The Advocate of Truth



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"I sought the LORD, and he heard me, and delivered me from all my fears."

Psalms 34:4 (KJV)

A Psalm of Moses

We think of David as being the author of many of the Psalms in the Bible. Actually, there are many different authors of the recorded Psalms in the book of Psalms, including Moses.

Psalms chapter 90 was credited to have been written by Moses and is believed to be one of the earliest written songs recorded in the book of Psalms. It is a song about the eternity of GOD and the brevity of man and consists of 17 verses. It is interesting to review these words of Moses from almost 3,500 years ago.

The song begins in Psalms 90: 1,2 and tells how GOD has always been with man. "LORD, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art GOD."

GOD then tells about mans punishment for disobedience in verse 3 "Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men." This reminds us what was written about man in Genesis 3:19 "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."

In Psalms 90: 4-7 Moses compares GOD's longevity with man's brevity. "For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up. In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth. For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled."

Psalms 90: 8,9 reminds us that we can hide nothing from GOD. "Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance. For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told."

Moses continues in verses 10 thru 12 by asking GOD to teach us patience "The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labour and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath. So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

In verse 13 Moses asks for the LORD's forgiveness "Return, O LORD, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants."

He then asks for joy and gladness in verses 14 and 15 "O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil."

In verse 16 he asks for the LORD's help "Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children."

Moses concludes his song in verse 17 where he thanks the LORD for his presence. "And let the beauty of the LORD our GOD be upon us: and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it."

Reading this Psalm of Moses it reminded me of some of the fruits of the Holy Spirit described in the new testament. He talks of the love of GOD, joy, peace, and longsuffering. We read of these fruits of the Spirit in Gal 5:22 "But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

Moses ends the Psalm speaking of the beauty of the LORDbeing upon us. Moses was a person who looked at the big picture. Moses is telling us to not get discouraged but to trust in the Lord. We should remember his words when we go thrudifficult times and listen to his Psalm as it speaks to us across the years.

CHURCH AROUND THE WORLD Apostolic Council Meeting held in June at Dallas, Texas

Members of the Twelve embrace Brother Walter Goff as hands were laid upon him as he was selected as the newest Member of the Twelve. From left to right - Brother Pascacia Tavizon (Mexico), Brother Errol Noel (Grenada), Brother Kent Cornwall (Canada), Brother Walter Goff (Panama), Brother Tim Buechner (San Antonio, Texas), Brother Warren Randall (Florida) and Brother Ricky Herrera (Dallas, Texas).



"The fear of the LORD teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor."

~ Proverbs 15:33 ~

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom as we learn from the Psalmist. This shows us that once we humble ourselves unto the Almighty we are beginning to be wise unto the things of Him, knowing that only by Him, and through Him, can we be able to live in a world of sin, shame, and abominations as the Apostle Paul emphasized unto the Philippian brethren that, "I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:12-13).

Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ wants us to be humble as a little child so that we can be where He has gone to prepare a place for us. A little child will be punished by his or her parents, but the child will hold onto the same parents for comfort. So when we are chastened by Almighty God, and we feel the agony and pain of chastisement, we still have to kneel humbly before Him to seek forgiveness and thank Him for the chastisement because the chastisement will enable us to be stronger and stronger in Him. "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" (Hebrews 12:11).

by Bibi Shimoon Allicock Guyana, South America

Chastisements are grievous, but if we humbly take them patiently, they will afterward do us much good. The Apostle James admonished us to be humble: "Humble vourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up" (James 4:10). And no matter the situation, our God is able and capable to carry us through. He has great big hands which can do great big things. There was once an individual who dreamed he was walking with the Lord, and as his life flashed back he saw footprints in the sand. But when he was in dire need, as he looked upon the sand, he saw only one set of footprints. He then questioned the Lord: where wert Thou when I needed you the most? the song writer declared. The Lord replied: my precious, precious child, I love you, and I would never, never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering when you saw only one set of footprints in the sand, it was then that I was carrying you. The individual at last understood that the Lord stands on His words and always will be there once we are doing what is required of us according to His will. In the book of Hebrews, the apostle admonished: "Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation...Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee...But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Hebrews 13:7, 5; 11:6).

Sometimes we might be in a situation where two individuals had a quarrel and mistook you for that individual, and hit you very hard with an object, and they might still be in their ignorance and arrogance although you tried to tell them it was not you, and tried to pacify the situation. Nevertheless, when the situation has calmed down, you have to be the one humbling yourself in the fear of the Lord and go to the individual to seek his forgiveness. "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift" (Matthew 5:23-24). This act of humility will carry the day because if we don't humble ourselves before the Lord, He definitely will not be there for us to grant us our pardoning grace, so we have to be careful as children of God and do as the Lord has commanded us. "Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing" (Matthew 5:25-26).

The late Brother Lloyd told us something that happened to him when he was living a worldly life. He said that he was in a public rest room, and an individual came up to him and cuffed him on his mouth and three teeth fell out. He said he darted after the man, but couldn't get him, but in his pain and agony all he was thinking was to get back at the man. But after he became a member of the Church of God, he understood about humbleness, forgiveness, and the fear of the Lord. So, instead of him wanting to get back at the man, he went and sought his forgiveness and also forgave him.

We have to understand that since God is a rewarder of anyone who diligently seeks Him, He will definitely be there for us when needs be. When we humble ourselves and forgive men their trespasses earnestly, Almighty God will earnestly pardon and reward us. David could have

killed Saul after he came after David with three thousand soldiers but couldn't because Almighty God humbled him. God gave Saul into David's hand but God's intention was not for David to kill Saul, seeing Saul was God's anointed. David displayed humbleness by obeying God in not stretching forth his hand to kill Saul, but to just cut off a part of his skirt, thus showing forth the all powerfulness of Almighty God. "Then Saul took three thousand chosen men out of all Israel, and went to seek David and his men upon the rocks of the wild goats. And he came to the sheepcotes by the way, where was a cave; and Saul went in to cover his feet: and David and his men remained in the sides of the cave. And the men of David said unto him, Behold the day of which the LORD said unto thee, Behold, I will deliver thine enemy into thine hand, that thou mayest do to him as it shall seem good unto thee. Then David arose, and cut off the skirt of Saul's robe privily. And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt. And he said unto his men. The LORD forbid that I should do this thing unto my master, the LORD'S anointed, to stretch forth mine hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD. So David stayed his servants with these words, and suffered them not to rise against Saul. But Saul rose up out of the cave, and went on his way. David also arose afterward, and went out of the cave, and cried after Saul, saying, My lord the king. And when Saul looked behind him, David stooped with his face to the earth, and bowed himself. And David said to Saul, Wherefore hearest thou men's words, saying, Behold, David seeketh thy hurt?...Moreover, my father, see, yea, see the skirt of thy robe in my hand: for in that I cut off the skirt of thy robe, and killed thee not, know thou and see that there is neither evil nor transgression in mine hand, and I have not sinned against thee; yet thou huntest my soul to take it...After whom is the king of Israel come out? after whom dost thou pursue? after a dead dog, after a flea. The LORD therefore be judge, and judge between me and thee, and see, and plead my cause, and deliver me out of thine hand" (I Samuel 24:2-9,11,14-15).

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom as we learn from the Psalmist showing us that once we humble ourselves before Almighy God, and do what is required of us, such as repenting of our sins and being baptized and continuing to live therein, we are being wise, knowing that only by Him, and through Him, can we be able to live in this dark and evil world of sin, shame, and abomination. The Apostle Paul emphasized to the Philippians: "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."

The apostle also emphasized in whatsoever state is our circumstances we are to be humble and contented, fearing God. He concluded: "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things...I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me" (Philippians 4:4-8,12-13).

Having the fear of the LORD which is the beginning of wisdom and humility will help us to achieve so much in the Lord because the Lord will always exalt those who humble themselves before Him. In the book of Esther we learn that instead of humbling himself before the Lord, Haman chose to exalt himself, and wanted Mordecai to humble himself and bow before him instead of God. But Mordecai was a true worshiper of God, so he did that which was right before God and sent a message to Queen Esther to look into the situation, which she did, and asked her maidens and Mordecai to gather the Jews that were present in Shushan to fast. They fasted three days without eating or drinking because no one could go to the king without an appointment. Nevertheless, after the fasting God humbled the king so that when Queen Esther went to him, her favor was granted, Mordecai was exalted, and Haman was put to death for offending a child of God.

The Scriptures declare that when someone offends a child of God it is better for them to hang a millstone about the offender's neck and that he be drowned in the depths of the sea. This is what happened to Haman, only instead of being drowned, he was hanged upon a gallows which he had made for Mordecai. Also, as he had wished that he should be arrayed with the king's garment and the royal crown be put on him, and that he be placed on a horseback and honored through the street, it was done unto Mordecai instead and he had to be the one honoring Mordecai. "Then the king said to Haman, Make haste, and take the apparel and the horse, as thou hast said, and do even so to Mordecai the Jew, that sitteth at the king's gate: let nothing fail of all that thou hast spoken. Then took Haman the apparel and the horse, and arrayed Mordecai, and brought him on horseback through the street of the city, and proclaimed before him, Thus shall it be done unto the man whom the king delighteth to honour. And Mordecai came again to the king's gate. But Haman hasted to his house mourning, and having his head covered." All his boastings and exaltation came to an end. "And Harbonah, one of the chamberlains, said before the king, Behold also, the gallows fifty cubits high, which Haman had made for Mordecai, who had spoken good for the king, standeth in the house of Haman. Then the king said, Hang him thereon. So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then was the king's wrath pacified" (Esther 6:10-12; 7:9-10).



David was a good example of humbleness, because when the Prophet Nathan came to him concerning his adulterous act with Bathsheba, he acknowledged his sin and went humbly before God in fasting and prayer. The child that resulted from the adultery died, but David was pardoned for the sin. But as God decided what punishment was to be granted for David's sin, as we study the Scriptures, we see this punisment that was meted out for such a situation. "Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun. For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun. And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die" (II Samuel 12:11-14).

We see what David did, bringing great occasion to the enemies of the Lord, because even today men want to practice adulterous and fornicating living, seeing David did such. Even though David humbled himself and was pardoned, people today think they also can exalt themselves, having extramarital affairs, and then go to God for pardoning grace, thinking God will take it lightly. But He is the same God yesterday, and today, and will be forever; and since He never changes, a penalty will be meted out to them as well. "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame" (Hebrews 6:4-6).

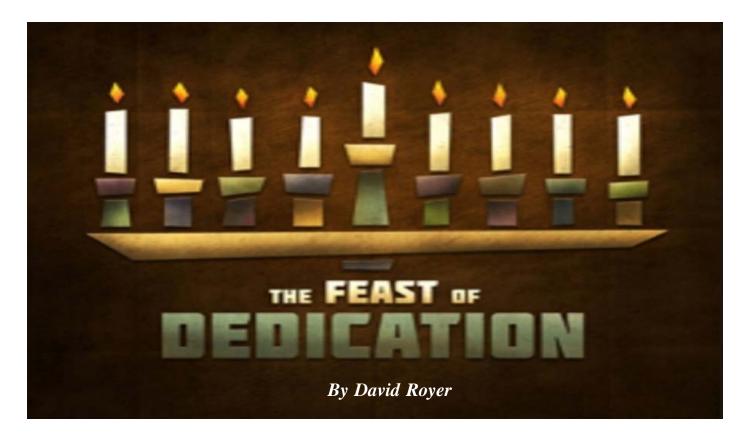
Although we have to humble ourselves as a little child, not having hatred, grudges, or being malicious, etc., we still have to put away childish things, and understand as an adult, and live soberly and righteously, doing what is right so that we can enter into the kingdom of God. When admonishing the Corinthians, the Apostle Paul wrote: "When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things" (I Corinthians 13:11). He also admonished the Roman brethren to be humble as he wrote: "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith...Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not...Be of the same mind one toward another. Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate...Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good" (Romans 12:3,14,16, first part, 19-21). Amen.



A previous Minister's Training Convention at Headquarters in Salem, West Virginia.

pictured from left to right -Andrew Cantu, Texas Scott Mills, Ohio Nathaniel Cruz, Texas David DeLong, West Virginia Tomas Olivares, California Gary Mills, Ohio Ben DeLong, West Virginia

If you are interested in participating in the next convection, contact your local Pastor.



Background:

We know from the Bible and the Jewish Talmud that King Solomon built the first Temple for the Children of Israel in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah. (Now known as The Temple Mount.) "And, behold, I purpose to build an house unto the name of the LORD my God, as the LORD spake unto David my father, saying, Thy son, whom I will set upon thy throne in thy room, he shall build an house unto my name" (I Kings 5:5). "Construction was completed 957 B.C." (Source: www.britannica.com/topic/Temple-of-Jerusalem)

"The Temple suffered at the hands of Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylonia, who removed the Temple treasures in 604 B.C. and 597 B.C. and totally destroyed the building in 587/586. This destruction and the deportations of Jews to Babylonia were seen as fulfillments of prophecy and, therefore, strengthened Judaic religious beliefs and awakened the hope for re-establishing the independent Jewish state." (Source: same as above)

Approximately forty-eight years later, "Cyrus II, of Persia, conquered Babylon in 538 B.C. and issued an order allowing exiled Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild

the Temple. Work was completed in 515 B.C. There is no known detailed plan of the Second Temple, which was constructed as a modest version of the original building. We know it retained a Solomon's Porch (added by author) and was surrounded by two courtyards with chambers, gates, and a public square." (Source: same as above)

The following history of this Second Temple and the origin of **"THE FEAST OF DEDICATION"** was sourced from an article in Newsweek by Chistina Maza on 12/12/2017, "*What Is Hanukkah and When Does It Start*?":

"Israel was ruled during the second century B.C. by a Syrian-Greek people called the Seleucids. The Seleucids practiced a form of Zoroastrianism, and they wanted the Jews to adopt their religion and culture.

Around 168 B.C. a Seleucid army descended on Jerusalem and began slaughtering Jews. They also erected a statue in the Second Jewish Temple to the Greek God Zeus and began performing animal sacrifices there.

But a small group of Jews, led by Judah Maccabee, eventually defeated the Seleucid army and drove the

Greeks from the land. Historians say Judah and his army used guerilla warfare to defeat the enemy over several years.

Ultimately, the Jews regained control of the Second Temple and, to commemorate, lit a candelabrum with seven branches called a menorah. Initially, they believed they had only a day's supply of ritually purified oil, but according to legend, the oil miraculously lasted for eight days.

According to the Talmud, Judah Maccabee and the other Jews taking part in the re-dedication of the Second Temple believed that they witnessed a miracle when the menorah continued to burn for eight days.

In response, religious leaders decided to celebrate an eight-day festival of lights each year in December, also known as **THE FEAST OF DEDICATION.** The festival is meant to commemorate the re-dedication of the Second Temple, which was ultimately destroyed by Roman invaders in 70 A.D., hundreds of years after the battle with the Seleucids."

With this historical background, we now fast forward to Jesus's time and an event written in the Gospel of John, Chapter 10, beginning with the 22nd verse: "And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch. Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly. Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:" (John 10:22-27).

Notice that this Feast of Dedication is not part of Israel's original Levitical feast days, so there was no reason for worship. However, Jesus used this celebration occasion to mingle with his fellow countrymen at the Second Temple. We can take this opportunity to re-dedicate ourselves to God and His ways. Think on these things my brothers and sisters.

The Law Of Clean And Unclean

By David DeLong

Many people bring objections to the law of the clean and unclean. In this article we will look at these objections to see how the Bible actually addresses them.

Objection 1. Jesus cleansed all animals for food. This argument is taken from Matthew 15:11, which reads: "Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man: but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man." We know that the crux of the argument that Jesus was making was given in verses 1-2 and 19-20. They read: "Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread...For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man." It was about unwashen hands that Jesus was referring to. However, there is another text which shows that Jesus could not have been referring to eating unclean meats, and it is found in Galatians 4:4. This verse reads: "But when the fulness of the time was come. God sent forth his Son. made of a woman, made under the law,". Jesus was made under the law and therefore He was not allowed by God to change that law. This proves that He was not changing the law of the clean and unclean to allow people to eat unclean meats.

Objection 2. God showed Peter that He had cleansed all animals to eat. We know the story as it is related in Acts 10. While Peter was waiting for a meal to be prepared he fell into a trance. Verses 11-15 relate what happened next. "And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat. But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean. (This also shows that Jesus had not taught Peter that he could eat unclean meats). And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common." In Jewish law and tradition, if a Jew came into contact with a Gentile person, then the Jew was considered unclean (common). In the same way, if a cow (clean animal) was in the same pasture with a pig (unclean animal) the cow was

considered unclean as well. This was known as being "common." Notice God's exact words concerning these situations: "And the voice spake unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common" (verse 15). He did not say He was cleansing the common or unclean, only the common. With the animals in the sheet from heaven, God was only cleansing the association of the clean animals with the unclean ones. He was not cleansing the unclean animals' flesh for consumption. But of course the final cleansing was that God had accepted the Gentile peoples who came to trust in Him and not only the Jewish people.

Objection 3. The book of Romans, chapter 14, allows us to eat all meats. Verses 1-3 reads: "Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations. For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs. 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." The issue of Paul's day was not whether one could eat unclean meats, but rather, could one eat clean meats that had been sacrificed to idols (see I Corinthians 8 and 10). A strong believer thought he could eat such meats, but a weak brother believed he shouldn't. Romans 14:14 is a verse that is widely misunderstood. This verse reads: "I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean." The word for unclean in this verse should have been translated "common". The situation is the same as we looked at from Objection 3. Paul is saying that there is nothing common of itself. The association of a pig with a cow in the same pasture could not make the cow unclean, nor could clean meats which had been offered to an idol make the meats unclean.

Objection 4. I Timothy 4:1-5 declares that, "For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused..." Let us quote the full passage. "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." There are two ways of looking at these verses. The first way is that the meats we can eat are "sanctified by the word of God and prayer." Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 gives us the list of animals that we can and can't eat. And we should pray over the food. The second way of looking at these verses is the same as in Objection 4. Praying over sanctified meats will bless the meats if they have been offered to an idol.

There really are no biblical alternatives to the law of the clean and unclean. From Genesis to Revelation, only clean meats are acceptable to God for mankind's eating. Abel had flocks of sheep, not herds of pigs (Genesis 4:2-4); Abraham had a calf dressed for his guests, not pork ribs (Genesis 18:7); Isaac had Esau hunt him some venison, not a wild pig (Genesis 27:1-4); Noah had both clean and unclean animals, designated by God, brought into the ark with him and his family (Genesis 7:2). When it came time for the passover, God told the Israelites to keep up a lamb from the 10th day of the first month to the 14th, then kill the lamb in the beginning of the 14th day. Only clean animals could be sacrificed to the Lord. Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 give the animals that are to be eaten and those which are to be refused. In the parable of the prodigal son, it was a disgrace for the son to feed pigs, and his father killed only a fatted calf for him on his return home. When Jesus comes again those eating unclean meats could be destroyed by the Lord (Isaiah 66:15-17). As our study has indicated, Jesus did not cleanse unclean meats. God did not instruct Peter to eat unclean animals. And Paul did not write to the Romans, nor to Timothy, to say that unclean meats could be eaten. Even the Apostle John, in Revelation 18:1-2, indicates that there are still unclean birds. "And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird."

Many people twist the true message of the Scriptures to suit their own wants and desires. Yes, it does in many instances, require a detailed study of God's Word to find the truth. But, for those who are truly looking, the truth can certainly be found. God bless you, dear reader, to be faithful to the Lord and His truth is my prayer!

LESSON I

THE LAW OF THE CLEAN AND UNCLEAN

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 14:2-20. Golden Text: Leviticus 20:26.

"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."

1. Who made the law of the clean and unclean? Leviticus 11:45-47.

2. When Israel kept the clean and unclean, were they separated from other people? Leviticus 20:25-27.

3. What do we find about the clean and unclean in Deuteronomy 14:3-20?

4. Do we provoke God to anger if we know about the clean and unclean but do not follow it? Isaiah 65:1-16.

5. What did the Lord say through the Apostle Paul about the clean and unclean? II Corinthians 6:17-18,

NOTE: An idol is unclean unto God. So are the animals that God said not to eat. "Touching," in reference to the unclean animal, means, "not to eat it."

6. Did Paul write to Timothy and say it is alright to eat the unclean in I Timothy 4:1-6?

7. People who eat the unclean are an abomination to God. Can they have eternal life if they eat unclean meats? Revelation 21:8.

NOTE: If we eat the unclean animal, we defile our bodies. The body is the temple of God and His Holy Spirit. If we defile it, we cannot enter the New Jerusalem.

8. What will happen to these people who follow false teachings and eat unclean meats when Jesus comes again? Isaiah 66:17-18.

LESSON II

PAYING TITHE

Scripture Reading: Genesis 14:17-24. Golden Text: Malachi 3:8.

"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings."

1. Who did the "priest of the most high God" bless, and what did he give? Genesis 14:18-20.

What is the king of Salem also called? Hebrews 7:1 2.

3. Who is higher than the priest Melchisedec? Hebrews 6:20.

4. How does someone rob God? Malachi 3:8-9.

5. What will be poured out upon those who pay their tithe? Malachi 3:10-12.

6. How are God's ministers to be paid? I Corinthians 9:13-14.

NOTE: We should look after the needs of our ministers. A minister in distress cannot be fruitful.

7. What are we required to do in addition to paying tithe? Matthew 23:23.

8. What part of our increase is to be used for the tithe? Numbers 18:21-26.

LESSON III

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Scripture Reading: I Corinthians 11:23-29. Golden Text: I Corinthians 5:7 (last part).

"For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us."

The Children's Page

1. When was Israel to observe the Passover, and what was the reason for the institution of it? Exodus 12:2, 17-18, 27.

2. What month did the children of Israel come out of Egypt? Exodus 13:4.

3. For how long was this memorial to be kept? Exodus 12:14.

4. Who is our Passover? I Corinthians 5:7.

5. Who did Jesus send to prepare the Passover, and what did He tell them? Luke 22:8-12.

6. Did this all happen as Jesus said? Luke 22:13.

7. What did Jesus do to the disciples that was done as an example for us today? John 13:12-17.

8. What is the symbol of Jesus's body? I Corinthians 11:23.

9. What does I Corinthians 11:26 mean to you?

NOTE: Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper so that we can remember Him. Once we are baptized and have received the Holy Spirit, we also should wash one another's feet and partake of the emblems of Christ. We do this once a year, at the time appointed, as Jesus did.

LESSON IV

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DIE?

Scripture Reading: Job 14:1-22. Golden Text: Job 14:12.

"So man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep."

1. What happens when we die? Psalm 146:3-4.

2. What does Isaiah say about the people of God who

die? Isaiah 26:19.

3. When a person dies, does he go to heaven? Job 14:12-14.

4. Did David ascend into the heavens? Acts 2:34.

5. When God's people die, what does the Bible say has happened to them? I Thessalonians 4:13-14.

6. Do the dead praise the Lord? Psalm 115:17.

7. In death, is there any remembrance? Psalm 6:5.

8. What will happen at the last trump? I Corinthians 15:51-56.

9. Do any of God's people have the promise yet? Hebrews 11:13-16, 39-40.

THAT'S WHY I LOVE HIM SO

Let's thank God for the little hills, For creeks and rivers, too.

For trees to give us pleasant shade, For skies of brightest blue.

Let's thank Him for the pretty flowers, For animals and bees;

For fishes in the sparkling brook, and birds up in the trees.

God loves the pretty things He's made, He loves me, too, I know.

He gives me everything I need -That's why I love Him so.

Answers to First Things In The Bible -1. Genesis, 2. In the beginning, 3. Adam, 4. Eve, 5. Cain, Abel, 6. Light, 7. Jabal, 8. fig leaves, 9. Nimrod, 10. Abel, 11. Cain, 12, Jabal, 13. Tubalcain, 14. Joseph, 15. Abraham, 16. Raven.

THE ADVOCATE OF TRUTH _____



"Mother," Terry called, "I can't find my new puzzle. Have you seen it? I can't remember what I did with it."

"No," Mother answered, "I don't remember seeing it at all."

The puzzle was one that Uncle Jim had given Terry for his birthday, and Terry liked to put it together. It made a beautiful, big picture of a ship when it was finished. Terry looked and looked, but he could not find his puzzle.

"Are you sure it isn't in your room?" Mother asked.

"I'm sure," said Terry. "But it was there yesterday. At least I'm quite sure it was. I wonder if Jimmy knows where it is." He went into little brother Jimmy's room. "Have you seen my puzzle, Jimmy?"

Jimmy was sitting on the floor playing with a wooden train. "Puzzle?" he asked.

"You know," said Terry, "the box with all the little pieces in it that makes a big boat when I put them together."

"Boat," said Jimmy. "Jimmy make boat." He went to his closet and opened the door. "Jimmy make boat" he said again.

Terry went to look. Parts of the puzzle were scattered here and there over the floor of the closet.

"Oh, no!" gasped Terry. "It's all over everywhere. I'll never find all of the pieces. Never." He looked down at the floor. The puzzle box was broken at the corners. "You naughty boy," Terry yelled. "Just see what you did to my puzzle. What did you do to the box? Did you sit on it?" Jimmy began to cry." Jimmy makes boat. Pretty boat for Terry."

Mother heard all the noise and came into the room. Terry showed her the puzzle and the broken box.

"What were you doing with Terry's new puzzle?" she asked Jimmy.

"Jimmy make boat," Jimmy repeated. "Make boat for Terry."

"Were you trying to put it together for me?" Terry asked. Jimmy nodded. "Terry's boat. Jimmy make."

"Oh, Mother," said Terry. "Jimmy was trying to help me, and I scolded him and made him cry." He put his arm around Jimmy. "Help brother pick up the puzzle," he said. Terry picked up the broken box. Mother said, "We can mend it with mending tape. I'll do that while you and Jimmy pick up the pieces."

Soon the box was mended. Terry and Jimmy picked up the puzzle. Terry put the puzzle together to see if any puzzle pieces were missing. At last, he had found all of the pieces, Jimmy clapped his hands when he saw the picture of the beautiful ship. "Pretty boat," he said. "Pretty, pretty boat." "Do you like the ship?" Terry asked. "We want you to see the picture. I'll put it together for you, but you mustn't get brother's things without asking."

"Jimmy be good," he promised. "Be good for Terry." And he was.

The Children's Page

FIRST THINGS

1. What is the first book in the Bible?

2. What are the first three words in the Bible?

3. Who was the first man in the Bible?

4. Who was the first woman? (Genesis 3:20)

5. What was the first murder in the Bible? (Genesis 4*)

6. What was the first thing God ever made? (Genesis 1:3)

7. Who was the first man to live in a tent? (Genesis 4:20)

8. Of what were the first clothes mentioned in the Bible made? (Genesis 3:7)

9. Who was the first hunter of the Bible? (Genesis 10:9)

10. Who was the first shepherd of the Bible? (Genesis 4:2)

11. Who was the first farmer or "tiller of the ground"? (Genesis 3:23)

12. Who was the first to play musical instruments? (Genesis 4:21)

13. Who was the first to work with brass and iron? (Genesis 4:22)

14. Who was the first man in the Bible to shave? (Genesis 41:14)

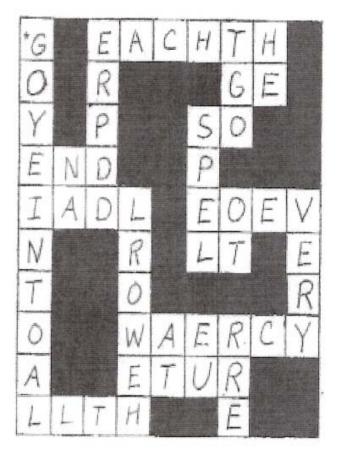
15. Who was the first man to buy a piece of land? (Genesis 23:20)

16. What is the first bird mentioned in the Bible? (Genesis 8:7)

Draw a line around the things you think a Child of God should do.

Tell lies.
Keep away from evil things.
Help mother.
Pick the neighbor's flowers.
Be friendly.
Play games on Sabbath morning instead of going to church.
Go to Sabbath School.
Help clean the church.
Pray.
Swear.
Try to be like Jesus.
Read the Bible every day.

Jesus ascended into heaven in a cloud. He gave some instructions before leaving. Start at the * and find themessage. If you need help look up Mark 16:15.



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