat meat in the absence of a commandment requiring the consumption of meat.

In fact, the Torah states plainly that meat is not required as part of one's diet, but only forbids the consumption of certain types of meat.

As it states plainly in *D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14:4,6,9,11,20*, "...these are the animals you may eat...the sea life you may eat...the birds and insects you may eat...", ...NOT shall eat.

Shaul continues then in **Romans 14:18**,

14:18 For he who serves Messiah in this [way] is acceptable to יהיה and approved of men.

14:19 Therefore let us pursue the things of shalom and the things by which one may (build-up) another.

14:20 Do not (diminish) the work of יהיה over issues of food. All [food] indeed is pure, but it is evil for the man who stumbles at what they eat.

14:21 It is good for your brother not to eat meat or drink wine or do anything that he stumbles at.

Many translations in **verse 14:21**, add, "...or is *offended or made weak*"; however, the oldest manuscripts do not contain these words.

14:22 The faith that you have {to eat meat}, have to yourself before יהיה. Blessed is he who does not condemn himself in what he allows.

14:23 For he [the vegan] who doubts will be condemned if he eats [meat], because he does not eat with faith {see **verse 14:1,2**}; and whatever is not from faith is sin.

Don't Judge Me!

(Colossians 2:11-17)

In **Colossians 2:16,17** we run across another favorite for the consumption of toxic and disgusting things. However, this passage has nothing to do with dietary law, and everything to do with accepting people of the nations in fellowship at the appointed feasts who had been saved by Yeshua apart from the Temple sacrifices, and as a result had never been "circumcised" for purposes of officially converting to Temple based Judaism.

Let's begin with the literal translation of **Colossians 2:11** and work our way up to **2:16,17**.

2:11 In Yeshua you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands {Shaul speaking to the uncircumcised believers from among the nations}, by putting off the body of the flesh [the sinful nature], by the circumcision of Messiah.

2:12 Buried with Him in immersion, in which you also were raised with Him through trust in the workings of אלהים who raised Him from the dead.

2:13 And you {still talking to the believers from among the nations}, being dead in your violations of Torah, and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made you alive together with Yeshua, having forgiven all your Torah violations,

2:14 Having wiped out the record of debt, the judgment brought down and written against us, and held against us. And Yeshua has taken that judgment and debt out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

2:15 Having disarmed the rulers and authorities of darkness, He triumphed over them publicly, putting them to shame, and triumphed over them concerning this.

2:16 Let no man condemn you therefore in eating, or in drinking either in participation of a festival, or of a New Moon, or of the Sabbaths,

2:17 which are but a shadow of things to come for the whole body of Messiah.

Now when reading a common English translation of this passage, one usually has the impression that Jewish believers, like myself, are not to condemn believers coming out of the nations concerning what they eat or drink, or regarding any resistance to the appointed feast days, which are but a shadow of things to come, because the body is really about Messiah, not about anything we do, or about any future events foreshadowed to come.

But when looking at this same passage even from a literal "Greek" text

and apart from Hebraic thought, it becomes evident how far the translators have gone to eliminate anything even remotely resembling Hebraic thought.

The deliberate mistranslation they have presented in this text is very easy to identify and clear up however.

The Catholic translations of **2:16** will read for as follows:

2:16 Let no man condemn you therefore in *food or drink*, either in participation of a festival, or of a New Moon, or of the Sabbaths,

Looking at the words food and drink in this verse you can see that they have been translated as nouns (a person, place or thing) in this passage, but in the Greek they are verbs (action words), and can only be translated as such. These words in the Greek have only one meaning they can be translated into. Eating and drinking.

So the literal word for word translation from the Greek is as follows,

2:16 Let no man condemn you therefore in eating or in drinking, either in participation of a festival, or of a New Moon, or of the Sabbaths,

And in **verse 2:17**, of many translations the word “is” has been added, as follows, with no basis of support in the Greek.

2:17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ.

The following is the literal translation of the verse,

2:17 which are but a shadow of things to come for the whole body of Messiah.

Now the literal translation presented above makes sense, not only because this is entirely consistent with everything ever taught in Scripture from **B'reshet (Genesis)** to **Ma'aseh (Acts)**, but also because it brings both Jews and the people of the nations under one standard, the standard of Torah, so that there would be no division among them, or within the body of Messiah who redeemed them.

God is one, His people are one, and His standard is one. If there were one covenant and law for the people of the nations, and one covenant and law for Jews, there would be divisions; and it is only because of these Catholic/Protestant theologies that there exist divisions of this nature between Jews and the people of the nations today.

For even as rabbinical Judaism (Rashi'ism) refuses to accept Yeshua as the only acceptable standard for the remission of sins, even so, Christian theology refuses to accept the Torah as the only acceptable standard of right and wrong.

The Almighty most certainly did not teach our people Torah for 4,000 years just so that when Messiah came, we could all go out to the people of

the nations to become like gentiles.

No, He taught us the Torah for 4,000 years so that when the perfect sacrifice through Yeshua came, *we could then take His perfect standard of Torah to the nations* so that they could become like Yeshua – *the very Word of God manifest in the flesh* - which is what the Torah teaches us how to be.

You see, there is no division in the body of Messiah. Therefore, those in the body of Messiah are of the same standard. And if you have a different standard in your life, then you are not in harmony with the body of Messiah, but a division against it.

And what is that standard? The Torah of God, or the traditions of the pagan nations that surround us?

Did Yeshua come to convert Israel to the standards of pagans, or to convert the pagans to the standard of Israel, the Torah of God our Father, and Testimony of haMashiach Yeshua His Son - our Redeemer?

In this passage it is made clear from the literal translation that it is the people of the nations who were to convert, not us. For as Yeshua said, “Salvation is of the Jews”; **Yehochanan (John) 4:22**, for the covenants, the Torah, and the Promise of salvation through Messiah were given to us; **Romans 3:1,2**, to in turn take to the nations.

As Yeshua says, “I have only come for the lost sheep of the House of Israel”. **Mattit’yahu (Matthew) 10:5,6 & 15:21-28**.

Likewise, as it says in **verse 2:17**, for these things are a shadow of things to come. And if these things are a shadow of things yet to come, then they cannot be done away, even if it was possible for something of the Almighty to be done away, for nothing done away produces any shadow, but only that which exist. In this case, the shadow provides an image of what the 1000 year “Messianic Kingdom” to come will look like.

When Avraham, Moshe (Moses), the Prophets, the Kings, the Israelites, and Yeshua and the Emissaries (the Apostles) themselves celebrated these things, they were a shadow of things yet to come then, also. Did that mean they were not to celebrate them? Of course not!

Why, because these shadows of things to come are rehearsals to prepare us for the real thing in the Millennial Kingdom of Yeshua’s 1000 year reign on earth yet to come; **Revelation 5:9,10 & 20:1-6 {the reign}; Yesh’yahu (Isaiah) 66:21-24 & Zechar’yah (Zechariah) 14:16-21 {the feasts}**.

In fact, the Hebrew word translated as feasts, festivals, or holydays, depending on what version and passage you are reading, all come from the Hebrew word “Moedim” which literally means appointed times/rehearsals. And if you do not practice your part in the rehearsals, then you are not going to be on the stage during the performance.

Bread, or a Serpent?

(Mattit'yahu 7:7-12)

In Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 7:7-12 it states,

7:7 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

7:8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

7:9 *Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?*

7:10 *Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a snake?*

7:11 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

7:12 Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the *Torah and the Prophets*.

If you know the Torah, and the dietary law within it, then you know that Yeshua was teaching within the boundaries of the Torah and the Prophets. A fact that He plainly states in **verse 7:12**.

Simply put, if your son asks you for food, such as for bread or for fish, are you going to turn around and give him something that he cannot eat - like a stone, or something that is forbidden as food - like a snake?

Some people might argue that the reason why you wouldn't want to give your son a snake is because it is poisonous and could bite him.

This argument fails on 3 points. The 1st is that the argument itself assumes that the word snake in this passage is referring to a poisonous snake. To that argument I say, if a person would not eat a poisonous plant, then why would they eat a poisonous snake?

The 2nd point where this argument fails is because the Greek word "*ophis*" in this verse is the Greek word used to refer to **NON-poisonous snakes**. This is in contrast to the Greek word "*echidna*", {translated as "*viper*" in most bibles}, which is used to refer to **POISONOUS snakes**.

The 3rd point is that dead snakes don't bite. In conclusion, if non-poisonous snakes were an acceptable food source then it wouldn't matter one way or the other whether you gave your son a fish or a snake; and there would be no point in Yeshua implying that snakes and stones would be evil things to provide as food in place of fish and bread.

These verses make clear that it **does** matter what you provide as food; and testifies that not everything that can be placed into the mouth is good for the stomach.

The Lack of Controversy

This brings us to our next point, which is the lack of any conflict, or debate, over the consumption of unclean creatures. Anytime any question of the Torah of the Almighty arose, it created conflict, and even severe controversy in some cases, among both the Scribes and Pharisees, as well as among the Emissaries of Yeshua.

For example, when Yeshua walked the earth, great controversy erupted around Yeshua's healing of people on the Sabbath, which though in perfect harmony with the Torah concerning Sabbath activities, was not in harmony with the Pharisee's and Scribe's oral traditions and conclusions concerning Sabbath law.

The Scribes and Pharisees, likewise, sought to kill him for these healing activities. *See, Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 12:9-14; Yehochanan (John) 5:1-16.*

Yeshua was also confronted by the religious leaders for not washing His hands before eating, for dining with the outcast of Israel, and for eating from standing grain on the Sabbath; all things concerning the oral traditions of men developed outside of the Torah.

The Emissaries, likewise, experienced great controversy over the question of whether Gentile converts needed to be circumcised to receive remission of sin; that is, whether or not they needed to participate in the Temple sacrifices in addition to their faith in Yeshua's sacrifice. **Ma'aseh (Acts 15:1-5).**

Many passages scattered throughout several epistles were written as a result of this controversy, and caused temporary division even among the Emissaries themselves. *See, Ma'aseh (Acts) 11:1-3 /15:1-7, 8-11; Romans 4:9-12; Galatians 2:11-14,* as some examples of this dispute.

However, when it comes to the consumption of unclean animals, there is only silence; and of a certainty, had Yeshua, or any of the Emissaries, taught that it was acceptable to consume unclean animals, it would have stirred up just as serious a controversy and dispute as the controversies revolving around circumcision for Temple participation, the Sabbath, and the other issues did.

To Eat with Unwashed Hands

(Mattit'yahu 15:1-20)

In **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 15:1-20** we come to another passage that is often taken out of context. It is where Yeshua and his disciples began to eat without first washing their hands as required by oral tradition, which in turn stirred up controversy among the religious leaders. The relevant text goes as follows,

15:1 “Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Yeshua, saying,”

15:2 “Why do your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? **For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread.**”

So the context of this passage is clearly defined from the beginning as pertaining to the question of eating with unwashed hands, not to the question of eating unclean animals; and that the scribes and Pharisees stated their concern as being in relation *to their tradition - not in regard to the Torah.*

Make note in **verse 15:3** that Yeshua immediately responded to them by attacking their oral traditions which went directly against the written Torah {which *is exactly* what Catholic and Protestant theology have done through various traditions of “the church”}.

Then from **15:11, 15-20** Yeshua says,

15:11 “Not what goes into the mouth pollutes a person; but what comes out of the mouth, this pollutes a person”

15:15 “Then Kepha (Peter) answered and said to Him, “Explain this parable to us.”

15:16 “So Yeshua said, “Are you yet without understanding?”

15:17 “Do you not yet understand that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and is eliminated?”

15:18 “But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the mind, and they pollute a person,”

15:19 “For out of the mind proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, prostitution and incest; thefts, false accusations, and blasphemies;”

15:20 “These are the things that pollute a person, *but to eat with unwashed hands does not pollute a person.*”

Context is everything, and **verse 15:20**, reconfirms the context of this passage {and opening statements in **verses 15:1,2**} as referring to nothing other than eating with unwashed hands.

But then some might point out the parallel passage in **Mark 7:1-23**, in **verse 7:19** which says,

7:19 “Because it does not enter his mind, but his stomach, and is eliminated, *thereby cleansing all foods.*”

And contend that this brings the element of food into the context of the passage.

And I would agree, that yes, you could bring the element of food into this discussion with this passage. However, even if the context of the passage was mainly about food it would not change the conclusion, for in the mind of the Israelites who heard Yeshua, “food” referred to that which the Torah in **V'yikra (Leviticus) 11** and **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14** declared as food, not to those things like bats, rats, pigs, cochroaches, spiders, centipedes, and flies, which the Torah does not declare to be food.

Yeshua was speaking to Israelites in this passage, not to foreigners (gentiles).

Make note also that Yeshua was a Jew, both a descendent of Judah and an adherent of “the Faith”.

Take note also that all of the Emissaries were Judeans (Jews) who practiced this same Faith. And that the early assembly of believers was composed entirely of Israelites and Judeans who practiced this Faith, for the first 10 years or so following the resurrection.

This again is further evidenced by the fact that His response, though offensive to the religious leaders, did not stir up any controversy.

That is because Yeshua’s response was not in disharmony with “the Law“, or even in disharmony with the religious leaders’ understanding of “the Law“, but was only contrary to their tradition; the tradition of which taught that the soil from “unwashed” hands could defile (contaminate) the food. Which is why Yeshua responded by saying that it is the stomach that cleanses the soil from the food.

Yeshua, of course, does not mean here that unclean things do not need to be washed off our hands. Obviously, the touching of raw meat, common surfaces such as door knobs and the touching of menstrual discharge, blood, dead bodies, garbage, and genitals, and rear ends during toileting activities are things that would indeed potentially contaminate our food beyond the stomach’s capacity to cleanse it. The Covid-19 (Corona virus) makes this point very clear I believe.

So Yeshua was just simply stating that not every circumstance or activity requires the washing of hands prior to eating. It all depends on what you have been touching, and on what is going on in the environment around you.

If you have not been touching anything that the Torah says is unclean, like menstrual discharge, blood, dead bodies, or things contaminated with a pandemic virus like bats, etc..., then your stomach will handle it just fine. And that if it's just organic soil from the farm, or from other things that the Torah does not declare to be unclean, then the stomach will handle it just fine.

In these passages it was only the religious ego of the scribes and Pharisees that was bruised, but no more; for had Messiah been teaching in these passages that it was okay to eat unclean animals, the religious leaders would not have remained silent, but would have vehemently attacked him for teaching such a clearly unlawful and heretical doctrine; and would possibly have stoned Him on the spot. But again, there was only silence.

And yes, it is true that it is what comes out of a person's mind that pollutes them. That is because all sin can be summed up in one sentence, "*the desire for those things which are forbidden*".

And just like adultery, stealing, perjury, murder, and blasphemies, the consumption of unclean animals as a food source is also a forbidden desire that begins with the lust of the mind; and like all sin, is a desire that leads only to sickness, and ultimately, to death as even Adam and Havah (Eve) learned when they ate what they believed to be a harmless – though forbidden, piece of fruit.

Over the Cliff They Go

(Mark 5:1-17)

In **Mark 5:1-17** we hear the story of the demon possessed man who when seeing Yeshua approaching in **verse 7**, “cried out with a loud voice and said...”

5:7 ...What have I to do with You, Yeshua, Son of the Most High God? I demand you, by **קִיָּי**, that you do not torment me.

5:8 For Yeshua said to him, “Come out of the man, unclean spirit!”

5:9 And the man answered, saying, “My name is Legion; for we are many.”

5:10 And he begged Yeshua earnestly that He would not send them out of the country.

5:11 Now a large herd of pigs was feeding close by near the mountains.

5:12 And all the demons begged Him, saying, “Send us to the pigs, that we may enter them.”

5:13 And Yeshua gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the pigs {which were about 2,000 in number}, and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea.

Now, if I told you to go and inject poison into 2,000 of our neighbor’s cows, and those cows died from the poison, the Law of God, and even human law, would declare us guilty of sin, and we would be required to pay the owner for the loss of his cows.

For those of us who believe Yeshua is the Messiah, we know that Yeshua was without sin. That Yeshua never once violated the Torah of His Father. So if Yeshua was without sin - without violation of Torah, then how is it that He was able to destroy this man’s herd of pigs without being guilty of sin?

It was for the same reason that He was able to turn over the tables of the bankers and merchants in the Temple Court without sin - because the merchant activities taking place within the Temple Walls was in violation of Torah; and Yeshua as our Messiah, and as the King of Israel, had the authority, and the duty, to cleanse the Temple of sinful activities.

So here we have an example in the Temple of the destruction of personal property where no restitution is owed because the property being destroyed was being used in the commission of sin - the sin of polluting the Temple with greed and dishonest gain.

As Yeshua said in **Mark 11:17** “My House shall be called a House of

Prayer for all nations, but you have made it into a den of thieves.”

But as the King of Israel, not only was Yeshua bound to cleanse the Temple of sin, but the land and the people from sin as well.

In the case of the pig herd, **V'yikra (Leviticus) chapter 11** and **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 14** state clearly that pigs are not to be used for food because though they have a split hoof, they do not chew the cud.

And **V'yikra (Leviticus) 24:22**, as well as other passages, state,

24:22 “You shall have the same law for the stranger and for the native born. For I, יהוה, am your God.”

In this particular case, we see men raising pigs for foreigners passing through the land because they had made a distinction among themselves that a stranger *passing through* the land was different than a stranger *living in* the land.

So they reasoned that it was okay to sell pigs to strangers just passing through the land, because after all, they aren't Israelites, and there could be good profit in it, and what the strangers did with the pig after they bought it was their business.

It was a clever way of going around the commandment that required the Israelites to apply the same Law of Torah to everyone in their midst, regardless of who they were.

It also violated the commandment in **V'yikra (Leviticus) 19:18** which states,

19:18 “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

The Torah strictly requires us to apply the same standard to all people. But as can be expected, when a profit can be made, it is the weakness of human nature to justify the means of making that profit.

And this practice of pig raising for foreigners was entirely greed motivated as even the activities in the Temple Court were greed motivated.

This is why Yeshua was able to destroy the assets {2,000 pigs}, and the income of these pig herders without being guilty of sin. Because it was sin that He was cleansing out of the land - and therefore the destruction of their property was justified; even as governments today reserve the right to destroy, with impunity, the assets of criminals within their own jurisdictions today.

This is one of the reasons why the pig herders, rather than being angry and demanding restitution, or stoning Him, were instead fearful, and *pleaded* with Him to leave instead.

As it says in **5:14-17**,

5:14 Now those who fed the pigs *fled*, and they told it in the city and in the

country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened.

5:15 Then they came to Yeshua, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. *And they were afraid.*

5:16 And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the pigs.

5:17 Then they began to beg Yeshua to depart from their region.

Let's put that into modern terms. You have a pig farm with 2,000 pigs, and let's give them a conservative value of \$100 a head, and someone comes along and shoots dead all your pigs before your eyes. You just saw \$200,000 go down the drain {they probably didn't have insurance back then}. Are you going to go beg this person to leave, or are you going to be severely ticked off and upset at them?

You're going to be severely ticked off and upset - *unless* you knew that what you were doing was illegal, and had a conscience about that illegal activity - especially if you knew that the person who killed your business and livelihood was righteous - and righteous for what He did.

The men in this story were not angry as one would expect them to be; but rather, terrified and afraid - convicted of their sin and pleading with Him to depart before more judgment came upon them.

Another point to consider in this matter is the evidence provided in this account that pigs are clearly capable of being demon possessed.

Do you really want to eat an animal that is capable of demon possession? Perhaps you have eaten a demon possessed pig before; and perhaps some of the ailments and curses in your life are related to that consumption of demon flesh. Pork Chop anyone?

No servant of the Almighty would question the abomination that would be created from slaughtering a pig on the altar of the Temple; but Yeshua says that He is the Temple of God that would be raised up in 3 days, **Yehochanan (John) 2:19-22.**

The Emissary Shaul (the Apostle Paul) states that we as members of Yeshua's body are the Temple of the Almighty with Yeshua **I Corinthians 6:15; I Kepha (I Peter) 2:4,5.**

And states in **I Corinthians 3:16,17 & 6:19,20;**

3:16 Know you not, that you are the Temple of יהוה, and that the Ruach (Spirit) of יהוה lives in you?

3:17 If any man defiles the Temple of יהוה, him shall יהוה destroy, for the Temple of יהוה is *Holy*, which Temple you are.

And again,

6:19 What? Know you not that your body is the Temple of the Ruach haKadosh (Holy Spirit) which is in you, which you have of **רוח קדוש**, and that you are not your own,

6:20 For you have been bought with a price; therefore exalt **רוח קדוש** in your body, and in your spirit, which belong to **רוח קדוש**.

And be rest assured, there is nothing *holy* about a pig. But yet how often have you heard it taught that somehow Yeshua took this *unholy*, potentially demon possessed flesh encapsulated in the form of a pig, and declared it to be acceptable to place inside the *holy* temple of our bodies where the Ruach haKadosh (the Holy Spirit) is to dwell?

My friends, this doctrine of consuming that which is forbidden comes straight out of the domain of the Wicked One.

Remember, it is this very issue of what may, and may not, be eaten that caused trouble to begin falling upon us when in the Garden of Eden.

Eating that which is forbidden is, in fact, the very first sin committed by mankind; and as such, is one of the most difficult of all sins for people to overcome, or to even comprehend as sin.

Do not believe the lie that all things are good for food, because they are not, and have never been, as is evident even from the beginning in the Garden of Eden with the forbidden fruit.

Likewise, I have yet to meet anybody who was willing to eat *anything*; which is a wise thing for there are many animals such as, salamanders, various spiders, scorpions, centipedes, certain types of fish, and buzzards, among others creatures, as well as any number of plants, that if you were to consume them, you would be dead within a short matter of time.

Eat Whatever is Set Before Me?

(Luke 10:1-8)

In **Luke 10:1-12** Yeshua sends 70 of His disciples out to heal the sick and proclaim that the Kingdom of God has come near, along with instruction on how to conduct themselves on their journeys and on how their wages would be received.

Beginning with **verse 2**, it says,

10:2 ...the harvest is great, *but the laborers are few*; therefore pray to the Master of the harvest *to send out laborers* into His harvest.

10:3 Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves.

10:4 Carry neither money bag, (food sack), nor sandals; and greet no one along the road.

10:5 But whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Shalom be to this house.’

10:6 And if a son of shalom is there, your shalom will rest on it; if not, it will return to you.

10:7 And remain in the same house, *eating and drinking such things as they give, for the laborer is worthy of his wages*. Do not go from house to house.

10:8 Whatever city you enter, and they receive you, *eat such things as are set before you*.

10:9 And heal the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of **גוי** has come near you.’

Some people have given this verse to justify the consumption of pig meat because it states in **verses 10:7, 8** that the disciples on their journey are to eat “such things” as are set before them.

The words “such things” are not contained in the oldest manuscripts, and as such, somewhat confuse the context for those looking for excuses to eat pig meat & shellfish, etc...

But Yeshua provides the plain and simple reason for this command in **verse 7**, where He states,

10:7 “... for a workman is worthy of his wages.”

And then He repeats this command in **verse 8**, emphasizing the importance of this command.

This is why Yeshua commanded the 70 disciples not to take a bag for money or sacks for food, because as stated in **verse 2**, He was sending them out as laborers, as laborers to heal the sick and proclaim that the Kingdom of the Almighty has come near. Stating to them that this was their employment, and that whatever was given to them as "*food*", shelter, or clothing was to be accepted by them as their wages.

So the context of this passage has nothing to do with what is clean or unclean. It is about what they were to seek and expect as the wages of their labor.

Likewise, these were Israelites, going to the houses of other Israelites, in the land of Israel, to heal the people of Israel, and to proclaim to the lost sheep of the House of Israel, that their Messiah has come.

As Yeshua stated in **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 10:5,6**;

10:5 "...do not go into the way of the people of the nations, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans."

10:6 "But go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel."

And in **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 15:24**,

15:24 "I have been sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel."

And in **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 18:11**,

18:11 "For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost."

And the "Law" of Israel was the Torah - and the Torah forbids the consumption of pigs, rats, bats, vultures, cockroaches, maggots, and flies.

So you can be rest assured that no house they stayed in served pigs, rats, bats, dogs, cockroaches, centipedes, spiders, maggots, shell fish or flies to their guest.

Likewise, when Yeshua gave them the commandment the second time in **verse 8**, not only was He reinforcing to them not to feel uncomfortable about receiving food without having to pay money for it, but was also telling them to be **content** with the food provided to them as their wages.

In summary, Yeshua was telling them, I am sending you out as laborers, and as laborers you will be paid. Therefore, do not feel guilty about being paid, because it is the wage of your labor, and likewise, be content with your pay.

Nothing Poisonous Will Harm Us?

(Mark 16:18)

The last defense.

In **Mark 16:18**, it states,

16:18 “they will take up serpents; and if they drink any poisonous thing, it will by no means hurt them...”

Absolutely true! Praise God for that, however, this under no circumstance means that you can drink poison willfully and deliberately.

Evreem (Hebrews) 10:26 “For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.”

It is clear that this promise is in reference to providing divine protection over the lives of disciples who face the possibility of being poisoned by enemies for their testimony in Yeshua.

Then in **Ma’aseh (Acts) 28:3-6** we see another example of divine protection,

28:3 “...but when Shaul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a poisonous snake came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand,”

28:4 “So when the natives saw the creature hanging from his hand, they said to one another, ‘No doubt this man is a murderer, whom, though he has escaped the sea, yet justice does not allow to live.’ ”

28:5 “But Shaul shook the creature off into the fire, and suffered no harm.”

28:6 “However, the natives were expecting that he would swell up or suddenly fall down dead; but after they had looked for a long time and saw no harm come to him, they changed their minds and said that he was a god.”

Once again, we see that divine protection is for accidents and unintentional poisoning, not for deliberately enticing a snake to bite us, for it is written,

Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 4:6, 7,

4:7 “You shall not test אלהים your Father”.

This concludes what the Scriptures state regarding the consumption of unclean animals and poisonous things from a past and present perspective; and which covers all the common Scriptures used by the eaters of unclean

meats in the defense of their deadly appetites.

But what do the Scriptures tell us about the consumption of these things in the future? Are they consistent with the conclusions reached in this discussion?

The Clean and Unclean in Prophecy

(Revelation 16 & Yesh'yahu (Isaiah) 66)

The Dependability of the Word

I Corinthians 14:33 “יְהוָה is not the author of confusion” and, **Malachi 3:6** “I am יְהוָה, I do not change...”; **Mizmor (Psalm) 100:5** “For יְהוָה is good; His mercy is everlasting, and His Truth endures to all generations.”

We know by this that when the Almighty speaks He speaks only that which is eternal, for with our heavenly Father, “there is no variation or shadow of turning.”; **Ya'aqob (James) 1:17**.

By this we know that what He speaks to one generation, He speaks to all. What is sin in the beginning is sin forever; and what is righteousness in the beginning, is righteousness forever.

The Almighty does not declare adultery, or murder, or lying, or stealing, or any other act against Truth to be a sin to one generation, but not a sin to another. The Almighty has the same standard for all people, in all places, throughout all generations.

Isn't that refreshing to know, that unlike human law which changes from generation to generation, and from year to year, and from state to state, and nation to nation, that our heavenly Father's standard can be depended on forever?

What a blessing! Just learn His Law once, and you and your children and grand children, and great grand children can depend on it for guidance, and instruction, and life, always! Thank the Almighty for His wonderful and perfect understanding and wisdom, and for the access He provides us to His awesome and amazing intelligence.

As you will see from a scientific perspective in Part II of this booklet, billions of dollars in medical research, trillions of dollars in health care cost, and tens of millions of lives could have been spared throughout history had we as a species simply trusted in His dietary laws and Torah from the beginning.

The Prophecies

Revelations 16:12-14,

16:12 “Then the sixth Messenger (Angel) poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that the way of the kings from the East might be prepared,” {This has not happened yet - see also **Revelation 9:13-16**}.

16:13 “And I saw three **unclean spirits like frogs** coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.”

{Here in the future, and prior to Yeshua's return, we see unclean spirits related to frogs, implying that frogs are still considered unclean}

16:14 “For they are spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the earth and of the whole world, **to gather them to the battle of that great day of Almighty יהוה**.”

{This battle is at the time of Yeshua's return}.

Yesh'yahu (Isaiah) 66:15-18,

66:15 “Behold, יהוה will come with fire, and with His chariots like a whirlwind, to render His anger with fury, and His rebuke with flames of fire.”

66:16 “For by fire and by His sword, יהוה shall judge all flesh; and the slain of יהוה will be many.”

66:17 “Those who sanctify themselves in the gardens, and purify themselves, to go to the gardens after an idol in the midst; **eating pig meat, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be altogether destroyed** says יהוה.”

{This showing that those who pollute themselves with the consumption of unclean animals will not stand in God's presence}

66:18 “For I know their works and their thoughts. And it shall be that I will gather all nations and languages, and they shall come and see My glory.”

Revelation 18:1,2;

18:1 “After these things I saw another Messenger (Angel) coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory,”

18:2 “And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, ‘Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a habitation of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage *for every unclean and hated bird.*’ ”

{And finally, we see here the existence of unclean birds still proclaimed in the future}

Yes, praise the Almighty that the just can live by Faith! Faith in what? Faith in God's perfect understanding of what works and what doesn't work.

If God had intended to do away with any of His perfect Way, then, be rest assured that He would have forewarned of it in numerous prophecies, centuries prior to their fulfillment.

Praise the Almighty that all His ways are perfect, that all His ways are eternal, and that all His ways are truth. For the moment any of His ways perished, would be the moment all things would cease to exist.

Part II The Scientific Evidence

I CAN EAT ANYTHING?

Let's begin with the commonly known fact that not all meat is healthy for human consumption, and let's begin with the infamous pig that is so prized among the palates of our society.

Pork is the #1 choice meat dish of all the unclean, unhealthy meats available in our culture for consumption, but what do farmers, scientists and doctors have to say about this long snouted, grunting delight?

It is said that the pigs in Iowa are mainly fed corn, but "*will eat anything given to them and if anything on the farm dies it is thrown to the hogs.*" Did you know that pigs actually chew on the cancer of other pigs, and that these cancer infected pigs are sent to the market for your consuming pleasure?

Our infamous pig is so infectious that oftentimes cattle are infected from incurable diseases of the pig called the "mad itch". It is a disease transmitted by the saliva of the pig left on the corn eventually fed to the cattle.

The itching from the cattle then becomes so intense that they will run from stump to stump to rub their mouths until they rub the skin from their mouths and eventually die.

If saliva from the pig's mouth can be so poisonous as to drive a cow to its death, then how can this beloved pug nosed creature possibly be healthy for human consumption?

But reality is that pigs were created to be garbage disposals to cleanse the earth of death and spoilage; and so naturally the pig is immune to the poisons it eats, but has nothing in its digestive function that filters those poisons from its flesh to make it safe for human consumption.

Another interesting fact, did you know that in the farmers' quest to keep feed cost down, that they purchase garbage, such as scrap barrels of rotting meat and vegetation from restaurants, and dead, rotted chicken eggs from hatcheries, to feed their pigs with?

This garbage, likewise, is digested and on the pigs bones within only four hours and ready for consumption by you and your family. Comforting thought, huh?

Did you know that many animals God declares to be healthy for consumption

take a minimum of 12 hours for the food they eat to be utilized by their systems; and that during this process all the toxins that are poisonous to human consumption are filtered out of their systems within that time? But with the pig, and other unclean animals, a maximum of 4 hours is not uncommon.

Here's another tidbit for the palate. Did you know that if pigs are in the same feed lot as other animals, such as cows, horses, etc. that the pigs will eat and drink the feces and urine of these animals? This is especially a common occurrence on small farms where the animals are not separated. Pork Chop anyone?

Yes, I must declare that the pig, as beloved as it is, is a foul and unclean animal whose flesh is so toxic with poisons that they have what are called "running sores" under their hooves.

Prove this to yourself. Visit a pig farm {be prepared to face a noxious smell}, lift the front hoof of the pig and apply a little pressure to its toes and you will find green colored matter oozing out from between them! This is only one, small outlet, for the various poisons which the pig has taken into its body.

In fact, quite often, this oozing artery will become stopped up, returning the poison back into the pig's system. When this happens, the pig will have very sore feet to the point it can barely walk. Green colored growths are then formed on various parts of its body.

At this point the poisons become toxic even to the pig and the farmer must send it to the market before it can die on him. This is not an uncommon occurrence.

Another example of pig poisoning is an incident where the Silver Moon Mink Farm of New Holstein, Wisconsin, ordered a supply of beef livers from a meat packing plant for their mink. Unknown to the mink farm owner, the packer shipped them pork livers instead, and all the mink died from eating it.

As a matter of court record, the meat packer paid for many dead mink. So let these mink teach us a valuable lesson -- don't eat pig meat or pig by products... at all!

The former, and late, Prime Minister of Israel, David Ben-Gurion, stated at the Jubilee Celebration of Israel's Medical Association that,

"Israel has the lowest death rate in the world"

Diet is the single most significant factor in determining life expectancy. Is it just coincidence that the State of Israel has prohibited the raising, keeping, or

slaughtering of pigs for its own citizens?

In fact, Israel allows pigs to be raised only at places which have large “Christian” populations that demand pig meat as part of their diet.

However, the Torah contained within the Holy Scriptures, forbids the consumption of pork and of any other unclean animal.

Without question, it is because the people of Israel, as a whole, observe the dietary laws given by God, which in turn provides an extra layer of protection to them against physical affliction, disease, and premature death.

THE EFFECTS OF PIG MEAT ON HUMAN HEALTH

Trichinosis, the most common infection in humans from pig meat, is a subtle killer. Trichinosis is the name of the disease that originated with the trichina worm, which is scientifically referred to as the trichinella spiralis.

Trichina is just one of the nineteen worms found in pigs, in addition to lice and several swine diseases such as rickets, thumps, and mange.

The trichina worm is very simply -- deadly; and a thorough cooking of pig meat does *not* ensure its death.

In the March, 1950, issue of Reader's Digest, Laird S. Goldsborough writes,

“In the pork which we Americans eat, there too often lurk myriads of baffling and sinister parasites. There are minute spiral worms which scientists call trichinella spiralis.”, “...**a single serving of infected pork, or even a single mouthful, can kill, cripple or condemn the victim to a lifetime of aches and pains.**”

For this unique disease of trichinosis, there is no certain cure or drug to stop them... not even today in 1999.

Dr. Goldsborough's article went on to say,

“In the flesh of a pig, the trichinae are often so minute, and so nearly transparent, that to find them, even with a microscope, is a task for expert scientific inspection.

Remember this, when you see stamped on a pork product the words, “US Government inspected and passed“, those words do not mean that any official inspection has been made as to whether this pork is trichinous or not.

It only means it has merely passed the routine inspection given meat in general.”

Dr. Maurice C. Hall as Chief of the Division of Zoology of the US Public Health Service commented,

“It appears to be a legitimate demand that, when a man exchanges dollars for pork, he should not do it, on the basis that he may be purchasing his death warrant.”

Senator Thomas C. Desmond, who served as chairman of the New York Trichinosis Commission stated,

“Physicians have confused trichinosis with some 50 ailments, ranging from **Typhoid Fever to Acute Alcoholism.**”

Continuing, he states, “That pain in your arm or leg may be **arthritis or rheumatism**, but it may be trichinosis. That pain in your back may mean a **gall-bladder involvement**, but it may mean trichinosis.”

Releases from the Associated Press have shown the dangers of trichinosis from meat cooked in microwave ovens.

The Texas Department of Agriculture said,

“Pork cooked in microwave ovens must be heated thoroughly and uniformly to 170 degrees Fahrenheit to destroy any trichinae, and other harmful micro-organisms that might be present.”

In the Daily Column of the Abilene Reporter News, Dr. Lamb states,

“Trichinosis is caused by little worms, and these parasites are in pork. Routine meat inspection doesn’t always tell you that it is infected either. The skin tests that were tried, to detect infected pigs, haven’t really been successful.”

“The first stage of the trichinosis involvement is when the male and female worms unite in the intestine. The intestinal phase **may cause diarrhea and digestive symptoms.**

The second phase is the migration of the larvae into the [blood] circulation and throughout the body, particularly causing little cysts inside the muscles. At this stage, there **may be swelling around the eyes, muscle pain and fever.**”

It has been reported from a lab of one of our northern Universities that

trichinae laden pig meat was heated to an unbelievably high temperature and then put under a microscope, to the amazement of the technicians, some worms were still alive and moving about.

The supposition that all of these worms can be killed in cooking is not to be relied upon!

The Barnyard Doctors, Drs. Hess and Clark of Ashland, Ohio, state,

“The trichina worm is not the only parasite on the pig. **There is a large round worm, the gullet worm, three kinds of stomach worm, a tiny hair worm, a hookworm, the thorn-headed worm, several species of nodular worms, one species of whip worm in the large intestine, and the kidney worm.**”

In another scientific laboratory, examinations were made on the joints of arthritic swine. The exact same formation and build-up of arthritic cells were found in the swine as is common in the arthritis of humans. Did the pigs acquire it from humans, or humans from the pig?

An article by Carlyle C. Douglas in Money's Worth, 1975,

“Think twice before you eat pork. Pigs kill more Americans every year than traffic accidents, murderers and all other accidents combined. Even wartime enemies have been unable to kill as fast as our own docile, domestic beast. Guns and bombs have proven much less effective than the weapons carried by these hooved and snouted killers. From farms and feedlots they stalk us, sniping with pork chops, sausages, hamburger {yes, not all of them are 100% beef}, hot dogs, liver and bacon. **The fatal wounds they inflict include coronary heart disease, arteriosclerosis, and colonic and rectal cancers.**”

“These are not the unsubstantiated claims of wild-eyed vegetarian fanatics, but the carefully considered conclusions of accredited medical scientists. While few have gone so far as to suggest that every pork roast and ham hock be stamped with the kind of warning that cigarette packages carry, a growing body of experts warn that in consuming more than 200 pounds of pork every year, the average American is eating himself to death.”

According to the pure and perfect laws of our Creator, whenever we consume pork, or any unclean thing, we in fact are bringing sickness and death upon ourselves to some degree.

The Arizona Republic, 7/27/81, reads,

“300 suffer from food poisoning after dining on baked ham, candied yams and green peas at a Baptist conference banquet...”

In Healthwise, 8/82, Volume 5, it is stated,

“Trichinosis, a parasitic infestation resulting from eating pork, is estimated at 150,000 cases in the U.S.A each year. Many cases are serious. In some cases, trichinae spread throughout the body, even into the brain. When this occurs, **victims may experience unusual drowsiness, clouded consciousness, convulsive seizures, weakness, and in some cases, paralysis or coma.** Prevention is much surer than a cure. *The Journal of the American Association* points out that even smoked pork sausage can contain live trichinae cysts.”

In the Saturday Evening Post, 7/8-82, in the article, “A Parasite Mystery”, was a complete article showing the dangers of pork in human consumption. Here is a small portion of this article as follows:

“Trichinosis is generally believed to be a rarity. This view, though hallucinated, is not altogether without explanation. Outbreaks of trichinosis are seldom widely publicized. They are seldom even recognized. Trichinosis is the chameleon of diseases. Nearly all diseases are anonymous at onset, and many tend to resist identification until their grip is well established; but most can eventually be identified by patient scrutiny.”

“Trichinosis is occasionally impervious to bedside detection at any stage. Even blood counts sometimes inexplicably fail to reveal its presence at any stage in its development. As a diagnostic deadfall, it is practically unique.”

“The number and variety of ailments with which it is more or less commonly confused approach the encyclopedic. They include *arthritis, acute alcoholism, conjunctivitis, food poisoning, lead poisoning, heart disease, laryngitis, mumps, asthma, rheumatism, rheumatic fever, rheumatic myocarditis, gout, tuberculosis, angioneurotic edema, dermatomyositis, frontal sinusitis, influenza, nephritis, peptic ulcer, appendicitis, cholecystitis, malaria, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, paratyphoid fever, undulant fever, encephalitis, gastroenteritis, intercoastal neuritis, tetanus, pleurisy, colitis, meningitis, syphilis, typhus and cholera.* It has even been mistaken for *beriberi.*”

“With all the rich inducements to error, a sound diagnosis of trichinosis is rarely made, and the diagnostician cannot always take much credit for it.”

OTHER UNCLEAN MEATS

This article focuses mostly on pig meat because it is the most commonly consumed of unclean animals. But this in no way means that there are no types of unclean animals in other species of animals such as sea life, fowl and insects, for God created clean and unclean among them as well -- each according to its own purpose and function.

Take the Armadillo for example. *In the 12/1/83 issue of the Abilene Reporter News, Dr. John Wolf, Jr., and Dr. Lee R. Lumpkins III, skin specialists on the faculty of Baylor University, said that a study of five leprosy patients suggests strongly that they all contracted leprosy as a result of handling armadillos.*

In their paper prepared for publication in the *12/83 issue of the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology*, the physicians said the evidence supporting such a conclusion is quite strong.

The frequency and distribution of leprosy in Texas and Louisiana, coupled with the development of leprosy among armadillo handlers, suggest that armadillos may well serve as a reservoir for the disease.

Four of the leprosy patients spent years catching, cleaning, and eating armadillos, and the fifth patient, a 17 year old, has been chasing and wrestling armadillos as a hobby for several years.

Another article on the dangers of armadillo meat was when **a whole family died from eating an armadillo, which in turn, had just eaten a centipede.** *The whole family died from centipede poisoning.*

This is a serious lesson on the unclean. Almost all unclean animals among fish, birds, and insects alike, are scavengers and predators whose primary function in nature is to clean garbage and death off the earth; and the creatures they eat are, likewise, often poisonous or laden with disease.

This being so, it was necessary that God create them with an immunity to the poisons they take in through the rotting flesh, refuse, and poisonous things they eat.

This poison they eat, in turn, goes straight into their flesh, as in the case with the armadillo and the centipede. *If you eat this poisoned meat, it will kill you, or seriously injure your health and well being, just as surely as it would have had you eaten the poison directly; for the digestive systems of unclean animals only filter out that which is poisonous to them -- not that which is poisonous to us.*

When God created the earth and all that is in it, He created them clean and unclean, depending on their purpose and digestive abilities. The clean animals and vegetation He created as food, and as healthy for human consumption; and the unclean He created for other purposes, and therefore, as not fit for human consumption.

B'reshet (Genesis) 7:2 says almost 2,000 years prior to the giving of the 'Law' to Moshe (Moses), "Of every clean animal you shall take with you *by sevens*, the male with his female; and of every unclean animal you shall take with you *in two's*, the male with his female."

Why were 7 pairs of clean animals taken onto the ark, but only 2 pair of unclean animals? It is because the clean animals were needed for food and for burnt offerings. If they had used the unclean animals for food, the unclean animals would have very quickly become extinct.

In this Scripture we see, that from the beginning, certain animals were created clean, and others created unclean.

The word "clean" comes from the Hebrew word, "Tahor" (taw-hor), meaning non-toxic, or "pure" in a physical, chemical, ceremonial or moral sense.

The word "unclean" comes from the Hebrew word "Tame" (taw-may), meaning toxic, or "contaminated/polluted".

Now we know that even as we desire what is best and healthiest for our children and loved ones, that our heavenly Father even more abundantly desires these things for us.

Likewise, even as we know what is better for our children's health than our children do, our heavenly Father, likewise, in His infinite and eternal wisdom, also knows what is healthiest for us better than we do.

So our spiritual Father in His infinite love, wisdom, and concern for us has revealed His Holy and universal Law of the Spirit to us for our benefit and well being when living in harmony with it.

D'varim (Deuteronomy) 4:40,

4:40 "...therefore obey יְיָ's statutes and commandments which I command you this day, so that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and so that you may prolong your days in the land which יְיָ your Father is giving to you to forever possess."

III Yehochanan (III John) 2:2,

2:2 “Beloved, I desire above all things that you may prosper, and be in health, even as your soul prospers.”

And, **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 7:12-15,**

7:12 “Then it shall come to pass that because you listened to these laws, to observe and perform them that יהיה your Father will keep with you the covenant of mercy that He swore to your fathers.”

7:13 “And He will love you and bless you and multiply you...”

7:14 “You shall be blessed above all people...”

7:15 “*And יהיה will take away from you all sickness...*”

Yes, God’s laws are for our well being, and our well being is His desire for us, even as the well being of our children and loved ones is our desire for them.

So in **V'yikra, (Leviticus) 11** and **D'varim, (Deuteronomy) 14**, our Heavenly Father provides us the spiritual code for proper diet by listing for us the animals that are “clean”, i.e. physically, chemically, ceremonially, and morally “pure”, and therefore, good for food; and that are “unclean”, i.e. that are contaminated and polluted, and therefore, not good for food.

In an article published in the “*Bulletin of the History of Medicine*” published by Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, 1953, a study was made entitled “*An Experimental Pharmacological Appreciation of V'yikra (Leviticus) XI and D'varim (Deuteronomy) XIV*” by David Macht, M.D.

In the Study Dr. Macht tested extracts of meats of the various “clean” and “unclean” animals and fish according to the Dietary Law, using a standard toxicological test.

The results? *Every single animal meat that the Dietary Law said was inedible tested out as toxic in Dr. Macht’s experiments; and every single meat that God said was edible tested out as non-toxic.*

There was a 100% correlation between the Dietary Law and the scientific study. But God taught our people this fact over 5,000 years before “modern” science figured it out.

To teach that pigs are now “clean” (non-toxic) and acceptable as food is to say that vultures, flies, cockroaches, maggots, bats, rats, centipedes, salamanders and dogs, that also have “unclean” (toxic) flesh are now also

acceptable for our consumption as well.

But when giving us His commandments God said that He gave them to us for our benefit and for our life; **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 30:11-20; Yehoshua (Joshua) 1:8**, and to declare these creatures to be good for food now is to say that it is now okay to introduce death and toxins into our bodies; for the chemical make-up, structure, and function of these creatures is identical to what they were when the dietary laws were first given.

Nothing has changed concerning their physiological make-up or function.

Yeshua is Holy, and He did not come to sanctify death and disease, but to save us from the filth of this world, from the deception of our human appetites, and from the deadliness of our sinful nature. And all of God's commandments are given for our protection.

Likewise, God is Holy (Set-apart), and calls us to also be Holy (Set-apart), as it is written in **II Corinthians 6:17**,

6:17 *“Touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you.”*

We are to magnify Him in our lives, in our words, in our actions, and in our diets.

In every aspect of our lives we are to magnify Him and exalt Him in all ways, and to be set-apart from the world around us.

The world's diet is not our diet. The world's culture is not our culture. God loves us, and He gives us these commandments *because* He loves us, and *because* He wants what is good for us.

We as stewards of His sacred Word must be careful not to blindly teach that the filth and toxic flesh of pigs, and of other unclean animals, is somehow no longer harmful to us, while teaching in total contrast on the other hand the necessity for, or benefits of, proper diet while ignoring the health consequences of our pork and shellfish infested diets.

His Torah gives us life, and sin is the violation of His Torah, which is why we all die.

How many professing believers out there are careful about the amount of fat in their diet? Yet God taught our people over 4,000 years ago that we were not to eat the fat or the blood of animals; **V'yikra (Leviticus) 7:23-27**.

As stated above in **D'varim (Deuteronomy) 7:12-15**, God says that if we obey His laws, His instruction contained in Torah, *then He will take all*

sickness from among us.

Which makes it quite evident that, the reason we continue to become sick is because we continue to live in disharmony with the laws of life and health provided by our loving heavenly Father for our well being.

As believers in Mashiach (the Messiah) we are called to be an enlightened, Bible believing people; but often are the very ones who most diligently reject and ignore the truth of Scripture in which we claim to believe.

Many who profess to live holy lives would never consider defiling the temple of their body with something as filthy and deadly as a cigarette, but when we take toxic, disease laden, worm infested pig flesh into our temple; it is just as deadly and defiling to the holiness of the temple of our body as the cigarette.

Consuming the toxic flesh of unclean animals is no way to keep the temple of our bodies pure.

We must understand that all this poison and disease laden garbage and carrion is not purified or made clean just because we prayed over it, or because a pig or other unclean animal has digested it before us.

As believers we need to realize that it is not the Scriptures that we are following when we consume unclean and vile creatures, but are following conditioned appetite molded by commerce and ethnic tradition.

Here are two final examples of the consequences of consuming animals with toxic (unclean) flesh.

*In Dell City, Texas, in February, 1983, a national team of plague experts were trapping rodents and talking with residents about a young **rancher killed by bubonic plague.***

Doctors said the man apparently **was bitten by diseased fleas as he skinned an infested fox** about a week before he fell ill and died.

*In Beaumont, Texas, in June 1983, a **42 year old man contracted cholera.***

He apparently came down with the disease after eating improperly cooked seafood which he had caught himself.

The article did not specify which species of seafood, but more than likely it was the scavenger shellfish species which he caught and ate.

And though my main focus here has been on pork, because of its common popularity, I must warn that the consumption of shellfish such as crab,

lobster, clam, shrimp and oyster can also lead to deadly health consequences.

These creatures are also part of the “forbidden fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil”, if you will. And if you really think about it, crabs are nothing but sea spiders, lobsters - nothing but sea scorpions, and oysters, clams and shrimp - nothing but sewage processors.

These creatures are all scavengers of the sea containing extremely simple digestive systems that do not even come close to adequately filtering out the poisons that they consume in the human waste and sea refuse that they so commonly thrive and grow in.

If you indulge in the consumption of these creatures, then you must realize that when you eat these creatures, that you are eating their intestines, complete with all their urine, feces, internal organs and blood supply.

That’s right; these creatures are cooked and served with all their innards. So when you eat them, you are eating everything that is inside of them. So whose dietary law does it make more sense to place our faith into? Into God’s, or into man’s?

This is great error to teach or imply that our Creator has now set-apart the toxic (unclean) flesh of these creatures as food.

To believe that through Yeshua’s sacrifice it is now somehow okay to introduce sewage and death into the temple of our bodies if it comes in the form of a crab is great theological error.

When we teach these things, whether intentionally or in ignorance, we bring the curse of pre-mature death and potentially life crippling diseases upon ourselves and others, and cause our flocks to suffer a multitude of preventable health problems.

The Word of God is pure from the beginning, and His standards for His people change not, for He changes not; and so we must be careful to not so quickly theologically nail to the cross His righteous commandments; the commandments of which He has provided to us for our benefit, and for our good.

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