

Open The Light

*For God, who commanded the light
to shine out of darkness,
hath shined in our hearts,
to give the light of the knowledge
of the glory of God
in the face of Jesus Christ.
2 Corinthians 4:6*

*Character Building
In A Relationship with God*

*He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out
of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. John 7:38*

Study 18

When we are learning of God's love, His Son and Holy Spirit, from the Holy Scriptures, trusting in His Precepts that His Word is sure and true; we grow and choose to walk in the light He has given us: it is like eating of the tree of life.

Please, do as much as you can of this Study each day, with prayer, no need to rush through; dine, chew and let what you are learning digest in the mind, heart, and soul. Please do not skip over the verses given in these Bible studies to read. This is because the study of Scripture is the reason for doing these studies in the first place.

The Temple of The Living God

Always pray when opening God's word, ask God for the Holy Spirit to guide you and open your heart and mind to understand His Blessed Word, always asking in the Name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Read the following verses and write down the main message with each one.

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. [1 Corinthians 3:16, 17.](#)

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. [1 Corinthians 6:19, 20.](#)

And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty. [2 Corinthians 6:16-18](#)

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. [Ephesians 2:19-22](#)

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**

Open The Light

2 Timothy 3:14-17

Our bodies are “the temple of the living God”. Therefore, whatsoever goes into our bodies; our thoughts, what we see or hear, what we eat, or drink; whatsoever we use our bodies for; what we say, what we do, it truly does matter.

Read 1 Corinthians 6:9-20; 10:31 and write down any notes regarding understanding this message.

Our foundation is Jesus Christ our LORD. We should only take the Word of God to be our guide; **Not** man nor the words of man, unless they are of the Word of God, **and** are following the Word of God **in truth**. Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-23; Isaiah 28:16.

Notes

Regarding the Word of God, Mrs. E. G. White writes;

I recommend to you, dear reader, **the Word of God as the rule of your faith and practice. By that Word we are to be judged.** God has, in that Word, promised to give visions in the "last days"; not for a new rule of faith, but for the comfort of His people, and to correct those who err from Bible truth. **Thus God dealt with Peter when He was about to send him to preach to the Gentiles.**(--A Sketch of the Christian Experience and Views of Ellen G. White, p. 64 (1851). (Reprinted in Early Writings, p. 78.) {3SM 29.1}

The Lord desires you to study your Bibles. **He has not given any additional light to take the place of His Word.** This light is to bring confused minds to His Word, which, **if eaten and digested,** is as the lifeblood of the soul. Then good works will be seen as light shining in darkness.-- Letter 130, 1901. {3SM 29.2}

In public labor do not make prominent, and quote that which Sister White has written, as authority to sustain your positions. To do this will **not** increase faith in the testimonies. Bring your evidences, **clear and plain, from the Word of God.** A (Page 30) "Thus saith the Lord" is the strongest testimony you can possibly present to the people. Let **none** be educated to look to Sister White, but to the mighty God, who gives instruction to Sister White.(--Letter 11, 1894.) {3SM 29.3}

The Holy Ghost is the author of the Scriptures and of the Spirit of Prophecy (this is not what we know as the writings of Mrs. White, but the Spirit of Prophecy of the Bible, which was written first, and long before man decided to call her writings the Spirit of Prophecy. Note

Open The Light

Revelation Chapters 1:1-9 and 19:9-13) These are not to be twisted and turned to mean what man may want them to mean, to carry out man's ideas and sentiments, to carry forward man's schemes at all hazards.--Letter 92, 1900. {3SM 30.3}

“And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou **do it not**: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.” Revelation 19:9-10

The Spirit of Prophecy **here in Revelation 19:10** is The Word of God, The Holy Bible, which testifies of Jesus, The Holy Bible is The Spirit of Prophecy, in Revelation 19:10. (Not what we call The Spirit of Prophecy today that was written by E, G, White. It was the Holy Spirit of God that led Mrs. White to write down what God had shown her about the Spirit of Prophecy. However, the work Ellen White had done, that was Guided by God's Holy Spirit, that was about the Spirit of Prophecy, was not to be equal to the Word of God. **However, it was to bring us back to the Word of God, that we may have The Word of God in our Hearts, Minds, and soul. Thus, we can walk and live with that same Holy Spirit in the Word of God, by putting on the whole Armor of God; His Word.**)

But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, **by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness** on the right hand and on the left, 2 Corinthians 6:4-7

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against

principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. **Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.** Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; Ephesians 6:10-18

I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star. And **the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.** Revelation 22:16-19

Reading Revelation 22:16-19 above, it shows at Mrs. E, G, White's writings are not equal to the word and are not an addition to the Word. “The Lord desires you to study your Bibles. He has **not given any additional light to take the place of His Word.**” Her work was to, as she said “This light is to bring confused minds to His Word, which, **if eaten and digested, (That is God's Word), is as the lifeblood of the soul.** Then good works will be seen as light shining in darkness.-- Letter 130, 1901. {3SM 29.2} For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort **of the scriptures** might have hope. Romans 15:4. She even said “Let **none** be educated to look to Sister White, but to the mighty God, who gives instruction to Sister White.”(-- Letter 11, 1894.) {3SM 29.3}

Open The Light

Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. [Deuteronomy 4:2](#)

What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it. [Deuteronomy 12:32](#)

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. [Romans 15:4](#)

The Spirit was not given--nor can it ever be bestowed--to supersede the Bible; for the Scriptures explicitly state that the Word of God is the standard by which all teaching and experience must be tested. . . . Isaiah declares, "To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, ([the Bible](#)) it is because there is no light in them" (Isaiah 8:20).--The Great Controversy, Introduction, p. vii. {3SM 30.5}

Let us study more diligently the Word of God. The Bible is so plain and clear that all who will, may understand. Let us thank the Lord for His precious Word, and for the messages of His Spirit that give so much light. I am instructed that the more we study the Old and New Testaments, the more we shall have impressed on our mind the fact that each sustains a very close relation to the other, and the more evidence we shall receive of their divine inspiration. We shall see clearly that they have but one Author. The study of these precious volumes will teach us how to form characters that will reveal the attributes of Christ.--Ms 81, 1908, p. 7. ("Words of Explanation and Warning," June 26, 1908.) Released February 16, 1962. {2MR 192.2}

How can the Lord bless those who manifest a spirit of "I don't care," a spirit which leads them to walk contrary to the light which the Lord has given them? **But I do not ask you to take my words. Lay Sister White to one side. Do not quote my words again as long as you live until you can obey the Bible. When you make the Bible your food, your meat, and**

your drink, when you make its principles the elements of your character, you will know better how to receive counsel from God. I exalt the precious Word before you today. Do not repeat what I have said, saying, "Sister White said this," and "Sister White said that." Find out what the Lord God of Israel says, and then do what He commands.--Manuscript 43, 1901. (From an address to church leaders the night before the opening of the General Conference session of 1901.) {3SM 33.1}

May God help you all and help me. I want help and strength and power. But do not quote Sister White till you stand on vantage ground, where you know what you are doing. Take the word of God. It is full of meat and drink. Study the Bible, and you will know more of God than you do now. You will have something fresh to impart to others. You will not go over the same ground (page -314-) again and again. You will realize that there is a world to save. I ask you to put on the whole armor, and be sure that your feet are shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.--Ms 43, 1901, pp. 12-19. (Talk in Battle Creek College Library, April 1, 1901.)

Read the words to the song in the SDA Hymnal Number 272 **"Give Me the Bible"** Written by, **Priscilla Jane Owens.**

Give me the Bible, star of gladness gleaming,
To cheer the wand'rer lone and tempest tossed;
No storm can hide that radiance peaceful beaming,
Since Jesus came to seek and save the lost.

Refrain

**Give me the Bible, holy message shining;
Thy light shall guide me in the narrow way;
Precept and promise, law and love combining,
Till night shall vanish in eternal day.**

Give me the Bible, when my heart is broken,
When sin and grief have filled my soul with fear;
Give me the precious words by Jesus spoken,
Hold up faith's lamp to show my Savior near.

Refrain

Give me the Bible, all my steps enlighten,

Open The Light

Teach me the danger of these realms below;
That lamp of safety o'er the gloom shall brighten,
That light alone the path of peace can show.

Refrain

The Word of God, The Holy Bible is our Foundation; for they testify of Jesus, and Jesus is The Word. Just as Jesus said, “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.” ... “For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: **for he wrote of me**. But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?” John 5:39 and 46-47.

Read the following and write down what the Word says about The Scriptures.

Isaiah 8:20; 34:16

Matthew 4:10

2 Timothy 3:14-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21

Revelation 19:10; 22:7-10 and 18-19

Open The Light

Now read Isaiah 28:9-13 and 16

If we want to know the deep things, the gems, and treasures of God's Word we need to study "precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ..." Isaiah 28:10.

Precept means - From H6680; an injunction: - commandment, precept. H6680 = A primitive root; (intensively) to constitute, enjoin: - appoint, (for-) bid. (give a) charge, (give a, give in, send with) command (-er, ment), send a messenger, put, (set) in order.

Precept; noun

a rule or principle for action

a guide or rule for morals; maxim

a direction, esp for a technical operation

(References from the Strong's Concordance, Collins on line Dictionary)

When we read of the Scriptures we are to read them in the precepts of God's Laws, within the scriptures. When studying the Word of God, we can be sure that the Word is of Jesus our Lord, He is our Foundation that we should build our temple upon. In the Word of God, we can follow God's precepts, and choose to walk in His guidelines to live a Godly life in Jesus.

My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.

Proverbs 3:1-8

Always remember to pray when opening God's word. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance to open your heart and mind that you may understand God's Blessed Word. Pray that God will lead you always to put Him first and His Word above any other, Praying for all things in the Name of His blessed Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

This next section will take us through the precepts of God's Word on the subject we are studying. We will be building upon God's precepts, which will guide us to make good decisions on how to care for "the temple of the living God". Therefore, do not rush, take your time learning and enjoy reading from the Word of God. Just pace your way through the study, doing as much as time allows each day. Remember we are studying the Word of God; therefore, it is important to read all the scriptures given, that we may know the Truth from the Scriptures.

In the first paragraph of the reading from Sister White above, she mentions Peter. **...the Word of God as the rule of your faith and practice. By that Word we are to be judged.** God has, in that Word, promised to give visions in the "last days"; **not for a new rule of faith, but for the comfort of His people, and to correct those who err from Bible truth. Thus God dealt with Peter when He was about to send him to preach to the Gentiles.**

Before Peter was sent to go preach to the Gentiles, Peter had a vision while waiting to have his meal. Peter became very hungry and would have eaten. Open your Bible and read about the whole story. When we read the story from the Word of God, it will open our eyes to see how important it is to know the Word of God.

We can read about Peter before he was sent to go preach to the Gentiles, in Acts 9:43; 10:1-11:18, reading all the way from Acts 9:43 to chapter 11 down to verse 18.

We will be looking in the scriptures using "... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ..." Isaiah 28:10.

Open The Light

We are going to look at, by knowing the Word of God; how this helped Peter, to understand the true meaning of the vision.

Read Acts 10:12-14. How could Peter tell God, “Not so, Lord;” when God Himself tells Peter to rise, kill and eat? Only answer after reading the following readings.

Read, Genesis chapters 7-8; Leviticus chapter 11 and Deuteronomy 14:1-22; also note Leviticus 5:2; 7:19-21; 10:9-11.

Now read Malachi 3:6; Isaiah 40:8; Psalms 89:34; Matthew 24:35; Mark 13:31; Luke 21:33.

For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. [Matthew 5:18](#)

Now you have read these verses above, how could Peter tell God “Not so, Lord;” when God Himself tells Peter to rise, kill and eat?

Do you think that Peter, having known the truth regarding the eating of flesh meats and knowing that our bodies is the Temple of The Living God, helped him to understand that God was trying to tell him something very important and not change the food diet of the people, which God had already set in place in time passed?

Read Acts 10 verses 17a and 19-20.
Peter doubted what the meaning of the vision should mean.

Peter’s doubt was questioning what has just come before him. Examples: What does this mean, I am sure there is meaning to it that stands with the true Word of God; I must understand this as I know God is trying to tell me something. But I know it is not changing His laws. It must Have some greater meaning.

The Truth God has given us from His Word, helps us to know when we are given a vision it will not be going against His Word. So, when something like Peters vision happens, we must know that God is teaching us something deeper from His Word, deeper than of our own understanding, or what is placed before us. When we doubt, we think about the matter, questioning, as Peter did. See verse 19 of Acts 10.

Note, another time Peter experienced thought regarding a situation that happened to him. Acts 12:7-19, note verses 9, 11, 12, 17.

We all, as believers of God, go through a thought prosses on whether God is true. We have the Holy Bible we can turn to, to find out the truth. Many people of different Christan Faiths, after putting man’s interpretation aside, have studied the Bible for themselves. They study the Ten Commandments and other Scriptures with fresh eyes. In time, their thoughts turn to the understanding of the Sabbath truth. This happens when they studied the scriptures using the correct method of “... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ...” Isaiah 28:10. When they came to the Truth of God’s Word, they walked in the Sabbath truth, because God has showed them His Truth, and they believe God, that His Word stands. It is the TRUTH of God’s Word that makes us free, yes, to even say “Not so, Lord;” Because of the Truth God has given us in the Scriptures. In Genesis 2:1-3, God gave the Seventh

Open The Light

day of the week, giving us a 7-day cycle. Therefore, on this day, the seventh day of the week that God gave, He sanctified it; the seventh day, in which He rested from all His work which He had done on day 1 to day 6. Sanctified, means to make Holy. Please read Exodus 20:8-11; Leviticus 23:3; Revelation 14:7, Hebrews 4:1-13. Knowing at God does not change, Malachi 3:6, and that the Sabbath will be kept in the new earth, Isaiah 66:22-23. Any other questioning must be researched and studied, lining precept truth with Precept truth on the subject that's been questioned as Peater had to do. Then and only then we can come to the deeper understanding of God's Word. The Sabbath is the Seventh day of the weekly cycle, the last day of the week, the day God made Holy and set aside for REST, which He is LORD of. See Exodus 20:10; Leviticus 23:3; Note Matthew 12:8; Mark 2:28; Luke 6:5.

Regarding Acts 10:28 where it says that the law of the Jews was not to keep company with non-Jews, was this the law of God or man? We have the story of Ruth the Moabitess (a non-Jew) in which is in the genealogy of Jesus Christ. Note the book of Ruth and see Matthew 1:1, 5 and verse 16.

There are examples in scripture where God tells His people not to dwell in the land of other nations because of their gods, or take women from them, because of the god's they serve. Note these verses in Exodus 23:30-33 and Deuteronomy 7:1-4. The first "Open the Light" study lesson "The Potter" in the part of "O house of Israel" will take you through the lesson of who the Jewish nation was and who were those that were known as non-Jewish.

I will share a small part of that Study here, now.

Turn to Romans 9:23-26 again, these verses talk about the vessels of mercy, and not for the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles. The Jews are the children of Israel. Those who are not Jewish were known in Bible times as Gentiles, meaning not Jewish. Here, God's word is showing us that we are all His vessels of mercy. We are "CALLED THE CHILDREN OF THE LIVING GOD." "That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith." Galatians 3:14. "That Christ should suffer, and that he should be the first

that should rise from the dead, and should show light unto the people, and to the Gentiles." Acts 26:23. "For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek (Greek is another word meaning Gentile, non-Jewish), there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:26-29.

Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness. Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham. Galatians 3:6-9 See Verses 10-14 of Galatians 3. See also James 2:23-24; Hebrews 11:9-10; Genesis 12:1-5; 15:1-6.

Read Ephesians 2:11-22, keeping in mind that in verse 11 the Circumcision represents the Jewish nation/people. Read Genesis 17:9-22, also in Ephesians 2 verse 11 it tells us that the Gentiles are called Uncircumcision.

If you are a Gentile, like me, how are we made nigh to Christ Jesus? See verse 13 of Ephesians 2 and 2 Timothy 2:19

Jesus had broken down the middle wall that was between us and the Jewish Nation. See verse 14 of Ephesians 2.

Who do we have access to, through Jesus, by one Spirit? See verse 18 of Ephesians 2.

Open The Light

Ephesians 2:11-22 also helps us understand that Father, Son and Holy Spirit are One, working together, that through Christ Jesus we are all One. “In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.” Verse 22

Also read Romans 2:16-29; 15:4-16

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Romans 15:4

Now continuing with this Study.

Read Luke 10:25-37.

Jesus does not say love the Jews only as thyself, but thy neighbour. Luke 10:25-37 is clear as it can be, it is not the Jews only. Thy neighbour is anyone that's neigh to you. That means anyone regardless of race or nationality.

Read the following meaning of what a neighbour is.

Neighbour

Neuter of a derivative of πέλας pelas (near); (adverb) close by; as noun, a neighbor, that is, fellow (as man, countryman, Christian or friend): - near, neighbour.

noun

1.
a person who lives near or next to another
2.
a. a person or thing near or next to another

b. (as modifier) ⇒ neighbour states

verb

3.

(when intr, often foll by on) to be or live close (to a person or thing)

(References from the Strong's Concordance, Collins online Dictionary)

Read Isaiah 53:1-12. Note verse 6, that “The LORD hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all,” not for the Jew only, but all of us; us all.

John 3:14-21 teaches us He died for the world that who so ever looks upon Him shall have eternal life; also read John 4:1-42; Romans chapters 8, 9 and 10; Ephesians 3:1-12.

Always remember to pray when opening God's word. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance to open your heart and mind that you may understand God's Blessed Word. Pray that God will lead you always to put Him first and His Word above any other, Praying for all things in the Name of His blessed Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Continuing with Peter's vision.

Peter explains the vision and what it meant in verse 28 of Acts 10. Write down the meaning of the vision below.

Read Acts 10:33-36. Then write more of the meaning of the vision after reading verses 33 to 36.

Open The Light

When Peter preaches to the Gentiles, what fell upon them? See verses 44-48 of Acts 10.

In this whole time Peter never once said it was to change God's Laws on what animals we now can eat, because the clean and unclean animal laws stand. However, the Word was to be preached to all nations, not just the Jews. See Matthew 28:18-20; John 21:3-17; Acts 11:1-18. Please do not skip over the verses given in these Bible studies. This is because the study of Scripture is the reason for doing these studies in the first place.

When we don't prayerfully study, we can easily fall into a wrong understanding of the Scriptures. That's why studying with prayer and remembering that "... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ..." Isaiah 28:9-13 and 16... will help with bringing the precepts, laws, rules, commands, messages, subjects, guidance, directions, in order of the precepts of the scriptures. This happens while searching and learning the deep treasures of The Word of God. Never rely on your own understanding. If it breaks the precept of the Word of God, the Holy Scriptures, go back and study it again, line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little, till you line the precept ... upon precept, precept upon precept.

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. Proverbs 3:5-7

I will meditate in thy precepts, and have respect unto thy ways. [Psalms 119:15](#)

Teach me, O LORD, the way of thy statutes; and I shall keep it unto the end. Give me understanding, and I shall keep thy law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart. Make me to go in the path of thy commandments; for therein do I delight. [Psalms 119:33-35](#)

Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. [Proverbs 2:3-6](#)

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. [James 1:5](#)

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, **knowing of whom thou hast learned them;** And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.** [2 Timothy 3:14-17.](#)

Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established. [Proverbs 16:3.](#)

Understanding what is been said.

Read Deuteronomy 12:1-32; 13:1-4. Note verses 8, 15, 28-32 of chapter 12 and verse 4 of chapter 13.

The children of Israel knew the Word of God regarding the unclean and clean foods. You should have read by now Leviticus Chapter 11 and

Open The Light

Deuteronomy 14; if not please read these chapters now. Because we will be putting "... precept **must** be **upon** precept, precept **upon** precept; line **upon** line, line **upon** line; here a little, and there a little: ..."

Isaiah 28:10, into practice as we do the following Study. Just as all content in all the "Open the Light Studies are written upon this rule.

Verse 15 of Deuteronomy 12 says "thou mayest kill and eat flesh in all thy gates, whatsoever thy soul lusteth after, **according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee**: the unclean and the clean may eat thereof, as of the roebuck, and as of the hart". The fact that it says "**according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee**" Tells us that they knew the Word regarding unclean and clean animals for food, for God had already given the law regarding this subject to them. Therefore, it is very much saying that it is according to the Word of God which has given them. "**according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee.**"

God gives freedom for his people to choose which way they will walk in life. In saying this, He gives us all the instructions of His Will first, and then bids us to keep all His statute and judgments, and to do them. After that, it is up to every individual to choose whether they will walk in His law or no.

Deuteronomy 12:15 and verse 22 "the unclean and the clean may eat thereof" is explaining that the unclean people as well as the clean people may eat the roebuck and as of the hart. We see this again in Deuteronomy 15:19-22, 23. All the firstling males that come of thy herd and of thy flock thou shalt sanctify unto the LORD thy God: thou shalt do no work with the firstling of thy bullock, nor shear the firstling of thy sheep. Thou shalt eat it before the LORD thy God year by year in the place which the LORD shall choose, thou and thy household. And if there be any blemish therein, as if it be lame, or blind, or have any ill blemish, thou shalt not sacrifice it unto the LORD thy God. Thou shalt eat it within thy gates: **the unclean and the clean person shall eat it alike**, as the roebuck, and as the hart. Only thou shalt not eat the blood thereof; thou shalt pour it upon the ground as water.

Notice in Deuteronomy 12:32, "What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: **thou shalt not** add thereto, **nor** diminish from it."

Therefore, these verses that say "the unclean and the clean may eat thereof" it is **not** saying that we can now eat unclean foods. Yet it is saying: **the unclean and the clean person shall eat it alike.**

Now, when we read throughout the Book of Leviticus, and many other places in the Bible, we learn who the unclean were. Read Chapter 13 of Leviticus, for this chapter gives us a good understanding on who were unclean people; then answer the following questions.

Who were these unclean people? Were they of the Jews or of another nation. Or was it those that had?

When we read verses 1, 2, 30 and 31 of Deuteronomy 12, we see that the people in the land, which God gave to the Israelites, did "... every abomination to the LORD, which he hateth ... unto their god's" verse 31. Also, when you read though Leviticus Chapter 11 verses 10-13, 20-23, 41-42, we will see that eating unclean flesh food is an abomination also. This word has strong meanings to it, which is why God uses it to help us understand how bad it is when we do these things.

An Abomination means - Feminine active participle of H8581(A primitive root; to *loathe*, that is, (morally) *detest*: - (make to be) abhor (-red), (be, commit more, do) abominable (-y), X utterly.); H8441 - properly something *disgusting* (morally), that is, (as noun) an *abhorrence*; especially *idolatry* or (concretely) an *idol*: - abominable (custom, thing), abomination.

in British English
Noun

1. a person or thing that is disgusting
2. an action that is vicious, vile, etc
3. intense loathing

Open The Light

in American English

Noun

1. an abominating; great hatred and disgust; loathing
2. anything hateful and disgusting

(References from the Strong's Concordance, Collins online Dictionary)

Ye shall therefore keep all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: that the land, whither I bring you to dwell therein, spue you not out. And ye shall not walk in the manners of the nation, which I cast out before you: for they committed all these things, and therefore I abhorred them. But I have said unto you, Ye shall inherit their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it, a land that floweth with milk and honey: I am the LORD your God, which have separated you from other people. **Ye shall therefore put difference between clean beasts and unclean, and between unclean fowls and clean: and ye shall not make your souls abominable by beast, or by fowl, or by any manner of living thing that creepeth on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean. And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.** Leviticus 20:22-26.

We will continue this study by going through some of the precepts of God's governing law. Not only to give strength to the vision that Peter had and strength to the true meaning of the vision: but we will continue working with the precepts given in the Holy Scriptures. We will cover a few subjects, as well as covering the subject of eating flesh meat throughout scripture. Keeping in mind that we are also studying about The Temple of The Living God.

At the time of Noah in Genesis chapters 7, before the flood, and in chapter 8 verse 20, after the flood, there clearly was an understanding regarding the differences of clean and unclean animals. Note, that it was only the clean animals that was used for Sacrifices to the Lord. However, in verse 3 of chapter 9 in Genesis it clearly says, "Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you: even as the green herb have I given you all things." What is God really saying? Is He saying that everything on the earth we can eat? Or

is He saying everything in His given Word we can eat? Of course, we know it is not literally everything; Why? Because we would not eat a poisonous plant or animal, would we? If you knew it was going to kill you, you would not eat of it, nor would you believe God would want you to eat a poisonous plant or animal.

Note the Following. Now, in Genesis 1:29; 2:16 God said, "every herb bearing seed", ... "every tree yielding seed; it shall be for meat", ... and "of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:". So, was God saying "every" as in, that there were no restrictions here or is He saying in His given Word? But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Genesis 2:17. You see here in chapter 2:17 of Genesis it is very clear, it is not "every", but everything in His given Word. So, in this understanding we know God is not telling us to eat all animals or plants in Genesis 9:3. Therefore, it is so important to know that with everything "precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:. We also need to remember that God does not change. Keeping these things in mind, it will help us to put the Word of God into perspective and help us stay on the right path in our walk with Him.

As we read about the fall of man, we see the questioning on the Word of God by Satan himself as the serpent in Genesis chapter 3. This questioning was to undermine the Word of God. It is the same tactic Satan used in Heaven where God lost a third of His angels. Study Revelation 12:4; 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 1:6; Revelation 12. Today, Satan uses the very same on us, trying to get us to question God on His given Word. When God speaks His Word, His Word is always given in His governing law, and this law is the same whether it was given in written form, or before the written form was given, of His governing law.

Proverbs Chapter 3 guides us to understand that we should never rely on our own understanding, but upon God's. It reads, "Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God

Open The Light

and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. [Proverbs 3:3-7](#).

[Daniel Himself set in his heart to understand God's ways. Note Daniel 10:10-21. Verse 12](#) Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that **thou didst set thine heart to understand,** and **to chasten thyself before thy God,** thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. [Because of this, God showed Daniel His Word.](#) But I will show thee **that which is noted in the scripture of truth:** and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince. [Verse 21.](#)

[If you want good understanding as Daniel had, ask of God, spend time with Him, listen to what God is telling you in His Word.](#) Thus saith the LORD the maker thereof, the LORD that formed it, to establish it; the LORD is his name; Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. [Jeremiah 33:2, 3.](#) If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him? [Luke 11:13.](#)

[God gives us a choice on following Him at His Word or no. With Peter's vision, he knew God was not changing anything. That's why he thought on the matter, wondering what it might mean, for he knew the Word of God and believed God when He said in Malachi 3:6 "For I am the LORD, I change not;" and in Isaiah 40:8 "the word of our God shall stand for ever." What we choose to do in life will determine if we believe God through His Word or not.](#)

[Malachi 3:6.](#) "For I am the LORD, I change not;" and in [Isaiah 40:8](#) "the word of our God shall stand for ever." And again, Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. [Hebrews 13:8.](#)

For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. [Matthew 5:18.](#)

Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me. **If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God,** or whether I speak of myself. [John 7:16-17.](#)

Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, **that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no.** And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. [Exodus 16:4-5.](#)

And the anger of the LORD was hot against Israel; and he said, Because that this people hath transgressed my covenant which I commanded their fathers, and have not hearkened unto my voice; I also will not henceforth drive out any from before them of the nations which Joshua left when he died: That through them I may prove Israel, whether they will keep the way of the LORD to walk therein, as their fathers did keep it, or not. [Judges 2:20-22;](#)

And they were to prove Israel by them, to know whether they would hearken unto the commandments of the LORD, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses. [Judges 3:4](#)

And thou shalt remember all the way which the LORD thy God led thee these forty years in the wilderness, to humble thee, and to prove thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no. And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live. [Deuteronomy 8:2-3.](#)

[God gives us His Word for us to follow, and His Word is to be followed with free choice of our choosing. God wants to know our hearts whether we will believe Him at His Word to walk in His ways or not. Is it clear that it is of importance for us to follow the Word of God by building our studies with](#)

Open The Light

“precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:”?

Is it clear that when God speaks His Word, His Word is always given in His governing law on this earth, the land of sin; and that God’s governing law was the same before it was even written down, as it was after it was written down?

Like Peter and Daniel, we also need to use the Word of God to help us understand the Word of God. With Prayer.

Dear Heavenly Father, Thou O Lord; You are all knowing and know what is best for Your Children. Please bless us and guide us with Thy Holy Spirit in Your Word, that we may know and walk in all Thy ways. We pray and ask in the name of Jesus our Saviour, Thy Beloved Son, in whom Thou art well pleased. Amen.

Let us look at Abraham briefly in a test of faith, by reading the following verses.

God’s promise to Abraham; Read Genesis 15:1-6; 17:1-5, 15-22; 21:1-3.

God promises Abraham a son, not only a son, but that Abraham will be a father of nations and Sarah a mother of nations; that through his son Isaac will His covenant be establish and his son’s seed after him.

Now we will look at Genesis 22, but before you read Genesis 22:1 to 22, We will study verse 1 of this chapter. Verse 1 reads, “And it came to pass

after these things, that God did **tempt** Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.” [Genesis 22:1](#).

Tempt

nâsâh, naw-saw'

A primitive root; to test; by implication to attempt: - adventure, assay, prove, tempt, try.

(References from the Strong’s Concordance)

We are going to look at this word “tempt”, not by leaning on our own understanding, but by looking at God and His Holy, Sovereign, Character. The word tempt in Genesis 22:1, is not the same as tempt, as to tempt someone to do evil or wrong, as Satan did to Eve in the Garden of Eden. Here it means to test, prove or try, for good, to see if one’s faithful relationship is true or false towards God. How do I know this? By using “... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ...” Isaiah 28:10... will help us to know the truth. Read the following verses from both the New Testament and the Old Testament, of the word tempt and the other words that build the meaning of temp, which is prove, try, tempted, to help you understand the difference between the good tempt and evil ways of tempt.

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: [James 1:13](#).

Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. [Matthew 4:1](#).

Then said the LORD unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in my law, or no. [Exodus 16:4](#).

And he was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted of Satan; and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered unto him. [Mark 1:13](#).

Open The Light

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it. [1 Corinthians 10:13](#). This is temptation to do evil, to lure you out of God's Hands. For in that he himself (Christ) hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted. [Hebrews 2:18](#).

Succour, means help; to aid or relieve: - help, succour.

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

Read [James 1:2-27](#), for extra study.

... the righteous God trieth the hearts and reins. [Psalms 7:9](#).

The LORD trieth the righteous: ... [Psalms 11:5](#).

Thou hast proved mine heart; thou hast visited me in the night; thou hast tried me, ... [Psalms 17:3](#).

I the LORD search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings. [Jeremiah 17:10](#).

Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. [Psalms 139:23-24](#).

But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the gospel, even so we speak; not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts. [1 Thessalonians 2:4](#).

Is it clear, that by knowing and searching for the truth, in God's Word, we can go deeper into the true meaning of the Scriptures?

Now please read [Genesis 22:1 to 22](#).

Read the following verses below. They give us an insight and understanding of why this test came to Abraham and how it gives us an understanding of what God wants for us, in our relationship with Him.

Read [Galatians 3:1-14](#); [Hebrews 11:1-3](#), 6, 8-16, **17-19**; [James 2:17-24](#), 26.

From Patriarchs and Prophets, Sister White writes, "Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the friend of God." [James 2:23](#). And Paul says, "They which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham." [Galatians 3:7](#). But Abraham's faith was made manifest by his works. "Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?" [James 2:21, 22](#). There are many who fail to understand the relation of faith and works. They say, "Only believe in Christ, and you are safe. You have nothing to do with keeping (Page 154) the law." But genuine faith will be manifest in obedience. Said Christ to the unbelieving Jews, "If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham." [John 8:39](#). And concerning the father of the faithful the Lord declares, "Abraham obeyed My voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws." [Genesis 26:5](#). Says the apostle James, "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." [James 2:17](#). And John, who dwells so fully upon love, tells us, "This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments." [1 John 5:3](#). {PP 153.4}

Through type and promise God "preached before the gospel unto Abraham." [Galatians 3:8](#). And the patriarch's faith was fixed upon the Redeemer to come. Said Christ to the Jews. "Your father Abraham rejoiced that he should see My day; and he saw it, and was glad." [John 8:56](#), R.V., margin. The ram offered in the place of Isaac represented the Son of God, who was to be sacrificed in our stead. When man was doomed to death by transgression of the law of God, the Father, looking upon His Son, said to the sinner, "Live: I have found a ransom." {PP 154.1}

Open The Light

It was to impress Abraham's mind with the reality of the gospel, as well as to test his faith, that God commanded him to slay his son. The agony which he endured during the dark days of that fearful trial was permitted that he might understand from his own experience something of the greatness of the sacrifice made by the infinite God for man's redemption. No other test could have caused Abraham such torture of soul as did the offering of his son. God gave His Son to a death of agony and shame. The angels who witnessed the humiliation and soul anguish of the Son of God were not permitted to interpose, as in the case of Isaac. There was no voice to cry, "It is enough." To save the fallen race, the King of glory yielded up His life. What stronger proof can be given of the infinite compassion and love of God? "He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?" Romans 8:32. {PP 154.2}

The sacrifice required of Abraham was not alone for his own good, nor solely for the benefit of succeeding generations; but it was also for the instruction of the sinless intelligences of heaven and of other worlds. The field of the controversy between Christ and Satan--the field on which the plan of redemption is wrought out--is the lesson book of the universe. Because Abraham had (Page 155) shown a lack of faith in God's promises, Satan had accused him before the angels and before God of having failed to comply with the conditions of the covenant, and as unworthy of its blessings. God desired to prove the loyalty of His servant before all heaven, to demonstrate that nothing less than perfect obedience can be accepted, and to open more fully before them the plan of salvation. {PP 154.3}

Heavenly beings were witnesses of the scene as the faith of Abraham and the submission of Isaac were tested. The trial was far more severe than that which had been brought upon Adam. Compliance with the prohibition laid upon our first parents involved no suffering, but the command to Abraham demanded the most agonizing sacrifice. All heaven beheld with wonder and admiration Abraham's unfaltering obedience. All heaven applauded his fidelity. Satan's accusations were shown to be false. God declared to His servant, "Now I know that thou fearest God [notwithstanding Satan's charges], seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from Me." God's covenant, confirmed to Abraham

by an oath before the intelligences of other worlds, testified that obedience will be rewarded. {PP 155.1}

Amen

Why was it necessary to cover this subject, "**Understand what is been said.**"? When we come to God, we must believe in His Word. If someone tells us something of God's Word, it must be backed up with Truth from His Word, the Bible. Even when we read something in the Bible, that is not fully clear; keep searching, asking God in prayer for the leading of His Holy Spirit to guide us into the truth of His Word for the precepts on the subject been studied. This method will give us the truth and lead us to the true understanding in God's timing. Because Peter knew the truth, he knew that God was not telling him to eat unclean animals. Abraham knew the promise was to come through him and then through Isaac's seed. Abraham knew somehow God would set things right and his son would live or live again; because of the promise that came from God, Abraham faithfully believed, because God said; Abraham trusted God. It was the same with Peter. Because Peter knew the Word and laws of clean and unclean animals and that God changes not; he knew God was trying to tell him something of great importance. Peter, as you know, did explain the vision and what it meant in verse 28 of Acts 10. In which had great significance for every human that is of another nation outside of the Jewish nation, that Salvation should be for them, for us, as well. For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth. Acts 13:47.

Remember from the reading of Sister White at the start of this study, that she said, ...**the Word of God as the rule of your faith and practice. By that Word we are to be judged.** God has, in that Word, promised to give visions in the "last days"; **not for a new rule of faith, but for the comfort of His people, and to correct those who err from Bible truth.** **Thus God dealt with Peter when He was about to send him to preach to the Gentiles.**

Remember, Peter was commissioned to feed the lambs and sheep of Jesus. Read this in John 21:12-17. We are Jesus' lamb's and sheep. Jesus was

Open The Light

thinking of us at that very time when he commissioned Peter. And with the vision given to Peter to take the gospel to other nations, Gentiles, Jesus was setting this work in place for Peter to do.

Let us study more diligently the Word of God. The Bible is so plain and clear that all who will, may understand. Let us thank the Lord for His precious Word, and for the messages of His Spirit that give so much light. Ask of God in faith to teach you as you study His Word. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. James 1:5-6.

Always remember to pray when opening and closing God's word. Pray for the Holy Spirit's guidance to open your heart and mind that you may understand God's Blessed Word. Pray that God will lead you always to put Him first and His Word above any other, Praying for all things in the Name of His blessed Son, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The Temple of The Living God

Do you believe in the following?

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, **knowing of whom thou hast learned them**; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:** That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Timothy 3:14-17. The meaning of "that from a child" does mean the following two things. A child born within the faith from birth. Or a child born of the faith as an adult when they received the call to come and follow Him which giveth life. They are born of faith and as they study as a child in the faith, they believe and followed Christ Jesus in that faith.

We have learned the scriptures from God who has given the inspiration. Given to us that we "may be made perfect" in His Word and "thoroughly furnished unto **all** good works". "The holy scriptures, which are able to make" us "wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" is **very much** "profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:". The scriptures truly should be the "rule of" our "faith and practice".

Our bodies are "the temple of the living God" so whatever goes into it (thoughts, what we see, hear, or what we eat, drink, and so on) or whatever you use it for (what we say, what we do and so on) does matter.

Read 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; 6:13, 19, 20; 10:31-33; 2 Corinthians 6:16.

One of the biggest issues today is the judgment of others regarding what they eat. Knowing that our bodies are the temple of The Living God, we should take care of our bodies; as 1 Corinthians 10:31 is quite clear, that "Whether therefore ye **eat**, or **drink**, or whatsoever ye **do**, **do all** to the **glory of God**."

However, this does not give us liberty to tell others what they should or should not be eating. Unless it is in a Bible study, using the Word of God, directing the one you are studying with, into the truth of God's Word regarding this subject. And this should only be done in the way of the scriptures regarding obeying God in "which ye shall not eat" of the unclean flesh meats. Remembering not to leave out, by leading the one we study with, to walk in the obedience of God "which ye shall eat" of the clean flesh meats. These laws, precepts, were given by God in His Word, with the Holy Spirits guidance, in Jesus' name. We must remember that we are not to change the Word of God; not to take away from it, nor add to it in any way, shape, or form.

Open The Light

This study is not about if we can or cannot eat flesh clean meats. It is fully about the Word of God and what does the Word of God teach us. We must always remember this verse, “Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: **for God hath received him.**” Romans 14:3. What you decide to eat drink or do, is totally between you and God and for the Glory of God; not between, you, and me, or between, us, and them. I would like to say every person on earth has their own physical or medical health needs, and food is a great part of these needs. So, to make a biblical correct decision on one’s own health needs we need to know the whole truth. Putting aside any miss teachings on this subject and opening the truth, so whatever you have decided to do, it is made in the truth of God’s Word, not mans. He that believeth on me, **as the scripture hath said**, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. John 7:38.

Once again, we always need to remember the following Scripture, as we continue in this study. “Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: **for God hath received him.**” Romans 14:3. If we study Romans 14, regarding Christian liberty, keeping in mind that all scripture is spoken in the truth of precept upon precept we will study God’s Word the same way. Another example is right here in Romans 14:2, it says, “For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs.” Here, “all things” are all things in the truth of God’s precepts on this subject. Paul preached only the inspired Word of God. Therefore, we must understand that “all things” is all things in the truth of God’s Word, not against His Word.

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men. Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may edify another. For meat destroy not the work of God. All things indeed are pure; but it is evil for that man who eateth with offence. Romans 14:17-20.

In this part of the study, we are going to look at what the Holy Scripture teaches about what foods God has given to us to eat. Remembering that “... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:” so we can see the whole truth in this matter from the Word of God.

We are going to study, 1 Corinthians 10:31, “Whether therefore ye **eat**, or **drink**, or whatsoever ye **do**, do all to the glory of God.” We are going to study each one of these, “eat”, “drink”, or “do”, one by one, in the precepts of truth, and in the precept of “do all to the glory of God.” Even though they are all linked and intertwined as you will see as we study each one.

“Whether therefore ye **eat**, ... do all to the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31.

One of the biggest subjects talked about and followed today worldwide is on food and flesh meats, what we should and should not eat. There are many dietitians today that have many different ideas on what we should or should not eat and they are not all in agreement. There is so much confusion today that it really is out of hand. We have vegans, vegetarians, flesh meat eaters and people who will eat anything. With each group, there are some very strong points of view. Now, we are going to put aside, all man’s and all so called experts of opinions, and go to the Word of God only, just as we learned from Mrs. E. G. White, at the start of this study, to “Find out what the Lord God of Israel says,” so we can “then do what He commands”. The Word is “able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” 2 Timothy 3:14-17. Trusting “in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. **Be not wise in thine own eyes:** fear the LORD, and depart from evil.” Proverbs 3:5-7.

God has taught us much on food regarding what we can eat, from His Word, the Bible. Is there more to the lessons given on food? To find this out, let us look at these lessons taught using the following questions and going to the Bible for the answers.

Open The Light

Should we be eating the diet given in the Garden of Eden?

Should we be using Daniel's diet as an example on how we should eat today?

Are we allowed to, or is it sinful to, eat flesh meat in the last days?

Remember that God Himself said, that we are to be holy; for He is Holy. Study Leviticus 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:7, 8, 26; 1 Peter 1:15-16. We need to sanctify ourselves, and be holy because God is Holy, see Leviticus 11:44-45.

God has given the list of flesh foods that can be eaten and flesh foods that cannot be eaten. However, I believe that we are to be holy in all that we do and if you read and study the Word of God this is very evident throughout the Scriptures. God cares what we do as these following verses show. "Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, **neither have they showed difference between the unclean and the clean**, and have hid their eyes from my sabbaths, and I am profaned among them." [Ezekiel 22:26](#). "O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever!" [Deuteronomy 5:29](#). You can hear in these words that God is hurting when you read them. When we forget to be holy, for God is Holy, we fall away from being like the one we should reflect. Not in our righteousness or understanding, but in the humility of Jesus Christ. Keeping this in mind, let us continue with the study.

Note in [Leviticus 11:45-47](#) God had said, "For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy. This is the law of the beasts, and of the fowl, and of every living creature that moveth in the waters, and of every creature that creepeth upon the earth: To make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten." This was regarding eating of clean and unclean animals. In [Ezekiel 22:26](#), tells us that the people "**neither have they showed difference**

between the unclean and the clean". This is very important **not** to miss. It truly pains God that we do **not** show a difference between the unclean and the clean. It also pains God if we say the clean is as the unclean. We do **not** believe God at His Word when we say such things. We show unbelief, by **not** believing that God truly said and meant, that there is a difference between the unclean and the clean. To say such things, we are adding, or taking away from the Word of God.

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, **so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ**. [2 Corinthians 11:3](#).

The difference between the unclean and the clean that God has set, is **not** in our own understanding, but God's, for He is the Creator. We can say what we will, we can even look at science as we desire, but nothing in our understanding will ever change the Word of God. Be rest assured, Nothing! At all. And they shall teach my people the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean. [Ezekiel 44:23](#), Also see [Leviticus 10:8-10; 20:25](#).

Great is our Lord, and of great power: **his understanding is infinite**. [Psalms 147:5](#).

O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep. [Psalms 92:5](#).

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. [Romans 11:33-36](#).

Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance? Who hath

Open The Light

directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding? [Isaiah 40:12-14](#).

Shall any teach God knowledge? seeing he judgeth those that are high. [Job 21:22](#).

Thy testimonies also are my delight and my counsellors. [Psalms 119:24](#).

Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness. **Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever.** Princes have persecuted me without a cause: **but my heart standeth in awe of thy word.** I rejoice **at thy word**, as **one that findeth great spoil.** I hate and abhor lying: but **thy law do I love.** [Psalms 119:159-163](#).

Praise ye the LORD: for it is good to sing praises unto our God; for it is pleasant; and praise is comely. The LORD doth build up Jerusalem: he gathereth together the outcasts of Israel. He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds. He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names. **Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.** [Psalms 147:1-5](#).

For thou art great, and doest wondrous things: thou art God alone. **Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.** [Psalms 86:11](#).

Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help. His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish. **Happy is he that hath the God** of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God: **Which made heaven, and earth, the sea, and all that therein is: which keepeth truth for ever:** [Psalms 146:6](#).

Remember this, and show yourselves men: bring it again to mind, O ye transgressors. Remember the former things of old: **for I am God, and there**

is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; **I have purposed it, I will also do it.** [Isaiah 46:8-11](#).

The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever. ... To whom then will ye liken God? or what likeness will ye compare unto him? ... To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth. Why sayest thou, O Jacob, and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the LORD, and my judgment is passed over from my God? Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? **there is no searching of his understanding.** He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. [Isaiah 40:8, 18, 25-31](#).

[Here is a good time to remember we are not to lean upon our own understanding for anything.](#) [God's call is](#) "My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee. Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones." [Proverbs 3:1-8](#).

Open The Light

There are other laws that God has given in Leviticus regarding the clean animals. These laws are regarding when we should not eat of their flesh; and that is, if it dies of itself or it is torn by a beast. Leviticus 7:24; 22:8; Deuteronomy 14:21; Ezekiel 4:14. We shall in no wise eat of it under these conditions. Another law given was that we are not to eat the Fat or blood, nor drink the blood of any animal. And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, Ye shall eat no manner of fat, of ox, or of sheep, or of goat. And the fat of the beast that dieth of itself, and the fat of that which is torn with beasts, may be used in any other use: but ye shall in no wise eat of it. For whosoever eateth the fat of the beast, of which men offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD, even the soul that eateth it shall be cut off from his people. Moreover ye shall eat no manner of blood, whether it be of fowl or of beast, in any of your dwellings. Whatsoever soul it be that eateth any manner of blood, even that soul shall be cut off from his people. [Leviticus 7:22-27](#).

Therefore I said unto the children of Israel, No soul of you shall eat blood, neither shall any stranger that sojourneth among you eat blood. And whatsoever man there be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, which hunteth and catcheth any beast or fowl that may be eaten; he shall even pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust. For it is the life of all flesh; the blood of it is for the life thereof: therefore I said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall eat the blood of no manner of flesh: for the life of all flesh is the blood thereof: whosoever eateth it shall be cut off. [Leviticus 17:12-14](#).

It shall be a perpetual statute for your generations throughout all your dwellings, that ye eat neither fat nor blood. [Leviticus 3:17](#).

Knowing the above, when we come across a verse like [Nehemiah 8:10](#) which says, "Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength." We know that it is not talking about the fat of an animal but the fat of the field and land. Read [Deuteronomy 32:12-14](#), as this will help us understand this quite clearly.

All throughout scripture there are verses that make you think or doubt, just as Peter did regarding the vision he had. Remember, precept must be upon precept, as in [Isaiah 28:10, 13](#).

Look up and study the following supplied scriptures. And just as the Lord commanded the Psalmist in [Psalms 119:4, 15, 27, 56](#), and as the Psalmist did, ... "I forsook not thy precepts ... I have sought thy precepts" [Psalms 119:87, 94](#). We will know the truth, and the truth will make us free when we stay in God's Word. See [John 8:32](#); [Psalms 119:45](#).

The way to the truth, is trusting God at His word. See [Proverbs 3:5](#), for He will not forsake us when we trust Him [Psalms 9:10](#). Remembering the days of old, [Deuteronomy 32:7](#), for God said, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." [Jeremiah 33:3](#). This, will He do; so, trust Him. Again, as the Psalmist said, "through thy precepts I get understanding: therefor I hate every false way." [119:104](#).

Should we be eating the diet given in the Garden of Eden?

In the beginning God gave "every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed;" [Genesis 1:29](#), for man. And for the beast, fowl, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, God said, I have given every green herb for meat, which means food. See [Genesis 1:30](#).

Meat in the Bible means food and will at times include flesh meats as well. The permissible flesh meats mean, it is food of the clean animal. The first spoken instructions by God in scripture for eating the clean flesh meats for food was after the flood. Both words, meat and food that are in the Bible, can include flesh meat.

Meat [H402](#); Feminine of [H401](#); food: - consume, devour, eat, food, meat.
(References from the Strong's Concordance)

Open The Light

And God said, Behold, I have given you **every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed**; to you it shall be for meat. (food – Not flesh meat). And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat (food – Not flesh meat): and it was so. [Genesis 1:29-30](#).

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. [Genesis 2:16-17](#).

Then after the fall God said, “Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.” [Genesis 3:18-19](#).

Herb; H6212

From an unused root meaning to glisten (or be green); grass (or any tender shoot): - grass, herb.

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

Bread; H3899 From H3898; food (for man or beast), especially bread, or grain (for making it): - ([shew-]) bread, X eat, food, fruit, loaf, meat, victuals.

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

Bread can mean, bread made of grains, or just food in general; it can even mean money.

Flesh H1320; From H1319; flesh (from its freshness); by extension body, person; also (by euphemism) the pudenda of a man: - body, [fat, lean] flesh [-ed], kin, [man-] kind, + nakedness, self, skin.

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

In Noah's time, God's people that followed His Laws knew the difference between the clean and unclean animals. As God tells Noah to take seven

pairs of clean animals and two pairs that are not clean animals into the Ark. A pair is the male and his female. See [Genesis 7:2, 8](#). If there was no knowledge of the difference between the clean and unclean, you would think, at this time, it would have been a perfect time for God to give the knowledge to Noah of what God Himself was classing as clean and unclean animals.

Clean H2889 From H2891; pure (in a physical, chemical, ceremonial or moral sense): - clean, fair, pure (-ness).

Unclean H2931: From H2930; foul in a religious sense: - defiled, + infamous, polluted (-tion), unclean.

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

Note, clean and unclean. Unclean is the opposite to clean. If something is pure, clean, then the opposite is not pure, not clean.

Read and study [Genesis 6:18-7:9](#) and [8:20-21](#).

The laws of clean animals, and unclean animals, along with the laws of only using clean animals for the sacrificial offerings; were understood from the beginning of sin to the time of Noah. And from Noah to the time of Isaac, this was clearly understood by the faithful.

Why, or how, can I come to this conclusion? Read [Genesis 4:1-5](#); [Genesis 8:20](#). Please also read and study [Leviticus Chapter 1](#); [7:19](#); [10:9-11](#).

Here in [Genesis 4:1-5](#), we learn that Abel was a keeper of sheep, and it was a lamb that was used for his offering to the LORD. Abel took a firstling of his flock; that is of sheep. The sheep or lamb are clean animals. In [Genesis 8:20](#), we see the clean animals are used again with Noah offering a sacrifice of every clean beast and fowl unto the LORD. To this point in scripture, we have not read where God has told them to do this. Yet, they did do what is known to us from the laws in [Leviticus chapter 1](#); where the words clean or

Open The Light

unclean are not used at all. Yet, all the animals listed for sacrifice are all known as clean animals.

When the law was given to Moses in Leviticus chapter 11, regarding the clean and unclean animals, God was giving a more in-depth knowledge of what was clean and unclean. Yet these laws were, and had been known, from the beginning of sin. This was the same regarding the firstlings, offerings and sacrifices, we do not read anywhere that God tells them to do this, yet from the time of sin to the time Moses was told to tell the children of Israel, we see these laws practiced throughout Genesis. We slowly start to see the use of these words, firstlings, offerings and sacrifices used by God as part of instructions in Exodus, and more so in Leviticus.

Again, at the time when Isaac wanted to bless his son, we see that the savoury meat dish that Isaac asked Esau to make, was made of flesh meat, venison. However, Rebekah then steps in and tells Jacob to get two kids of the goats so she can make the dish. The venison (game, known to be deer) and kids of the goat are both clean animals. Read Genesis 27:1-10.

Now the other reasons for this are that in Genesis chapter 3, verse 15, a promise is made for a Saviour. Then God makes fallen man clothes of skin in verse 21. This covering given is a type of Christ our Saviour. We also know that Jesus was “the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” John 1:29. So, we then know that no unclean thing can be used for any offering of sacrifice to God. God gave Adam and Eve skins of Lamb, a type of Christ, to replace their fig leaves which in time fades, making their nakedness still appear. We also know that God gave Abraham a ram to replace Isaac his son, a type of Christ. Read this in Genesis 22:1-14.

We can clearly see again using the “... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ...” Isaiah 28:9-13 and 16; method, is the most trustworthy way to study the Word of God in gaining a true deep understanding of the scriptures.

A firstling is the firstling of man or beast; abstractly primogeniture: - birthright, **firstborn** (-ling).
(References from the Strong's Concordance)

In every offering to God we are to acknowledge the one great Gift; that alone can make our service acceptable to him. When Abel offered the firstling of the flock, he acknowledged God, not only as the giver of his temporal blessings, but also as the giver of the Saviour. Abel's gift was the very choicest he could bring; for it was the Lord's specified claim. But Cain brought only of the fruit of the ground, and his offering was not accepted by the Lord. It did not express faith in Christ. All our offerings must be sprinkled with the blood of the atonement. As the purchased possession of the Son of God, we are to give the Lord our own individual lives. {RH, November 24, 1896 par. 4}

We can see that after sin, God had given more foods for man to eat. These foods were for all people after the fall of man. Remember this is in God's understanding, not ours. God the giver of all Scripture, and the Creator of all things. This also included flesh meat. This flesh meat was of the sacrifice. The sacrifice that represented the promise of our Saviour, The Christ to come. This was from the beginning of sin to the time of the fulfillment of the sacrifice. The eating of flesh meats was from the beginning of sin. Although it was not written in the Genesis account till the time of Noah, it was still part of the diet, especially due to the sacrifice, the firstlings, the offerings.

Please look up and read the meaning of what eating of the offering, sacrifice, represented, by reading John 6:45-58.

The question then needs to be answered, should we be eating the food diet given in the Garden of Eden? Before answering this question, we need to ask ourselves can we live totally on “every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed;” Genesis 1:29. Note, this will mean that it is also without having any vegetables or grains, without the need of supplements, without

Open The Light

eating bread or cake, without eating any food that needs us to prepare it and cook it. This would also include any savoury dish or sweet.

One thing we do know, and that is, in a perfect world the eating of the food diet given in the Garden of Eden was a perfect diet for man. However, God knows that in a sin fallen state, in a world that is dying, we needed more foods to give us the good nutrients we need. We will learn more about this as we continue to study God's Word.

Should we be using Daniel's diet as an example on how we should eat today?

Now with this question, if we just read the first chapter briefly you would think that Daniel and his friends never ate flesh meats. However, if we read the whole story, we see the whole truth.

Please read the first chapter of the book of Daniel.

Now let us look at the most important part of this chapter first; and that is verses one to four. These four verses tell us a lot. They give us a point in time where we can go to and follow it to receive the truth of the matter. By following the "... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ..." Isaiah 28:9-13 and 16; method, our eyes will be opened to the truth of God and wonderful facts about Daniel, you may never had known before.

Let us go back in time, "In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah" in Daniel 1:1a. By going back to this time, we can go back further to see more of the life of Daniel before his capture, and how he and his friends grew up in the LORD.

Please use your Bible to do this very important study.

Turn your Bible to the book of 2 Chronicles 36 and read verse 5 to 8.

Verse 8 tells us that the story is also written in the book of the Kings. Now we will go there. Turn to 2 Kings 24:1. From here we can go back to the time of king Josiah in 2 Kings 22:1-23:1-30. Please take your time to read through the given verses. **Please pray for a blessing from God, for The Holy Spirit to guide you through this reading.**

Going over the dates from the Amazing Facts Bible Timeline we can find the dates of the kings of the time we are looking at. You can search through this timeline at the following web address given. <http://timeline.biblehistory.com/home>

Now.

King Josiah lived from 649BC to 609BC

and

Daniel lived from 622BC to 530BC

Daniel was 13 years old when King Josiah died.

Daniel was 17 years old when he was captive in 605BC

This shows us that Daniel's parents were under the reign of king Josiah, who "did that which was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in all the way of David his father, and turned not aside to the right hand or to the left." 2 Kings 22:2. "And like unto him was there no king before him, that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the law of Moses; neither after him arose there any like him." 2 Kings 23:25. This also tells us that Daniel and his friends in their most important years of training were under the reign of king Josiah.

As we have read from 2 Kings 22:1-23:1-30, that king Josiah had a great revival after the Word of God was read to him by the high priest Hilkiah. King Josiah did everything he knew from the Word of God and set many things right in his land and with the people, to bring them up in the Word of God. We read in 2 Kings 23:20 - 23, Josiah had held the best Passover since the days of the Judges.

Open The Light

To learn more of what the Passover was and what happened in the Passover we need to go to Exodus 12:1-13:1-10. Here we find that what we eat, drink, and do, does really matter to God. Also, we find that in the Passover the flesh meat of the lamb was to be eaten roasted with fire. See verse 9 of chapter 12 in Exodus.

One important thing, we, as God fearing people should remember, that Daniel and his friends were walking in the way of the LORD. To say that Daniel never ate flesh meat is to say that the Word of God is not true. Daniel was a faithful man and obeyed God with all his heart. He partook of the Passover, and I believe he kept it when he had freedom to do so to the day he died.

If we read on in 2 Kings 23:30-24:1. We will learn that the two kings after Josiah, did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD. We see this in verses 32 and 37 of chapter 23. Daniel had witnessed life with a God-fearing King, and the Kings after were without fear of God. Knowing this, we see Daniel and his friends making their own decision to walk in the way of God for themselves, as the book of Daniel reveals this to us.

Daniel and his friends were picked out in the group of the best of the children of Israel. We see this in Daniel 1:3, 4. We also see that they made some very important decisions not to defile themselves with the portion of the king's meat, nor the wine that the king drank in verse 8 of Daniel chapter one. We also get the understanding that the others of the children of Israel did not, even though it is not written.

Daniel bravely asked for food that the king was not offering. The food given was under the rule of King Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel and his friends were not at liberty to cook their own food, nor were they able to supply their own. Therefore, Daniel made the request to the prince of eunuchs to supply foods that they could eat in those circumstances. However, when Daniel was in the position to have free choice, we see a different story. We can see this in Daniel chapter 10 verse 3. Daniel tells us that, "I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, **till** three whole weeks were fulfilled." Daniel 10:3. If

we listen to the words of Daniel, he clearly tells us that he stops eating and drinking certain items of foods and drinks, **till** the time had passed of his mourning. Question? If Daniel never ate flesh (meat) and wine (pure juice of the grape), why would he go out of his way to tell us that he stopped eating something till a certain time had passed, if he did not eat that in the first place? Daniel was a faithful man in all his ways to the God of heaven; we see this throughout the book of Daniel. I believe Daniel followed in the way of God's laws.

After learning about Daniel through the Word of God. We see he was a faithful man from a young age till his death. That he did which was right to the Word of God, even with his diet. Can you see how important it is to learn the whole truth about anything in the Word of God, and not just take one little bit and go in our own understanding on the matter?

Prayer is so vital before, during, and after study. Following precept upon precept, then line upon line, then here a little and there a little. This will help us learn more of God's Word and in His guidance through His Holy Spirit.

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. Romans 15:4.

If anyone wants to eat the diet of Daniel, they must be very careful what they claim his diet was. This is so they do not change the Word of God and making it of no effect. Even a vegetarian or vegan can eat the king's food without a thought if they are eating out in places that do not prepare or handle their foods rightly to the Word of God.

To answer the question, "**Should we be using Daniel's diet as an example on how we should eat today?**" Well, that is between the one that is making the decision and God. God should be your guide in all things. However,

Open The Light

always go to the Word of God, with prayer asking for God's leading in any decision you are making in life, asking for the Holy Spirit's guidance in the name of Jesus. Daniel was a faithful man of God, if you want to eat the diet of Daniel, as a vegan or perhaps a vegetarian, you will be choosing only to eat a diet that Daniel and his friends ate for a short time in their life. We should look to God and what He has given in His Word for true guidance, instead of looking to a situation in a time that eating a different diet was needed for a short time in the life of four people in the scriptures.

God's Reward for the Daniels of Today. --There is now need of men who, like Daniel, will do and dare. A pure heart and a strong, fearless hand are wanted in the world today. God designed that man should be constantly improving, daily reaching a higher point in the scale of excellence. He will help us if we seek to help ourselves. Our hope of happiness in two worlds depends upon our improvement in one. ... {AH 301.2}

Are we allowed or is it sinful to eat flesh meat in the last days?

To answer this question, we need to go to the Word of God.

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, **giving heed to seducing spirits**, and **doctrines of devils**; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and **commanding to abstain from meats**, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: **For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer**. **If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things**, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, **nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine**, whereunto thou hast attained. **But refuse profane and old wives' fables**, and **exercise thyself rather unto godliness**. For bodily exercise profiteth little: **but godliness is profitable unto all things**, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, **because we trust in the living God**, who is the Saviour of all men, **specially of those that believe**.

These things command and teach. Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. **Neglect not the gift that is in thee**, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. **Take heed unto thyself**, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for **in doing this** thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. 1 Timothy 4:1-16.

We will study these verses to get a deeper understanding.

“The Spirit speaketh expressly”

Jesus said “Howbeit when he, **the Spirit of truth**, is come, **he will guide you into all truth**: for he shall **not** speak of himself; **but whatsoever he shall hear**, that shall he speak: and **he will show you things to come**. He shall glorify me: **for he shall receive of mine**, and **shall show it unto you**.” John 16:13-14.

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness**: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Timothy 3:14-17.

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. 2 Peter 1:20, 21.

Balaam said, “If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, **I cannot go beyond the commandment of the LORD**, to do either good or

Open The Light

bad of mine own mind; **but what the LORD saith, that will I speak?** And now, behold, I go unto my people: come therefore, and I will advertise thee what this people shall do to thy people in the latter days. **Numbers 24:13-14.**

Just like Balaam, I can only speak what the LORD has said.

Expressly

ῥητῶς. rhētōs. *hray-toce'*

Adverb from a derivative of G4483; out *spokenly*, that is, *distinctly*: - expressly.

ADVERB

1. for an express purpose; with specific intentions

2. plainly, exactly, or unmistakably

(References from the Strong's Concordance, Collins online Dictionary)

We know that the Holy Spirit spoke to holy men of God and that the inspiration was given by God Himself. In 1 Timothy 4, Paul is writing how the "The Spirit speaketh expressly" to him on this subject. This same word expressly was used to express how the Word of the LORD come to Ezekiel. See Ezekiel 1:3. This was for the express purpose of getting the message to God's people to take note of what was going to happen in the last days regarding these two issues.

These words were written by Paul to warn those, which includes us, who are in the latter times, that doctrines of devils would be around in the latter times and that some will depart from the faith. Now, depart from the faith are those that were walking in the truth by faith in God's Word; end up departing from the faith, because they had given heed to seducing spirits which are speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their (the receivers or teachers of such lies) conscience seared with a hot Iron. Now that is very, very, scary. To be seared is to be burned, marking your conscience, branding it with a lie, a mark that cannot be removed. The fact that it says with a hot iron, this is telling us those that depart are burned - seared by the lie, marking, one's conscience that is very extremely hard to remove or fix. There is hope for God's people, and this hope is in the truth, believing in

God at His Word and in acting faith turning from our ways and walking in the truth of God's Word. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. **Galatians 5:24, 25.** It is so important to, "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding." **Proverbs 3:5.** Paul also said by the same Spirit, "**If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.**" **1 Timothy 4:6.**

Sear

Καυτηριάζω. kautēriazō. *kow-tay-ree-ad'-zo*

From a derivative of G2545; to *brand* ("cauterize"), that is, (by implication) to *render unsensitive* (figuratively): - sear with a hot iron.

VERB

1. To sear something means to burn its surface with a sudden intense heat.

2. If something sears a part of your body, it causes a painful burning feeling there.

(References from the Strong's Concordance, Collins online Dictionary)

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. ... If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. **John 8:32, 36.**

What are these two issues? Let's look at verse 3 which tells us plainly. Forbidding to marry, and **commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.** **1 Timothy 4:3.** To believe and know the truth, means, to know the Word of God and believe in what it says and walk in it.

Here we need to stop and address an issue that has been stated by some. "Forbidding to marry" was written for in the latter times, not in the time of, and from the dark ages. Here in this verse, it is not talking about the Catholic Church and their priests. Although we can clearly see and understand why some may say that. It is important to take note regarding verse 1 of 1 Timothy 4. As verse 1 clearly states that those who depart;

Open The Light

“depart from the faith.” The Catholic Church according to the scriptures do not walk in the faith. Note Isaiah 8:20, “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.” Some who are in the truth, of the faith in the latter times, end up departing “from the faith”. This is clearly departing from God’s side where they are led away from the faith, into a direction that leads them to depart from the Truth of God’s Word. They walk away from the faith because they gave heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron.

Sadly, this happens even though the ones who depart from the faith are still using God’s Word when they depart; they do not want to believe that their eyes are shifting away from God’s truth. They do not realize nor allow themselves to see that they are using the “doctrines of Devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy;” Their eyes shift from focusing on what the Word of God actually says, and their eyes shift from God, Son and Holy Spirit, onto the lies of the “doctrines of Devils;” even though they believe the they are doing God’s bidding. The only way we can truly know the correct path is by studying the Word of God with humility using Jeremiah 33:3 as our guide and remembering that we are to believe in the Word of God **as the scripture hath said**; and by following the guide that “... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ...” **Isaiah 28:9-13**. He that believeth on me, **as the scripture hath said**, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. **John 7:38**. Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. **Jeremiah 33:3**. **Believe God at His Word as the scripture hath said**, and Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. **Proverbs 3:5-8**.

Study 1 Timothy 4:1-7, also read 1 Corinthians 7. When we use the precept upon precept truth, we will be able to understand that Paul is not forbidding people from marriage, but he is giving examples of different scenarios of being married and not being married and why. The start of the chapter

makes it very clear he is not against, nor forbidding marriages that are in the Laws of God. Paul was a man in the work of the LORD God. He was not married, and he speaks in his own example of being unmarried, which allows him to do the work of God without the burdens of caring for a wife. Note verses 7 and 8 and throughout the chapter. As we read through the books Paul wrote we learn of his work in the LORD and of the hard situations he had to endure. A wife would have made these times unbearable not only for Paul, but also for the wife if he had a wife as well. Yet he encourages marriage if one is not able to contain themselves, it is better for them to marry than to burn. Note verse 9.

As we read on, apart from marrying, we will see that it is clearly flesh meat which is the subject that is been covered. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. 1 Timothy 4:4, 5.

Creature

ktis'-mah

From G2936; an original formation (concretely), that is, product (created thing): - creature.

1. COUNTABLE NOUN

You can refer to any living thing **that is not a plant as a creature**, especially when it is of an unknown or unfamiliar kind. People also refer to imaginary animals and beings as creatures.

2. COUNTABLE NOUN

If you say that someone is a particular type of creature, you are focusing on a particular quality they have.

(References from the Strong’s Concordance, Collins online Dictionary)

Now, the creature here in 1 Timothy 4 is an animal, not a human being. An animal that is clean, of the ones given by God of them that shall ye eat, because it said, “**of them which believe and know the truth**” and that “it is sanctified,” which means made Holy “by the Word of God and prayer.” Knowing the truth guides us to more truth. “Every creature” is in the truth of God’s Word. Remember that an **abomination to God is filth, that is,**

Open The Light

(figuratively and specifically) an idolatrous object: - abominable (-tion). Therefore, we know Paul is **not** talking about the filthy abominations of the creatures of the earth, but the clean that was given in the Word of Truth from God Himself, the all-knowing God, in His own understanding and not man's.

Sanctified

hag-ee-ad'-zo

From G40; to make holy, that is, (ceremonially) purify or consecrate; (mentally) to venerate: - hallow, be holy, sanctify.
(References from the Strong's Concordance,)

Sanctified, made holy, Hallowed, in the same as, when God sanctified the Sabbath and made it holy. See Genesis 2:1-3, Exodus 20:8-11. Made Holy by the Word of God. Note Matthew 4:4; Deuteronomy 8:3b; 32:46, 47; Psalms 33:6; Jeremiah 15:16; Romans 10:17; 1Peter 1:23, 25.

Notice, on the precept of clean meat, those **commanding to abstain from meats**, and that teach such things are "giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;" they are "commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth." What they are saying is that they know better than God. God has said, "that shall ye eat"; they say we should not eat, and we need to abstain from all meats, including the clean, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving, of the creature.

We are all given of God, liberty. No, this is not about telling people they should eat flesh clean meats. No, not at all. Quite the contrary. What is been said here, is simply showing what the Word of God says: And that we should be very careful what we say, what is the Word of God. Even in Romans 14, Paul teaches about our liberty, with those that know and believe the truth. Please, with prayer, read again Romans chapter 14, even though we have studied this chapter earlier in this study, it is always good to reference check all things for truth and for remembrance.

Romans 14:14 may seem confusing. However, if we use the "... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ..." Isaiah 28:9-13 and 16; method, we will get to what Paul is talking about. Paul's life was for the work of God. So, he is not going to break the Word of God. Here we see Paul is talking about the permissible meats, the meats God has said, "that shall ye eat". Because "we live unto the Lord" we live in the Lord, that is, in His Word, note verses 8 and 9. Here, it is covering clean meats deemed to be unclean meat as they may have been offered to idols. We will be looking at this more. But to understand this verse, I must bring it up now. Sometimes Paul's writings can be a little hard to get our heads around. Without having to sound like a stuck record, I truly believe if we read the Word of God using the "... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ..." Isaiah 28:9-13 and 16; method, the truth is revealed. With the Word of God and prayer, God will show us the things He wants us to know and walk in, because He said, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Jeremiah 33:3. Walk in Faith always. God will not leave you in doubt. We all need to believe in God as Abraham did; for he "believed in the LORD; and he, (the LORD), counted it to him (Abraham) for righteousness." Genesis 15:6. Jesus said, "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water." John 7:38. Jesus is the WORD, note John chapter 1. Also remember what Romans 14:3, says, "Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him." Yes, God has received him. If anyone should study the Word of God to fit in a line of thinking, we can easily be deceived. This is because we would be studying the Word of God, not for truth, but for our own ways or will, not God's. People use the scriptures to discard the Sabbath and, in their eyes, prove the Sabbath is done away with. Because they do not use Isaiah 28:9-13 and 16, that "... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ..." to study the Word of God, they are unable to see the truth regarding the Sabbath. This is the same for other things that they have not been able to come to the knowledge of truth. Subjects like, eating unclean meats, divorce, death, mark of the beast, hell, heaven, baptism, and

Open The Light

the Godhead bodily, to name a few. Always remember what Jesus said, “For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.” **Matthew 5:18.** This is why we study “... precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ...” **Isaiah 28:9-13 and 16.**

Go through the rest of 1 Timothy 4:1-16 and listen to what The Lord is telling us. Listen to what has been said and study as much as you can with **Prayer, asking God our Father who gave the Word, for the Holy Spirit's Guidance, In Jesus' Holy Name.**

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, **giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;** Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness. For bodily exercise profiteth little: **but godliness is profitable unto all things,** having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation. For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, **because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.** These things command and teach. Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. **Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue**

in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. **1 Timothy 4:1-16.**

Hear the Word of God. Just as Mrs. EGW recommends to every dear reader, that we should take, **the Word of God as the rule of your faith and practice.** For she goes on to say, **By that Word we are to be judged.** Should we be void of counsel of the word of God as the enemy of God? “For they are a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them. O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!” **Deuteronomy 32:28-29.** This is why we should take heed to what God has said. The Seventh Day Adventist Church does not want to end up as the church in Rome ended up doing: Mrs. EGW wrote in the Great Controversy. GC88 289.2 - GC88 290.1 ...customs tended to bridge the chasm between Rome and the Reformation... Rome began by enjoining what God had not forbidden, and she ended by forbidding what he (God) had explicitly enjoined. Sadly, there are some in the Seventh Day Adventist Church, over the years, have been found guilty of this very thing. Some began by enjoining what God had not forbidden, and then ended by forbidding what God had explicitly enjoined. As the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, **giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;** Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. These verses are clear, that in the last days there will be teachings of eating and marrying, that go against the Word of God; **giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;** by putting forth the views of mankind above the Word of God. We ort to Walk in the Word of God, not science, or what man may say.

To state once again, this study is not about what we eat regarding being vegan, vegetarian, or flesh eating. It is about what the Word of God does say “**as the scripture hath said**” and walking in it, doing all to the Gory of God. It is about a thus sayest the LORD GOD, or “it is Written” of the Holy Word of God. When we struggle with anything of the Scriptures, we must take it to God in Prayer, ask God to Guide us with His leading in what He

Open The Light

would have us do. Choosing only to walk in the ways that God leads us in His Word. When we do not let God be our Guide, we will end up in the hands of the one the wants to take us away from God and His Word. This is in the hands of Satan himself and in his doctrines, not in the truth of God's Word.

Read 1 Peter 1:11-25

Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. Romans 16:17-18.

I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. Galatians 1:6-7.

Let us all walk in the truth of God's word. Remembering that The Lord said "I change not" Malachi 3:6, will serve us well. The foods and flesh meats given in the Word of God, are in His understanding, not ours. Trust and obey, for truly, there is no other way to walk with Him, but in truth only, which is, Jesus Christ Himself. Note, John 14:6.

If anyone chooses not to eat the clean flesh meats; that is between them and God only. Note Philipians 4:13. However, to teach that it is sinful to eat clean flesh meat, or to teach that those who eat clean meat will not go to heaven, or cannot be baptized until they stop eating clean flesh meats; or those that teach eating clean meats is eating of the devil, or even simply teaching what science and others say about eating clean flesh meats and that the clean meats are not clean anymore; These people are simply teaching **doctrines of devils**; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;...and not the Word of God. If God said in His Wisdom, "These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth." Leviticus 11:2b, we should trust Him at His word; for God knows all things from the beginning of time, from the beginning of sin

to the end of sin, to the forever after. God created us and He knows our every need for a sustainable health on this sin filled earth. Romans 11:33-36 tells us and asks us, "O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen."

Do the Holy Scriptures teach that clean meats can be deemed as unclean meat if the meat may have been offered to idols?

Pray, asking God our Father who gave the Word, by the Holy Spirit's Guidance, In Jesus' Holy Name.

Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth. Whatsoever is sold in the shambles, that eat, asking no question for conscience sake: For the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof. 1 Corinthians 10:24-26

(Shambles means mak'-el-lon

Of Latin origin [macellum]; a butcher's stall, meat market or provision shop: - shambles.) (References from the Strong's Concordance)

Shambles in historically referred to a slaughterhouse (from merriam-webster.com)

Now as touching things offered unto idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge puffeth up, but charity edifieth. And if any man think that he knoweth any thing, he knoweth nothing yet as he ought to know. But if any man love God, the same is known of him. As concerning therefore the eating of those things that are offered in sacrifice unto idols, **we know that an idol is nothing in the world**, and that there is none other **God but one**. For though there be that are called gods, whether in heaven or in earth, (as there be gods many, and lords many,) **to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.** Howbeit there is

Open The Light

not in every man that knowledge: for some with conscience of the idol unto this hour eat it as a thing offered unto an idol; and their conscience being weak is defiled. But meat commendeth us not to God: for neither, if we eat, are we the better; neither, if we eat not, are we the worse. **But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak.** For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend. [1 Corinthians 8:1-13](#).

We should be very careful not to offend the weak, because of the knowledge one may have in the Word. If the weak would be offended at you eating the meat and or flesh meat that has been offered to idols; eat it not, for their sake or to the one that showed it you. They are God's, so we should walk in faith in all manner of God's Word. Also remember, we are told to eat "If any of them that believe not bid you to a feast, and ye be disposed to go; **whatsoever is set before you, eat, asking no question for conscience sake. But if any man say unto you, This is offered in sacrifice unto idols, eat not for his sake that showed it, and for conscience sake:** for the earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof: **Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other:** for why is my liberty judged of another man's conscience? For if I by grace be a partaker, why am I evil spoken of for that for which I give thanks? **Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.** Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved." [1 Corinthians 10:27-33](#).

[When Jesus sent out the 70, He said to them.](#) And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: [Luke 10:8](#) Remember this was also in the Word of God. Jesus sent them out to witness the truth, not destroy it. Jesus the Son and Holy Spirit do the will of God the

Father. Jesus said, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil." [Matthew 5:17](#). We too are to obey God, first and foremost, above any other. His word is sure and true. We do not want to be "like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." [James 1:6](#). We want to ask of God and believe in Him at His Word.

Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. [James 1:3-8](#).

"In the latter times"

No one should go beyond the commandments of God; no, not I, even "I cannot go beyond the commandment of the LORD, to do either good or bad of mine own mind; but what the LORD saith, that will I speak?" [Numbers 24:13b](#). God said, through Paul, If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. [1 Timothy 4:6](#). We all need to be nourished up in the word of God; that we may all be good ministers of Christ Jesus.

In saying this, what you do, regarding eating flesh meats or not, it should be done with prayer and guided by the Word of God. Paul is very clear in [1 Timothy 4:1-16](#), that the Spirit expressly gave this message to him, so please take good heed to God's Word.

But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul. When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, **even in the latter days**, if thou turn to the LORD thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice; (For the LORD thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither

Open The Light

destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he swore unto them. [Deuteronomy 4:29-31](#).

For they are a nation void of counsel, neither is there any understanding in them. O that they were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end! [Deuteronomy 32:28-29](#).

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. [2 Timothy 3:1](#).

Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter time some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;" [1 Timothy 4:1,2](#).

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtlety, **so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ**. [2 Corinthians 11:3](#).

"Simplicity that is in Christ"... And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. ... If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed. [John 8:32, 36](#).

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. ... [Matthew 7:15-16](#).

Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences **contrary to the doctrine** which ye have learned; and avoid them. For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, **but their own belly**; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. [Romans 16:17-18](#).

Throughout scripture we see the deception of Satan upon mankind. From the very beginning Satan deceived Eve, to now, which is in the latter times of this earth. Yes, we are in the very toes of the Daniel 2 prophecy. Food is

the necessity of life, both food types, the physical and spiritual. Satan has not left ether untouched, to destroy as much as he can, that mankind will become confused, and mixed up in both. Satan's plan is to destroy both, to take away the truth, destroy the Word of God, to stop mankind relying on the full knowledge, and wisdom of God. Therefore, trust in the Word of God. Mankind has turn to science, their own understanding, therefore, they have changed the Word, or have taken away from the Word of God by doing this.

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. [Romans 11:33-36](#).

But they know not the thoughts of the LORD, neither understand they his counsel: ... [Micah 4:12a](#).

Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding? [Isaiah 40:13, 14](#).

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. [Isaiah 55:8, 9](#).

Shall any teach God knowledge? seeing he judgeth those that are high. [Job 21:22](#).

But he is in one mind, and who can turn him? ... [Job 23:13](#).

To get a deeper understanding of the knowledge of God, please read Job chapters 35 to 41. This will open your eyes to the awesome God we serve, obey ye Him.

Open The Light

Now read God's warnings from His Word. 2 Corinthians 11:13-15; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17; Jeremiah 23:1-40. These verses show us why it is so important to study the Word of God with prayer, asking for the Holy Spirit's leading in God's Word, in Jesus Holy Name. Trust ye the Word of God, and not man.

Now, I need to make this very clear; I am not telling anyone they should be eating the clean flesh meats God has given in His Word. For it is up to the individual person in their own relationship with God and for their own physical and medical needs. Note Romans 14:1-23. However, I am telling you what the Word of God does say, so that we all can make a clear, steadfast choice, from the Word of God. Remember what the scripture says in, 1 Timothy 4:6, "If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained."

Forbidding to marry, and **commanding to abstain from meats.** 1 Timothy 4:3

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. **But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;** And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:** That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Timothy 3:12-17.

For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, ... 1 Corinthians 14:33.

Knowing that "scripture is given by inspiration of God" and that "God is not the author of confusion, but of peace," we should faithfully believe what

God tells us. We are not to lean on our own understanding. We are to, in all our ways, acknowledge God, and he will direct our paths. We cannot trust the wisdom of our own eyes: we are to "fear the LORD, and depart from evil." See Proverbs 3:5-7. God tells us to call on Him and He will show us great and mighty things. "Thus saith the LORD the maker thereof, the LORD that formed it, to establish it; the LORD is his name; Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not. Jeremiah 33:2, 3. When we are willing to obey the Word of God and call upon God, he will show us the great and mighty things He desires us to know of Him.

Show me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. ... The secret of the LORD is with them that fear him; and he will show them his covenant. Psalms 25:4, 5, 14.

The people asked, and he brought quails, and satisfied them with the bread of heaven. Psalms 105:40. Bread of heaven (manna) Type of Christ. Study John 6:31-59.

Read Chapter Numbers 11. For we will study what Numbers 11 was teaching us.

After reading Numbers Chapter 11, look at verses 4-7. The Children of Israel were lusting after flesh meat: yet was it only flesh meat? If not, what else were they lusting after in these verses? Please write your findings on the lines provided.

Why was God so displeased with them? Was it only because they lusted for certain foods? Or was it because they were not happy with the way God was helping them? Before answering the Questions, study the following.

Open The Light

Note verses 1, 4, 5, 18-20, 33, 34 of Numbers Chapter 11.

To get the full story we need to read the following: Read Exodus 16:1-15 and note verses 8 and 15; read all of Psalms 78 and note verses 12-32.

Study Exodus 16:8; Numbers 11:4, 13, 18.

The following statements are not saying one cannot be vegan or vegetarian. It is merely stating where we end up when we go against God and His word. Being vegan or vegetarian in and of itself, is not sin. It is however, when we do not do all things to His Glory. Yes, even those who follow the Word of God and eat flesh meats can eat in sin because it is not eaten to the glory of God.

Today the people of the Church are in danger of the same behaviour as the Children of Israel, as those who complained against God with the food God supplied for them, going from one extreme to the other. Today so many people are going vegan or vegetarian, they are making foods that resemble the foods God has given us to eat. What these people are doing is saying they know better than God. And they are replacing what God has given with something they believe is better than what God has supplied. This, in fact, is now worse than what the children of Israel did. They did not want what God had given them to eat, they were complaining that the food God had supplied was not enough for them and they lusted after the foods of Egypt. Today foods are being made to resemble the foods God has given us. Processed alternative meats, that resemble like, for like, of the flesh meats. Even making unclean alternative bacon, and even bold enough to call it not bacon. Right here I must say, this is why we need the full understanding of God's Ten Commandments. Here it would be very important to remind us that God looks upon the heart. If we are lusting after the flavours of Bacon, or desire to eat it and we eat such foods that are made like for like of the

flesh meats, in God's eyes we are eating the real thing in your heart. It is the same principle of Matthew 5:28, "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." Which is why lust of any kind needs to be given to God, that we may be free from it.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do. Hebrews 4:12, 13.

"...for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart." 1 Samuel 16:7b.

All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits. Commit thy works unto the LORD, and thy thoughts shall be established. Proverbs 16:2, 3.

O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Psalms 139:1, 2.

As we read chapter 11 of Numbers, we learnt that the people of Israel asked for flesh. Now if you read chapter 9 of Numbers, we see they did eat flesh already, the flesh of the Passover lamb. Also see Exodus chapter 12. In Numbers 11:4, 5, 6, it says, "And the mixed multitude that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also **wept again**, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat? We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlic: But now our soul is dried away: there is nothing at all, beside this manna, before our eyes." Notice the word, "again." The first time was in Exodus Chapter 16 which tells us that, "...The children of Israel said unto them, Would to God we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the flesh pots, and when we did eat bread to the full;

Open The Light

for ye have brought us forth into this wilderness, to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” The first time it was said of Moses in verse 8, “This shall be, when the LORD shall give you in the evening flesh to eat, and in the morning bread to the full; for that the LORD heareth your murmurings which ye murmur against him: and what are we? your murmurings are not against us, but against the LORD.”

Now read verses 11-15 of Exodus 16. We learn here they were given bread called manna and quails to eat. So now we know they had flesh to eat. In Numbers 11 they were going another step forward by lusting, that they could not see what God had given them to eat. Verse 4 and 5 in Numbers 11 clearly tells us what they lusted after; flesh, fish, cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlick. Does this now make cucumbers, melons, leeks and garlick bad to eat? Of those that only choose to eat white flesh, does this make fish bad to eat? If we stop eating flesh under the reasoning of lusting in this point in time of biblical history, we will need to include the rest of these foods listed here.

Here we learn they lusted for foods that they ate in Egypt freely. The meaning and synonyms for the word lust is as follows: Lust ²in the sense of desire - Definition - a strong desire or drive - **desire, longing, passion, appetite, craving**, greed, thirst, cupidity (formal - in the sense of avarice - Definition - strong desire for wealth or possessions (formal)), covetousness, avidity (in the sense of insatiability - If someone has an insatiable desire for something, they want as much of it as they can possibly get.), appetite (craving for desire), hanker, itch, yearn, ache, need, pine, thirst, want, wish, yen, be consumed with desire, hunger for.

(References from Collins online Dictionary, and thesaurus.com)

H183 - aw-vaw'

A primitive root; to wish for: - covet, (greatly) desire, be desirous, long, lust (after).

H8378tah-av-aw'

From H183 (abbreviated); a longing; by implication a delight (subjectively satisfaction, objectively a charm): - dainty, desire, X exceedingly, X greedily, lust (ing), pleasant. See also H6914.

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

Have you ever had a strong craving for something? That is what has happened here in Numbers chapter 11. The lusting here in Numbers 11, is what we would call today, craving, an intense desire or longing, lust. Whether or not it is for food, travel, money, sex, something different in our life, and so on; if you are longing with intensity; it all falls into the same lusting the children of Israel had done back in the wilderness. None of these things in and of themselves are bad or evil; it is the driven desire, the passion, the appetite, the greed and so on, that we lose the control of our normal thinking, where things start to happen that should not. We can end up very depressed and lose vision in what is going on around us. We basically become blinded from the blessings we already have. We can end up longing for things that we should not have. Some examples are longing for Food - overeating and eating the unhealthy foods, drugs, sex before marriage, or outside of marriage, or even self-gratification (masturbation), stolen belongings, buying on credit when really, we do not have the money for, which in turns puts a greater burden on already tight finances and so on. We will end up with an ungrateful heart for what God has already blessed us with. We can also hinder the blessing God would bless us with.

My point is, do not look at the food here with this event that happened in the wilderness with the children of Israel in Numbers 11. We need to focus on the lesson of lusting and how it takes our eyes off God. We end up complaining against God. We lose our vision on reality and our minds become in the control of Satan Himself. Depression or a low mindset will set in, losing the peace and happiness we had, that only God gives.

Numbers 11:18, And say thou unto the people, Sanctify yourselves against to morrow, and ye shall eat flesh: for ye have wept in the ears of the LORD, saying, Who shall give us flesh to eat? for it was well with us in Egypt: therefore the LORD will give you flesh, and ye shall eat.

Can you see how the children of Israel lost sight of reality? They were so focused on the lusting for foods they ate back in Egypt, that they said it was well with them in Egypt. We know very well it was not well with them. They were afflicted with burdens and their lives were bitter with hard

Open The Light

bondage. All the service to the Egyptians was with rigour - cruelty. They even forgot that their male children were being killed and that Pharaoh ordered their baby boys to be cast into the river. Read Exodus 1:8-22.

Can you see how this must have hurt God? So much so that “the anger of the LORD was kindled greatly”. Numbers 11:10. Can you also see how lusting can destroy our thinking? So much so, that we can wish to be back in a place of hell to get what we want. Now, we may be thinking that will not happen to us. But we know, it most certainly can happen, if not given over to God. Lusting for anything destroys, and will never bring peace, nor happiness, nor will it bring us to a close walk with God.

Read again Psalms 78:1-8, 17-32. Listen carefully for the truth of what is happening with the people.

The lusting, along with not believing in God, nor trusting in Him for their salvation, was the issue. The foods including flesh meat in Numbers chapter 11, in and of themselves, were not the issue. If anyone use these verses to support not eating flesh meat, they do not know what they are saying; in turn making mockery of the True Word of God. They would have to stop eating cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlick, along with flesh meat, if the food was really the issue. Praise be to God for the truth in His Word.

Desiring a good thing is not bad. It is how we go about it, that can make it bad. It is how we let it take control of us, that changes the desire from healthy, to unhealthy. God is the one we should give all our needs, wants and desires to. God knows what we need and what pleasures are healthy for

us. Trust in God for all your needs, as He knows all things, and knows what can destroy our salvation.

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. [Proverbs 3:3-10](#).

Verse 4 of Numbers 11 we notice that it was “the **mixt multitude** that was among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, Who shall give us flesh to eat?” We need to be very careful where we get our ideas from, because it may be that idea, that leads us away from truth, away from the Word of God. The history of veganism and vegetarianism main streamed from Greece and India; from man, from paganism; pagan religions do not follow the Word of God.

A question that comes to mind is that, if anyone must take supplements to get the full requirements of good nutrition that flesh meat can only give, that is a good sign that God knows what we need, and He gave it to us in His word. An article written on people who follow a plant-based diet with no animal products are at great risk of nutrient deficiency. This is manly of B12, Vitamin D, Omega-3 fats, calcium, iodine, zinc, and iron. (Healthline.com, [ncdi.nlm.nih.gov](#), Vitamin B12 among Vegetarians. [Pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov](#) Vegetarian diets)

These companies make supplements which are mostly synthetic, which is made of chemicals that imitate the natural product, which therefore is artificial, not real. There is no science to back it up that any of these really work. They give a reading in the bloods, but no proof that it really helps the body. Most alternative foods, have vitamins added in the products, which are mainly synthetic. Showing that the real thing is better than any

Open The Light

alternative. Science only shows, when all said and done, that God knows best for our needs in this life where sin destroys.

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. [Romans 11:33-36](#). [Isaiah 40:13,14](#) says, “Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding?”

Revise pages 17, 18, 19a, from this study written by Open the Light Studies.

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine. [Proverbs 3:3-10](#)

Please study Acts 15:1-29. Take note by listening to what God is saying in His Word. **What was the important things to teach the Gentiles?** Make notes of the important lessons in this Chapter? Note the law in this chapter is not the Ten Commandments but the law of circumcision which ended at the cross. Notice they are talking to the Jewish people. They are speaking within the understanding of God’s Word, which includes Leviticus 11, laws on clean and unclean flesh, that the Jewish people believed in and kept. Jesus kept and understood these same laws, the laws what were given by God. So, the following is given under that law.

Your Notes.

Again, it is written, “As touching the Gentiles which believe, we have written and concluded that they observe no such thing, save only that they keep themselves from things offered to idols, and from blood, and from strangled, and from fornication.” [Acts 21:25](#). Remember they are talking to the Jewish people, they are speaking within the understanding of God’s Word, including Leviticus 11, in which they already believed in, and kept this truth and walked in it.

Does it really matter what we can and cannot eat?

“Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.” Job 14:4. Who can make anything clean out of something unclean? No one can. This is a general statement; it was asked to help us think about the natural state of mankind. We are unclean in our natural state, and we cannot make ourselves clean. Please take time to study and read Romans Chapter 8.

Think of the general side of this statement “Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.” Job 14:4. If God said that certain flesh meats are unclean, how can it be clean now? Only God can make anything clean, and He changes not; so, can unclean meats be made clean after He said thou shalt not eat? Certainly not.

Open The Light

If we call an unclean animal clean, when God said it is unclean; we are saying that we know better than God.

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! [Isaiah 5:20, 21.](#)

Now, these verses in [Isaiah 5](#) teach us the opposite is true also. In the understanding of these pages 17, 18, and most of page 19 of this study. If God has given us clean animals for food to eat in His understanding and knowledge of the end from the beginning, who are we to then teach that these clean animals are now unclean. This is to take away from the Word of God, which is to call Him a liar, teaching that God's Words cannot be trusted. Yet the scriptures teach us that, "... which God, that cannot lie, ..." [Titus 1:2.](#) Jesus tells us who the liar is, and it is not God His Father, our God. Listen to what Jesus said to those that did not believe in His Words. "But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God. Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. Ye are of your father **the devil**, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. **When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.** And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God. [John 8:40-47.](#) The questions we need to remember to ask is, "Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding?" [Isaiah 40:13,14.](#) Especially when, "his name shall be called

Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." [Isaiah 9:6.](#)

If you believe, when God said in [Leviticus Chapter 11](#), "Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that ... they shall not be eaten ..." was a command of God that we are not to eat these unclean animals; You must then also believe when God said, "...These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the ... These shall ye eat of ..." is also a command of God for the clean animals that we can eat.

To say that God gave these commands only for back then and not for today's living is to say God changes, and that He does not know the end from the beginning. Yet the Scriptures say in [Malachi 3:6](#), "For I am the LORD, I change not;" Do we really think when God gave these laws and commands regarding eating of flesh meats, that He did not take in account for the end from the beginning? Of course, He did! God is all knowing for "out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding." [Proverbs 2:6.](#)

Yea, if thou criest after knowledge, and liftest up thy voice for understanding; If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God. For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding. He layeth up sound wisdom for the righteous: he is a buckler to them that walk uprightly. [Proverbs 2:3-7.](#)

Let not mercy and truth forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find favour and good understanding in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the LORD, and depart from evil. It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones. [Proverbs 3:3-8.](#)

But continue thou **in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them**; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise

Open The Light

unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:** That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

[2 Timothy 3:14-17.](#)

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. [Romans 11:33-36.](#)

[Please note these very important verses that tell us about our Saviour, long before He came to this earth to save us. Also note the reason for these foods, then write them down that these may be in our mind, for truth.](#)

Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey shall he eat, **that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.** For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings. [Isaiah 7:14-16.](#)

[Also note verses 21 and 22 of chapter 7 in Isaiah below. Here it tells us after the coming destruction of verses 17 to 21. Please write down if we as well will be eating these same foods our dear Saviour did eat.](#)

And it shall come to pass in that day, that a man shall nourish a young cow, and two sheep; And it shall come to pass, for the abundance of milk that

they shall give he shall eat butter: for butter and honey shall every one eat that is left in the land. [Isaiah 7:21, 22.](#)

My son, eat thou honey, because it is good; and the honeycomb, which is sweet to thy taste: So shall the knowledge of wisdom be unto thy soul: when thou hast found it, then there shall be a reward, and thy expectation shall not be cut off. [Proverbs. 24:13-14.](#) [God's law which gives us wisdom is sweeter than honey itself. Note Psalms 19:9-11; 119:102-104. Desire to dine on both the Spiritual and the physical honey God has given us.](#)

Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life. [John 8:12.](#)

[This is in all manner of the light of Christ. Christ is our example, and he asks us to follow Him many times throughout His Word, which is, once again, in all manner of light from God.](#)

[Please read Matthew 14:15-21. Please note if flesh meats were band in the Old Testament as some claim, Jesus would not have done this.](#)

[Look up the words milk, honey, egg or eggs, salt, in a concordance and read what is written about them and note what has been said about these things below. There is no command to eat these foods yet in the scriptures it does tell us they were eaten and consumed by the way it has been written in the scriptures.](#)

[Examples](#)

Open The Light

Can that which is unsavoury be eaten without salt? or is there any taste in the white of an egg? [Job 6:6. To have known these things they must have been eaten by Job.](#)

And my hand hath found as a nest the riches of the people: **and as one gathereth eggs that are left**, have I gathered all the earth; and there was none that moved the wing, or opened the mouth, or peeped. [Isaiah 10:14.](#)

To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them. [Isaiah 8:20](#)

Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he showed them his hands and his feet. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb. And he took it, and did eat before them. And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that **all things must be fulfilled**, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, **concerning me**. [Luke 24:39-44](#)

Here, where it says, “all things”, are including his diet, because in [Isaiah 7:14-16](#), is written of Jesus and Jesus came and fulfilled all things, including these verses.

Jesus who walked in the **light of God**, wants us to follow Him in that same **light**. If we were not meant to eat flesh meat; Jesus would not have given

flesh to eat in feeding the 5000, nor would he have given flesh meat to His disciples after his resurrection by the water's edge. Nor would Jesus have eaten the flesh meat of the broiled fish.

One very important thing we must remember, and that is, in the last days Satan will be working harder to destroy the truth. This is to try and stop those, that may come to Jesus in truth. Satan will come along to destroy these people with lies, so they end up walking in their own understanding, or in the understanding of another man, as in human. Even though these people may stay in the church, Satan will use them to continue with the falseness and put a stumbling block in the way of those that would be God's children. Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. [Luke 8:12.](#)

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.**

[2 Timothy 3:14-17](#)

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. [Romans 11:33-36](#)

One thing we all should remember, and that is, with all foods we need to be careful of when it comes to eating. We just cannot assume because you eat only fruits, vegetables, or herbs, you are better for doing so. As well as those that eat flesh meats, that you are the better for doing so. No. We are to eat, drink and do all to the glory of God, not man, which includes yourself.

Open The Light

You are not to eat to your own glory, as though you do some great thing because you do so, note 1 Corinthians 10:31. We all need food to nourish our bodies, so if you eat to your own glory, who is your god? The God of Heaven and earth; or yourself?

When we read Proverbs 23, we realize that foods can be a stumbling block to ourselves. If you are given to appetite, you are asked to put a knife to thy throat. See Proverbs 23:3. Foods can be deceitful. Any kind of food can be in the category of dainties, which means delicacy. It really depends on where you live, as in state or country, as well as what foods are available in your area. When we were children, we could not get half the things to eat, the things that we eat today. Foods are now shipped from one end of the world to the other. We are to consider what is set before us when we sit to eat with a Ruler, Proverbs 23:1-3. This is what Daniel, and his friends did, as we learned earlier in these studies, they considered and chose to ask for something different, from what the King was offering them. Consider also what it says about those that be among those that are riotous eaters of flesh. And see what it says about being with those that are drunkard and are a glutton. You can be a glutton with all kinds of foods. A glutton is someone that over eats, or drinks, or does, anything more than the normal amount needed. Read Proverbs 23:15-21.

Food is not what gives us length of days. Yet what we eat, drink, and do can shorten your days, but it cannot lengthen them. Let's read what gives us length of days.

What truly gives us length of days?

Read the following and write in the things that give you length of days.

Proverbs 3:1-8.

Exodus 20:12.

Deuteronomy 30:20; 25:15; 22:7; 32:46-47; 11:18-21; 5:16, 33; 6:2; 17:20.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There is a faint, light blue watermark in the upper left corner that reads "Copyright ©". The paper appears to be a standard notebook or worksheet.

John 6:63.

Open The Light

“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.” [Proverbs 9:10-11](#).

“The memory of the just is blessed: but the name of the wicked shall rot.” [Proverbs 10:7](#).

“The fear of the LORD prolongeth days: but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.” [Proverbs 10:27](#).

“That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD swear unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.” [Deuteronomy 30:20](#).

“My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments: For length of days, and long life, and peace, shall they add to thee.” [Proverbs 3:1-2](#).

“It shall be health to thy navel, and marrow to thy bones.” [Proverbs 3:8](#).

(her = [Wisdom, which is found in God’s word](#)) ... “Length of days is in her right hand; and in her left hand riches and honour.” [Proverbs 3:16](#).

“Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him.” [Romans 14:3](#).

Take time to study the following.

God is love. Read 1 John 4:8, 16, 17; 5:1-3; Jude 1:21. Knowing that God is love, when we read chapter 13 of 1 Corinthians, we learn that it is by knowing God who is love/Charity, that without Him, love/Charity, it profiteth us nothing. This is in a relationship with God, Love in action, as faith without works is dead, read James 2:14-26. And godliness is profitable

unto all things, see 1Timothy 4:8, then read verse 16 as it tells us how to save thyself and others. In God we have life, not only for this world, yes for the world to come, Heaven and the New Earth, for eternity. Acts 17:28 tells us, “For in him we live, and move, and have our being;” ... Read Romans 5:1-10.

Note down, how knowing God is Love/Charity, is what gives us length of days.

Can we really do anything else to prolong our life outside of the Word of God? Read the following, then answer the question. Job 6:11, Jeremiah 13:23; Matthew 6:24-34; Luke 12:22-37.

Study, Luke 10:8; 1Corinthians 10:24-33.

We are to do all to the glory of God, this is in His Word, living in truth. We are to eat what has been set before us, in what God has given us to eat from His Word. Yet, we are not to eat what God has said to be unclean, no not even if it is set before us, or given to us to eat. It is then, when we are given unclean flesh meat, we are to make a stand and witness the Word of God. A thus sayest the LORD God of heaven and earth. Yet, when we turn down

Open The Light

the clean meats (without a medical reason) we do a dishonor to the witness of God and His Word.

What other lessons do we learn in 1Corinthians 10:24-33?

Study, Matthew 10:1-15; Luke 9:1-6.

The twelve disciples did not need to worry about the laws of unclean foods because Israel, in whom they were sent out to preach, already kept the laws of Leviticus 11:1-47 and Numbers 11:16, 17, 24, 25.

And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. ... And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; [Colossians 3: 17, 23](#).

Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; With good will doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men: Knowing that whatsoever good thing any man doeth, the same shall he receive of the Lord, whether he be bond or free. [Ephesians 6:5-8](#).

And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: [Luke 10:8](#).

Will what we eat save us? No. Yet one thing we can be assured of, if we go against God's Word, we will be lost in the choices we freely made for ourselves, for we have known the truth of God's Word.

Should we continually share what we eat with others, or is there something wrong with this way of witnessing?

Do we witness God, or ourselves, when we witness our clean flesh meat diet, vegan or vegetarian diet?

Think about the following things. Do you think when we witness and share our diet with others, it is like, look at me, look at my work's? How can this truly witness God? Especially when the world, other faiths in God, non-God religions, religions that worship idols, people living all kinds of un-natural alternative lifestyles, are also into veganism and vegetarianism, and of flesh meats of all kinds. The Scriptures tell us, God is so far from them, for their choices are an abomination to Him. In the Strong's Concordance, the meaning of this word "abomination" is From H8262; *filth*, that is, (figuratively and specifically) an *idolatrous* object: - abominable (-tion). H8262 is shaw-kats'

A primitive root; to be filthy, that is, (intensively) to loathe, pollute: - abhor, make abominable, have in abomination, detest, X utterly. (References from the Strong's Concordance)

Search and read for verses using a Bible concordance for where in the Bible the word "abomination" is used in scripture. We will understand who, why, and what, God used this word for. This should help us to understand and

Open The Light

teach us to heed to God's Word, that we may know what He is telling us within His Word. For those who are unable to search note the following. Leviticus 7:18; 11:10-23, 41,42; 20:13; Deuteronomy 7:25,26; 17:1; 22:5; Proverbs 6:16-19; 11:1; 12:22; 15:8,9; 16:5; 28:29; Mark 16:15.

When we witness our diet, will it not just invite more people to focus on oneself more than God?

Is God truly the focus, or is it the food, or self-glory or our works? Knowing what God teaches in the scriptures; what are we doing when we witness our eating?

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away. [2 Timothy 3:1-5](#).

Think deeply, should we be living in the faith of the Word of God and relying on His blessings upon our lives? Our bodies are the temple of the Living God; therefore, it is important we eat in faith, not just regarding foods, but eating and dining on the Word of God. Look up Job 23:12-14, write verse 12 on the lines below with the answer to the question.

If we are truly eating to God's will, His will from His Word, would this also include eating healthy foods and discarding the unhealthy? Unhealthy foods include anything like the following. Highly sugary sweets, chocolate, fudges, cakes loaded in sugar, junk foods, highly fatty & processed take away food, highly processed foods loaded with ingredients that are not food at all. These ingredients are mostly chemical based, or they are highly processed foods within themselves. Highly processed foods are mixed with chemicals, that begs to question to what it really is. Is it food? With all this in mind, do we truly witness God "regarding not eating or eating clean permissible meat," when we load ourselves up with unhealthy junky foods?

What lessons can we learn from Isaiah 55:2, noting the following meanings. Bread means, Food: - eat, food, fruit, loaf, meat, victuals. And Fatness means: - abstractly fatness, that is (figuratively) abundance. From the Strong's Concordance.

Open The Light

The foods that are eaten from the time of sin, will they be the foods we will be eating in heaven? Certainly not. Are the foods from the Garden of Eden, and the foods in heaven, is what we should be eating now, only? No. Even though we eat the fruits of the trees now it is no way the same from its perfect form as it was in the Garden of Eden, nor as it is in Heaven. We must remember that even our Lord and Saviour did not have that diet. And We are to follow Him. This earth, where sin has been destroying it day by day from the time sin began. Now we are nearer the end, before Jesus comes, how can we ever think that the food given in the Garden of Eden will ever be nourishing enough for us now. From the time the example of the sacrifice was given, flesh meats have been eaten. Then God gives this same command in written form after the flood. Then again, the same commands in Leviticus chapter 11. These food laws have been followed by God's faithful people of this world and will be followed till Jesus comes. Just as the Sabbath has always been kept from the beginning of time, although it was never spoken about again after Genesis chapter 2, till Exodus; we know God's people kept it by faith.

Everybody needs vitamin B12: vegans and most vegetarians need to obtain this vitamin as well. Yet, those on a vegan diet, or vegetarian, cannot get the correct B12 vitamin in the strength needed from fruits and vegetables. Subsequently, they must result in taking a synthetic replacement of vitamins. This is not God's plan. He has given us laws on a fully nourishing diet that will supply all our needs for a healthy body. Yes, it is true we can get cancer, but this is true of regardless of being vegan, vegetarian, or even flesh eaters, for we all live in a sin-fallen world. When we overeat on any good thing, this can throw us out of balance from the nutrition needed. Even vegans who have never eaten flesh meats get cancer. We do not need to trust what science says about food, for science teaches many things that are not lined with scripture. We must put our trust in God, Our Trust in His Word, not man. If we but trust Him, it is thy faith that makes you whole in Christ Jesus.

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen. [Philippians 4:19, 20](#).

Now, just because one may eat flesh meats, do not think you are the better, as you will fall into the same category as 2 Timothy 3:1-5. We are to eat in faith. True faith will not boast, nor be proud, nor build oneself up to others, because one is eating in the faith of God's Word. When we boast, it is not coming from faith, it is works. When we do this, we may be Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: the power to walk humbly before our God. Read 2 Timothy 3:5, and Micah 6:8. When we become puffed up because we are obeying in faith of God's Word, this puts us in the same category where self is before God. We are to "do all to the glory of God," not to ourselves. Read 1 Corinthians 10:31,

Jesus ate the same diet as the children of Israel in the truth of God's Word. We follow Christ, that we may know how to refuse the evil, and choose the good, which Christ also did. Look up again the following verses regarding to the promised Saviour to come in Isaiah's day.

... Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey shall he eat, **that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good.** Isaiah 7:14-16. This is Spiritual and physical.

What was Jesus to eat, and why was He to eat it?

Look up and read Matthew 3:4; and Mark 1:6. What does the bible say John the Baptist ate, what was his meat? Meat here, means food, his main diet.

Locust means
ak-rece'

Apparently from the same as G206; a locust (as pointed, or as lighting on the top of vegetation): - locust.

Open The Light

Locusts are large insects that live mainly in hot countries. They fly in large groups and eat crops.

(References from the Strong's Concordance and Collins online Dictionary)

Here we see that a locust is something that lighting on the top of vegetation, meaning a locust, an insect that is permissible to eat according to the Word of God in Leviticus 11. No True follower of God who has studied the meaning of locust, will ever say that a locust is a carob pod, as some people who truly walk in their own understanding say, simply because they are vegan, and this truth is contradictory to what they believe. Sadly, it is painful to have to admit that some have stood in church and preached this lie. Here they truly become part of what the scriptures say in 1 Timothy 4:1-6, Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

Remember God is all knowing. Who are we to say, we know better than God?

O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. Romans 11:33-36.

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto

salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.** 2 Timothy 3:14-17.

To truly Glorify God, we must obey Him and believe Him at His Word. Let the Word of God Be your Guide.

Dear Heavenly Father, please lead us in Your Word, guide us to understand, to have faith in the truths You teach us in Your Word. We pray this in Jesus blessed Holy Name, Amen.

“Whether therefore ye ... **drink**, ... do all to the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31

Dear Heavenly Father, please help us to see the truth in this subject of drink. Guide us in thy way, oh my God, please fill us with Your Holy Spirit, whom Jesus, thy beloved Son, gave for our Comforter and Guide, we pray and ask in Jesus' name. Amen

Drink: covers any liquid substance that can be swallowed by man, as in Humans. This can be water, salt water, brackish water, milk, substitute milks, cold flavored milk drinks of all kinds, fruit juices, including grape juice, soft drinks, cordials, energy drinks, any kind of alcohol, medicines, hot drinks of all kinds, and all fermented drinks that have no alcohol like Kefir and Kombucha. Yes, there are other things I should include like, blood of human or an animal, urine, fuels, chemicals, and poisons of any kind. Hopefully most people would not think of drinking any of these. Sadly, some people have drunk things that most people would not, yet they may or may not have lived to tell the story.

We all already know the importance of drinking fresh water. Our bodies cannot survive well, nor survive long, without water. All living things, Man, animal, and plants need water. Not one living thing will survive without water. No, not one.

Open The Light

And he (Samson) was sore athirst, and called on the LORD, and said, Thou hast given this great deliverance into the hand of thy servant: and now shall I die for thirst, and fall into the hand of the uncircumcised? But God clave an hollow place that was in the jaw, and there came water thereout; and when he had drunk, his spirit came again, and he revived: ... Judges 15:18,19

Water has many spiritual lessons in scripture because water is life giving. Read one of the best examples of this in John 4:1-42. It also uses food as a spiritual lesson as well.

I do not want to go on about what we can and cannot drink in this study. As it is very clear “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” 1 Corinthians 10:31. Therefore we will look at something that has been taught by some as ok and some that teach, we should not.

Some people believe that it is written in the scriptures that we can drink wine that contains alcohol. Well, that will be left between them and the Lord. What I can do is give some scriptures that teach us about alcohol.

One thing we need to know is that the word alcohol is not in the scriptures. The words that some believe to be of alcohol are as follows.

Wine / new wine, Bad wine, and Strong drink.

Bad wine is grape juice that has, or is, fermented and contains alcohol.
Strong drink mean - intoxicant, that is intensely alcohol, liquor (known today as spirits, liquor, rum, brandy, liqueur)

Wine does not always mean that the liquid juice is fermented. Sometimes it means the fresh juice of the fruit.

Wine / new wine – (that is not fermented.)

Wine / new wine - grape juice, that is unfermented.

Good wine - fresh grape juice, like pure blood of the grape (Deuteronomy 32:14) unfermented.

(Some of the references from the Strong's Concordance)

Sometimes wine means fresh or grape juice, like pure blood of the grape. Other times it will mean the fermented kind that contains alcohol. How do we know then which is which? Well, sometimes, by reading the story it will tell us. Yet always we need to use precept upon precept as this will always help, especially for the times where it may not be so clear.

We will now look at what the Holy Scriptures say about drink that contains alcohol. Please pray for the Lord's guidance, that He will help with the true understanding of this subject.

Please read the following verses and write down what the Word of Wisdom says about drinking alcohol.

Proverbs 20:1.

Proverbs 31:1-9.

Open The Light

God gave instruction to the priests not to drink wine with alcohol. Read this in Leviticus 10:8-11.

Isaiah tells us about those that follow after strong drink and the way our minds are affected by it in the end. However, sin itself also changes our way of thinking. We will see this also in the following scripture readings.

Read Isaiah 5:11-25; 28:1 and then please write down the lessons in the readings.

Please read Micah chapter 2 which has only 13 verses. Then re-read verse 11. Is this permission to drink wine, or strong drink, or is it a warning?

Now we will look at some of the results of drinking alcohol.

Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contentions? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an

adder. Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again. [Proverbs 23:29-35](#).

New wine is grape juice freshly pressed and stored fresh into new bottles which preserves the juice. Read [Matthew 9:17](#); [Mark 2:22](#); [Luke 5:37-39](#).

Now we will look at some verses, by reading the story and using precept upon precept, which will give us an understanding of which wine it is talking about. Of fermented wine or the pure blood of the grape, ([Deuteronomy 32:14](#)) unfermented grape juice.

When we know what is written in the scriptures regarding fermented wines and strong drink; when we truly understand that Jesus would not go against His Fathers Word, for He came to fulfill the Word, we are able to, by faith, walk the path Jesus is calling us to walk. God does not change, note [Malachi 3:6](#). Therefore, we can use precept upon precept and come to the full truth. Read and write down which wine it is talking about for the following verses.

[Act 2:13](#)

[John 2:1-11](#)

Open The Light

Mark 15:23. Remember deception was in play here and know that myrrh = narcotic here.

(References from the Strong's Concordance)

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:** That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Timothy 3:14-17

My son, if thine heart be wise, my heart shall rejoice, even mine. Yea, my reins shall rejoice, when thy lips speak right things. Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long. For surely there is an end; and thine expectation shall not be cut off. Hear thou, my son, and be wise, and guide thine heart in the way. Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh: For the drunkard and the glutton shall come to poverty: and drowsiness shall clothe a man with rags. Proverbs 23:15-21.

Proverbs chapter 23 is a good example that covers food, drink, and doing. But there are many more within the Word of God. Please read this chapter.

Please read chapter 5 of Luke, then note the following lesson.

In this chapter, Jesus does some important things here.

- He calls three fishermen to be disciples, James, John, and Simon Peter.
- He cleans and heals a leper.

- He heals, by forgiving the sins of the paralytic man.
- He calls Levi Matthew to be His Disciple. (Matthew, note Matthew 9:9).
- Jesus goes to the feast of Levi and He ate and drank with publicans and sinners.
- In verses 31 and 32. Jesus said, "... They that are whole need not a physician; but they that are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Can you see any lessons here? Write it down.

God is always working to draw each one of us to Him. He calls, we choose to draw near Him, when we accept His calling, God will heal and lead us, as we continue in the scriptures, ever learning the deep treasures of God. Just knowing of God is not enough. Mankind is sick with sin, yet through Christ we are healed of that sin. The healing can happen straight away, but mostly it happens over time. Where we were once sick with sin, we are now made new. As we continue in the scriptures, spending time with God, through His Son, He heals us with His Spirit. The more we spend time with the Godhead bodily in the Scriptures the more we are healed.

- Jesus tells a parable. In verses 36 to 39. It reads "... No man putteth a piece of a new garment upon an old; if otherwise, then both the new maketh a rent, and the piece that was taken out of the new agreeth not with the old. And no man putteth new wine into old bottles; else the new wine will burst the bottles, and be spilled, and the bottles shall perish. But new wine must be put into new bottles; and both are preserved. No man also having drunk old wine straightway desireth new: for he saith, The old is better."

Open The Light

The understanding of the parable is quite clear, that the new and the old cannot be together in these situations. That includes the fresh juice of the vine, grape juice. The fresh juice cannot be put in the old bottles where fermented wine came from, as this will cause the new juice to ferment quickly causing the bottles to explode. The new does not agree with the old in these situations. Also, the man that drinks old wine does not straight away desire the new. The old spirit of man does not desire the new Spirit of God, unless he accepts the call of God and desires something better in life than what the old is giving.

This is the same with the garment Christ has for His Children. Christ's garment cannot be placed on us, the sinner or the self-made righteous one, who has no desire to be like Christ. Otherwise, we will desire our old ways, above the new that has come to us. Healing, forgiveness, and faith, after being called by Christ Jesus, must take place before the new garment of Christ can be placed onto us. Otherwise, the old will be more desired than the new.

This parable makes us realize that if anyone prefers old wine yet claims to have a relationship with the Godhead bodily, they are deceiving themselves. For the old wine destroys and cannot be mixed with the new. The oldness of the flesh desires the old ways. Yet when we desire the new, the old is taken out of the way, making a place for the new. Note Micah 7:19.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. **Romans 12:1, 2**

Please read, and study Romans 14:1-23. Make notes on the lines provided, of what is being taught. Listen carefully to the instructions, and why they are given. Here we will look at eat, drink, and do. In this reading, there is a need to use the precepts of the Word of God, as all scripture should be study by lining up the Precepts of God's Word. In these verses, the people here already know the scriptures. This is not speaking, or going against anything

God has already put in place within His Word: note verse 2, when it says, "all things" it is talking about all things in the truth of God's Word. Always remember God does not work against His own Word. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.** **2 Timothy 3:14-17.** Even verse 21 of Romans 14, is not saying we cannot eat flesh, it is clearly talking about do not eat it where thy brother stumbles, ... hence why verse 22 says, "Hast Thou faith? Have it to thyself before God" ... Note the warning in verse 23. Also note in verse 21 it says, "nor to drink wine", this is fermented wine according to the Strong's Concordance. Therefore, we need to remember that this is not going against God's Word. This is the same for 1 Timothy 5:23. The fermented wine in this verse is for medicine, as the word infirmities means disease, sickness. Therefore, this is not saying do not drink water and only drink fermented wine, for everyday use. This would be a complete violation of God's Word. It is for times when one may be sick, and fermented wine, for the issues of the stomach and the often infirmities are of benefit. Yes, this verse in 1 Timothy 5, people may use it for an excuse to drink fermented wine, using the excuse it is for the stomach's sake. However, God knows all things. Therefore, some may think they can pull the wool over the eyes of those around them, that know they are drinking fermented wine for the stomach's sake. Yet they can never do that with God, for God knows the heart and the true reason behind why they are truly drinking it.

Pray that the Holy Spirit will help you remember the things you have already learned, to help you understand what is being taught. Always remember that precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little and there a little, when we are studying the Word of God. Isaiah 28:10.

Now please read, and study Romans 14:1-23.

Open The Light

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

God's Word is food and drink for our spiritual needs. The Word of God is, as we have learned from the Word of God, that Jesus is also known as the Word. Note John Chapter one.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life. I am that bread of life. Your fathers did eat manna in the wilderness, and are dead. This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world. The Jews therefore strove among themselves, saying, How can this man give us his flesh to eat? Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no

life in you. Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever. [John 6:47-58](#)

“Whether therefore ye ...**do, do all to the glory of God.**” 1 Corinthians 10:31

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight! Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink: Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him! Therefore as the fire devoureth the stubble, and the flame consumeth the chaff, so their root shall be as rottenness, and their blossom shall go up as dust: because they have cast away the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcasses were torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still. [Isaiah 5:20-25.](#)

All these studies in the “Open The Light Studies” are about our relationship with God **as the scripture hath said**; so that means everything in these studies cover “do”. Obeying God and walking in His ways show your actions are from the heart. Therefore, everything you do is to God’s glory from the heart. Not for works sake, but because we love God, we obey and **do His will**. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. **Ephesians 2:8-10. Note James 2:17, 26**, Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead,

Open The Light

being alone. ... For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

See Proverbs 21:2-4,6-8,16,23; 22:22-29.

What we say to each other really matters.

If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 4:11.

The meaning of “the oracles of God” is an utterance (of God)
(References from the Strong’s Concordance)

That means whatever God has spoken we must speak. We are to be very careful as to what we say. This is not only for everyday life, but what we claim to be in the word of God. God does not need us to counsel Him in anything. Read Romans 11:33-36. What God has given in scripture Stands. The Word of God Stands on His Precepts, not ours. Therefore, what God has given in His Word teaches us Truth. Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good. Romans 7:12. We establish the law of God through faith. See Romans 3:31. Listen to the Word, “what doth the LORD thy God require of thee, but to fear the LORD thy God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him, and to serve the LORD thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, To keep the commandments of the LORD, and his statutes, which I command thee this day for thy good?” Deuteronomy 10:12-13. We are not to “be not conformed to this world: but” we are to be “transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.” Romans 12:1-2. But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully; 1 Timothy 1:8.

Please read Psalms 19:7-12; 119:38, 40, 172.

In the Garden of Eden, after eating what they were told not to eat, Adam and Eve’s actions changed.

And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons. And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. Genesis 3:7,8.

1 Peter 1:15-16 calls for us to be holy, as it is written. But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy. The call for us to be holy, because God is Holy, was first given in Leviticus chapter 11 at verse 44 and 45. This chapter is where God gave the laws of flesh foods in which we are to eat, and the flesh foods that are not to be eaten by us. Then it is written again in Leviticus chapter 19.

Conversation = behaviour (References from the Strong’s Concordance)

The word conversation in the King James Bible is the best word used for understanding behavior. Why? Everything we do speaks volume to those watching on. This includes our actions, the way we handle a matter, talk to others, or about others. The things we do and why we do them. Everything said and done by each living person speaks of what kind of person we are. Our life is a conversation spoken out in all manner, through behaviour, actions, and the things we say through speech, and how we say what we say. Therefore, it is so important to remember to be holy, for our Father which is in Heaven is holy. His Son our Saviour is Holy and The Holy Spirit is Holy in which Christ sent to comfort and guide us till He comes to take us Home.

Please read Leviticus chapter 19 now, God gives commands to His people in a way that helped them in their relationship with God, others, and with their own personal conduct. We too can apply these commands to our lives. Write down why it is so important to be Holy, Because God is Holy.

Open The Light

When we do things that are not according to the Word of God, we become drawn away from God because of our sins. Just like Adam and Eve in the Garden. Therefore, God calls us to be holy, so we can be close to Him in holiness by His leading and guidance through His Word.

Doing, is obeying God at His Word. Doing is not works; it is living in Faith in the Word of God. Study and read James 2:14-26.

Can you see that faith is dead if we do not do the things we have faith in. We are to have faith in action, of the truth in which we believe in.

Read and study Exodus 35:2; 16:4,5,23-30; 31:15-17, and write down how important it is by doing, we are obeying God at His Word.

Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God. Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently: Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you. [1 Peter 1:21-25](#).

For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us. For even when we were

with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. **But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.** [2 Thessalonians 3:7-13](#).

But now I have written unto you **not** to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. [1 Corinthians 5:11](#).

Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. [1 Thessalonians 5:22](#)

And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry. But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided? So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God. And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. [Luke 12:19-22](#).

If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more will he clothe you, O ye of little faith? And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind. For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things. But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you. Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. [Luke 12:28-32](#).

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your

Open The Light

reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. [Romans 12:1-2](#).

Reason behind our actions really matters to God. For He looks upon the heart, not your action. Just like those that led Jesus to the judgment hall, their hearts were all about themselves, not God. Read [John 18:28](#). We see their actions do not make sense as they are strictly wanting to keep the Passover, yet at the same time they are trying to kill the Son of God. Then led they Jesus from Caiaphas unto the hall of judgment: and it was early; and they themselves went not into the judgment hall, lest they should be defiled; but that they might eat the passover. [John 18:28](#)

Note. God calls us to be holy, even in the foods he has given us to eat, for he is holy, read [Leviticus 11:44, 45](#). In [1 Corinthians 10:31](#) we are to remember “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.” Therefore, regardless of what you eat, these things should never control our lives nor take over our lives. We are to obey God and do these things in faith without it taking over one’s life that it becomes a god to us without even knowing it. Nor should what we eat be our witness to others, for GOD should always be our witness, not the food we eat. Why? Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught? [Matthew 15:17](#). God witnessed with our Lord and Saviour, working with in our hearts, sinners will be converted to God. Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. [Psalms 51:10-13](#).

Remember, whether you are a flesh eater, or vegetarian, or even a vegan; there are more non-believers in this world that eat the same and it does not bring them closer to God because of it.

Jesus said in [Matthew 28:20](#), we are to be “Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway,

even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Notice in the verses from [Psalms 51:10-13](#) above, how it says, “thy ways” meaning God’s ways. And in the verse in [Matthew 28:20](#), it says “I have commanded you” which Jesus taught of the Word of God. NOT our ways, nor what we command. We do not want to take over the Word of God as though we know better than what God teaches in His word. Note what [Isaiah 40:13,14](#) says, “Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counsellor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding?” Do you think God had no vision or insight of what was to be in the last days? Of course not. He knows all things. That’s why He tells us who He is and said “I change not” [Malachi 3:6](#). [Psalms 119:103-105, 128, 130, 133-134 140-144, 159-163](#) explains the Word of God this way, “How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth! Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way. Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path. ... Therefore I esteem **all thy precepts concerning all things to be right**; and I hate every false way. ... The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple. ... Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me. Deliver me from the oppression of man: so will I keep thy precepts. ... Thy word is very pure: therefore thy servant loveth it. I am small and despised: yet do not I forget thy precepts. Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth. Trouble and anguish have taken hold on me: yet thy commandments are my delights. The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting: give me understanding, and I shall live. ... Consider how I love thy precepts: quicken me, O LORD, according to thy lovingkindness. **Thy word is true from the beginning**: and every one of thy righteous judgments **endureth for ever**. Princes have persecuted me without a cause: but my heart standeth in awe of thy word. I rejoice at thy word, as one that findeth great spoil. I hate and abhor lying: but thy law do I love.” I recommend that you read [Psalms 119](#), you will not be disappointed.

We are to dine on the Word of God, to eat the Word - the flesh of Christ and drink His blood and live. As Jesus said, “Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.

Open The Light

For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him.” [John 6:54-56](#). When we teach the laws of God from His Word, using precept upon precept, souls can be won for the Kingdom. We do not want to do as the scribes and Pharisees, they would make people twofold more the child of hell than themselves. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves. [Matthew 23:15](#). Therefore, Jesus said. “Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me. This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever. [John 6:54-58](#).

When we are involved in bringing people into the light of Christ, to dine on Him, that they shall live, this is the Will of God. When we read the scriptures, we should notice that even the physical food God gave could not save the people. No physical food we eat can save. For there is nothing in and of ourselves, especially what we eat of the physical, can save our life for eternity. However, we can eat against the truth of God’s Word, this will keep us from gaining everlasting life. Those who walked in the light they had, even though they ate unclean food before their death, God looks upon their heart and knows who His sheep are. If they had received the full light before their death they would have walked in the truth. they would have given up their old ways and would have walked in the way of God’s Word.

There are people of the world who are vegan, vegetarian and flesh eaters under the requirements of God by tradition, and outside of God by their own choice. Yet they are not changed nor drawn to God, because they do not eat of His Word. When we, as followers of God’s Word in truth, eat any one of the three diets God has received us. Note [Romans 14:3](#). However, if we eat not the flesh, and drink not the blood of Christ we do not have life. Eating the flesh of Christ is the only way to have life. For by grace are ye

saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. [Ephesians 2:8-10](#). Yes, works of faith is very important, yet that is faith in the truth of God’s Word. Not in our understanding nor in the understanding of someone else. Note [Proverbs 3:1-8](#). Search the Word of God and learn of Him, then walk in the light He teaches thee.

Over my lifetime I have heard people say that eating healthily gives you a longer, better, life. However, I have seen people of all dietary requirements fall ill and get diseases of all kinds. And I’ve seen people with no care at all regarding what they eat, drink, and do, yet they die at an old age way above the given three score and ten, 70 years. There are many promises in the Scriptures that tell us what gives us health and long life. This is not at all to dismiss taking good care of oneself, for our bodies are the temple of God where the Holy Spirit resides in us through Christ Jesus. We are going to look at some of the verses in the scriptures that teach us what gives us the length of days. With God’s leading, by His Holy Spirit, in Jesus’ name, we will follow His ways for health and length of days. Now, before we do that, I want to say that when we walk with God no matter what happens to us whether we live long or short on this earth, we know we have life eternal with God after we sleep, rest in Christ Jesus, in the grave.

All the Scriptures given are for every person that is alive. Just as they were for all those that lived and died before us. They are also for those to come now and after us.

I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: That thou mayest love **the LORD thy God**, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them. [Deuteronomy 30:19-20](#).

Open The Light

Look up the following and write down what, or who, or how, we have life, health and length of days.

Proverbs 3:5-8.

Proverbs 9:10,11.

Proverbs 10:27.

Proverbs 4:4.

Proverbs 12:18; 13:3.

My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways. [James 1:2-8](#). Therefore, Faith, which is the Gift of God, we stand, day by day and forever. [Ephesians 2:8](#) tells us that, “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:”. [It is of faith that cometh healings, strength, which will keep us fit and well, in the truth of God’s Word](#). [Jesus said](#), “for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.” [Matthew 17:20](#).

Read about Caleb in the book of Joshua 14:6-14. Note verses 8 to 11, What is it telling us about Caleb, his relationship with God, and his ability because of that.

Open The Light

Look up and read chapters 13 and 14 of the book of Numbers. Note that it is the lack of faith is why we end up fearful and compare it to the faith of Caleb which strengthened him. The Children of Israel died because of their lack of faith; that even though they had witnessed the power of God in their life, they still had no faith in His promises to them.

Which would you rather have in your heart, Faith or fear?

Now read the following about David and Saul. Note the difference again when we have faith in God and when we lose faith in God.

For Saul, Read

1 Samuel 9:1,2; 10:20-27; 13:8-14; 15:1-11, 21-28; 16:14-23; 17:11; 19:1-11; 20:30-34 28:5-7; 31:1-6 Now note 1 Samuel 8:1-22; 10:19; 12:12

For David, Read

1 Samuel 16:6-13; 17:12-54; 25:2-44; 26:1-25

What a difference it makes; when we do not trust God, our hearts fail us and we fall away. Yet, when we trust God and have Faith in Him, although we make mistakes our heart repents, returns, and stays with God.

Look up the following readings.

Matthew 9:22; 15:28

Mark 5:34; 10:52

Luke 7: 50; 8:48; 17:19, 18:42

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his

workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. [Ephesians 2:8-10](#)

[Romans 1:8](#) tells us, “First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.” Your faith should be what the world is talking about, not your food diet. Oh, only if we would hear more about the faith of God’s people. Faith like Caleb and David, faith that will grow faith and strengthen the faith in others. So much so that the world is speaking about our faith.

If we would only remember, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” [Philippians 4:13](#).

When we have faith in God, we then in turn, have conviction, and we follow our conscience in that faith, which the Holy Spirit guides through Christ Jesus.

Please read the following. The message is about conviction and conscience of the soul, of the individual. This was sent to me via Messenger. It is covering a particular subject regarding a pandemic that was set out across the world and the vaccination for it. It is not for or against; it is asking questions for the conscience. However, we can apply this principal to whatever is in our life and heart in the convictions God has given us. **Pray for the Holy Spirit to convict your heart in the truth of God’s Word.** I have added some things to this reading by using the blue colour which is the same method throughout these studies so you will know which parts I have added or noted in. The Author is unknown.

Remember, “1 Corinthians 10:31 is quite clear, that “Whether therefore ye eat, or *drink*, or whatsoever ye **do**,”

“do all to the glory of God.”

FROM AN AUSTRALIAN PASTOR

Dear Church Family,

Open The Light

I'm writing this with a heavy heart and with consternation because I'm hearing stories that unsettle me. The majority of Adventists are on the government-mandates bandwagon. I'm sad about that. But I'm grieved to hear about the shaking of the remnant. Some who've looked at the evidence and decided they would not get the shot ([vaccination](#)) are now wavering – not because they've been convinced by facts that have changed their minds about the safety of the shot, but because they're feeling pressure from friends, family, and the church.

Satan is dividing families, friends, and church members. Many of us were prepared for separation over spiritual beliefs and doctrines. We were not prepared to face painful separation over something that on the surface appears to be a health issue. If all that stands in the way of continued companionship with our loved ones is a shot, why not just take it? This seems to be the reasoning of many self-sacrificing Christians.

Note: I've written what follows to the generic "you." Please don't take offense. I do not have anyone in particular in mind but felt it to be the tense most conducive to my purpose.

If you're convinced the shot is unsafe, or the people pushing it are untrustworthy, but feel you must reconsider your position due to other considerations, the issue has become spiritual.

When you feel tempted to sin against your conscience, you also stand at risk of becoming presumptuous. Have you heard anyone say, "I don't believe the shot is safe, but I'll have to take it if I want to see my kids," or "I'll have to take the shot because I have family out of country," or "I'll have to take it or I'll lose my job," or "I'll have to take it to go to school," or anything along those lines? Paul wrote, "And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin" (Romans 14:23). He was talking about converted pagans who risked hurting their conscience by eating food consecrated to idols. The principle applies to the vaccine. ([It also applies to anything we are convicted in.](#))

Choice to exercise the God-given right of freedom of choice to refuse vaccination is starting to cost people around the world dearly. (See article If

you believe it's harmful, and there's heaps of evidence that it is, then you sin against your conscience if you take the shot. It's as simple as that. In his famous words to the council when he was being tried for heresy, Martin Luther said, "To go against conscience is neither right nor safe." It's not right because it grieves the Holy Spirit when we willingly sin and it's not safe because it dulls our spiritual perception by searing the conscience which God has given us to help us discern right from wrong.

What considerations are worth gambling our salvation over? Jesus said, He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it. (Matthew 10:37-39)

The enemy is turning up the heat and some people are reasoning that since this is a health issue, it has nothing to do with salvation. But to veer from truth opens opportunities for Satan to set further snares of deception. As the storm approaches, a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, abandon their position, and join the ranks of the opposition. By uniting with the world and partaking of its spirit, they have come to view matters in nearly the same light; and when the test is brought, they are prepared to choose the easy, popular side. (GC 608)

It's not only your own conscience that you must protect. If you take the shot when you believe it's unsafe, how will it affect others who witness your compromise? How will it affect those who are trying to decide what to do? For if any man see thee which hast knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple (defile the temple of the Holy Ghost, "which temple ye are" by putting something harmful into it), shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols (sin against their conscience, also)? (Adaptation of 1 Corinthians 8:10)

We are living in very trying times. The links below.) ([Sadly, the article and links were not shared when it was forwarded via Messenger.](#))

Open The Light

Consider this as basic training for the fiercer fight that lies ahead. If thou hast run with the footmen, and they have wearied thee, then how canst thou contend with horses? and if in the land of peace, wherein thou trustedst, they wearied thee, then how wilt thou do in the swelling of Jordan? (Jeremiah 12:5) (Jeremiah 12:6, For even thy brethren, and the house of thy father, even they have dealt treacherously with thee; yea, they have called a multitude after thee: believe them not, though they speak fair words unto thee.) Consider the tactics being used to coerce people into getting the shot. If the shot is safe and effective against a horribly deadly, rampant disease, why not lay all that evidence on the table and let people choose the most reasonable course for themselves? Why offer ice cream cones, free tickets to games, ballots in million-dollar lotteries, free drinks, etc. to entice people to get the shot? Why use scare tactics and threats to coerce people when bribery doesn't work? Coercion and deception are Satan's tools. Reason and truth are God's. Which side does the pro-vax position stand on? Doesn't that tell you something about the values of those who are condoning this kind of coercion? Doesn't it make you suspicious of their motives?

People have been sending me videos and letters published by the church, in which SDA experts are encouraging church members to take the shot. Some of the "encouragement" comes in the form of heaping the unvaccinated with guilt for not demonstrating love to their neighbour by refusing to take the shot. Some of it comes from manipulating Bible verses and EGW statements to support vaccination. In other words, the church is using the same methods the world is using to pressure people into being vaccinated. (Man should never be manipulating Bible verses. Gods Word was not written to do evil, nor was it for man to be using the Word of God out of context to force people to do the will of another. This is done outside of God's Love, yet it is from the hands of Satan himself.)

WHY ISN'T THE CHURCH SPEAKING OUT AGAINST THE COERCIVE MEASURES BEING USED TO MANIPULATE PEOPLE? WHY ISN'T THE CHURCH SPEAKING OUT AGAINST THE ENEMY'S TACTICS AND OUR INCREASING LOSS OF LIBERTIES? WHY ISN'T THE CHURCH WARNING ITS MEMBERS

AND THE WORLD AGAINST THE TOTALITARIAN TAKE-OVER BY THE BEAST?

Before I leave the topic of the methods being used to garner your consent to receive the shot, I'd like to make this additional point. If you, having been convinced the shot is not of God, buckle to the pressure and take it to protect certain temporal advantages it would give you, can you be sure those advantages will be assured to you? Can you make deals with the devil? If he promises you can keep your job, travel, enjoy dinner at restaurants, access to entertainment, or whatever, can you trust him? Will he favour you because you self-sacrificingly complied with his demands? Can you trust a hostage-taker?

God is ultimately in control of this whole situation. The trial has not come to us in the way we expected it to come. Neither did the Saviour come in the way the Jews expected Him to come. Let's be careful we do not make a similar mistake in passing off this test as something that has no spiritual consequences. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39) There is only one thing that I'm aware of that can separate us from Christ's love – our own free choice. Sadly, when we sin against conscience, we can become deceived and end up making choices against Christ rather than for Him. Many of us are now feeling lonely for those whose companionship we've come to rely on because they agreed with us but have now compromised because of pressure and a coerced will. Perhaps we alone in our families have not gotten the shot. But when we do what's right, Christ stands with us. When we choose what's right, we stand with a cloud of witnesses also. Elijah felt lonely but God assured him there were 7000 others who hadn't bowed to Baal. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego must have felt lonely. But Jesus stood by them. Job sat alone on his ash heap, clinging to God when his friends deserted him and even his wife turned against God. The aged Daniel was alone cast into the lions' den – where were the others? We have many examples of faithfulness to encourage us to stand firm on truth. May God

Open The Light

give us strength to stand alone if need be. Read again the story of Gideon. After the fearful had left and God had sent the disqualified ones away, a handful of faithful ones were given the privilege of witnessing God's overthrow of the enemy. Gideon's little band were faithful and willing, and God honoured them for that.

The divisive crisis that we're in is a trial that has caught us unprepared. Like Peter who brandished a sword against the enemy, many of us felt prepared to fight a head-on attack by the enemy. We expected an obvious spiritual battle. Let's not follow Peter in buckling under peer pressure when a servant girl sneeringly questioned him. Like Peter, we need conversion. We must learn to rely on Christ's strength, not our own. Christ's words to Peter are for us. "And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren" (Luke 22:31-32).

It is Satan's purpose to "dash to pieces" God's people, as the word "scatter" denotes in Daniel 12:7 – "And when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished." But with God on our side, we are more than conquerors, more than a match for him. Satan is constantly at work, but few have any idea of his activity and subtlety. The people of God must be prepared to withstand the wily foe. It is this resistance that Satan dreads. He knows better than we do the limit of his power and how easily he can be overcome if we resist and face him. Through divine strength the weakest saint is more than a match for him and all his angels.... (5T 293.4)

Let's not judge those who differ from us on this issue. But guard your conscience. "Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind" (Romans 14:5). Arm yourself with knowledge. Be fully convinced, not coerced. Love one another. Pray without ceasing. The days are evil. The time is short.

May God bless you with courage and peace.
(Name withheld) [by the sender.](#)

There's so many things Satan is using beside the jab to work on God's children. The enemy is using many things to try and break us, using deceitful tactics, whether it be through health, food, drink, or the things we do. Yes, even using the Word of God, to break our conscience down. I know I have failed, and the enemy knows. Yet, God says, "For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief." Proverbs 24:16. Then when we are converted, we will strengthen the brethren, as Jesus said to Peter in Luke 22:32. This is so timely; God is calling us all to make a stand in every aspect of our life. God is ever helping and bringing truth and knowledge to His Children to help us know if we are going against conscience in whatever area that is. If we do not heed to His voice, it will break us down and we will not be able to stand in the latter times. To God be the Glory for great things He hath done and is doing for His people, to save us for His Kingdom. The Holy Spirit convicts, brings truth, and knowledge. So, my plea is that we **grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.** Ephesians 4:30

[The Temple of the living God is where His Holy Spirit dwells.](#) Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. [1 Corinthians 3:16, 17.](#) [This covers all that you do. Whether it be thought, words, eat, or drink, decide, actions, things you choose to do or watch, wherever you go, whatever your hands do; Remember you are the Lords.](#)

[The Word says,](#) "This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. But ye have not so learned Christ; If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: That ye put off concerning [the former conversation](#) (meaning your words, and including behavior, this is just as much inwardly as outwardly) the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put

Open The Light

on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. **And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.** Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." [Ephesians 4:17-32](#).

[Read 1 Peter 1:1-25](#).

But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. **All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:** That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

[2 Timothy 3:14-17](#).

Protect "the temple of the God." [As God said](#), "Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God." [Amen](#)

[1 Corinthians 3:16, 17; and Leviticus 20:7](#).

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. [Romans 12:1-2](#).

(References from the Strong's Concordance, Collins or Google online Dictionary)

[Study Ezekial 20:9; 36:22, 32; Deuteronomy 7:7, 8; 9:5-7; Psalms 106:8; 115:1, 2; Jeremiah 14:7; Romans 11:33-36](#).

Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth. [Psalms 78:1](#).

Know therefore this day, and consider it in thine heart, that the LORD he is God in heaven above, and upon the earth beneath: there is none else. Thou shalt keep therefore his statutes, and his commandments, which I command thee this day, that it may go well with thee, and with thy children after thee, and that thou mayest prolong thy days upon the earth, which the LORD thy God giveth thee, for ever. [Deuteronomy 4:39, 40](#).

O that there were such an heart in them, that they would fear me, and keep all my commandments always, that it might be well with them, and with their children for ever! [Deuteronomy 5:29](#).

Dear Heavenly Father, I pray that all who are thine, will walk in all the truth of thy Word, oh God. For it is of the truth, in Christ Jesus, filled with thy Holy Spirit through Him, do we live. I pray for all of us, that do not eat, or do eat flesh meats, that we always remember that thou, oh God, hath received him. For it is for thy Truth this study has been written and guided by thee, for thy truth, for thy holy name's sake, for we have profaned the among the heathen, whither we went. Thy Word is Sure and True, thy Word is as Christ our Saviour, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Help us to remember that we should never claim things that your Word does not say, only to fit in with the way we think. Yet help us to use your Word of truth to be our guide, and that we change from our ways to thy ways dear LORD. I pray and ask these things in the Name of Jesus Christ our Saviour, in whom thou oh God is well pleased. Amen.

He that believeth on me, **as the scripture hath said**, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. [John 7:38](#).