



"THUS SAITH THE LORD..."

FREE GENERAL NEWSLETTER

Encouraging people to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)

VOLUME 07 ISSUE 02

FEBRUARY 2004

PAGE 1

The Ten Commandments—Commandment #5 (Exodus 34:28)



"Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee." (Exodus 20:12)

Introduction

Many understand this commandment as pertaining only to children doing what the parents tell them to do. This has created resentment of parents, authority, and a cause of many social problems. Children may disobey their parents, as we shall see, and still be able to keep the fifth commandment. Further, we will see that the commandment goes beyond the scope of the child and parent relationship.

How much are children to obey?

"Children, obey [your] parents in all things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lord" (Colossians 3:20). It looks like it is all the time, even if the parents are wrong. This verse appears to teach that parents have unlimited power over their children. But is this so?

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right" (Ephesians 6:1). So children are to obey all things as long as the parents are "in the Lord".

Now if parents are "in the Lord", they would never knowingly tell their children to do something wrong.

Who Is "In the Lord"?

John 15:7 says, "If ye abide in me," ("in the Lord") "and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you." It is only those that allow Jesus'

words to abide in them or to be their way of life.

This is made more plain in John 14:23, which says, "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

So if a child has a "Thus Saith the Lord" against an action the parents demand to be fulfilled or for an action that is to be fulfilled, then the child is able to disobey the parent, respectively, and still obey the fifth commandment.

An obvious example includes a parent forbidding the reading of God's Word. A child who persists in such is disobeying their parents but is honoring them by becoming a better person.

Another example is lying. A parent may tell a child how to answer another, so as to appear in a better position than the reality, but a child not doing it would be one who disobeyed their parents and yet honored their parents with being honest.

Also part of the parent-child relationship

It is the responsibility of a child to look after their parents as they become older. This is part of respecting our elders. Letting them fend for themselves, or anxiously waiting for the inheritance is a neglect of the commandment. Now this does not mean that an unconverted parent is welcomed to stay the rest of their life in a Christian home with young children. The duty is first to those children, but providing basic necessities, including spending time, is still required.

Beyond the parent and child relationship

WE ARE NOT A CHURCH BUT ENCOURAGE ALL TO ATTEND CHURCH NOT AS A PEW WARMER BUT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

The "Thus Saith the Lord..." General Newsletter is published monthly by "Thus Saith the Lord..." Ministries at PO Box 10607, Harrisburg, PA 17105.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Strengthen faith in God's Word.

MISSION FOCUS:

To strengthen the faith in God's Word by reaching out to the communities through our newsletter (since 1998) as well as through our evangelistic seminars (since 1994). It is to help keep those that are discouraged about things they see inside the church from leaving, to ground those that are new or have not heard of these things before, and to strengthen those that are already grounded. And to reach out to those that are searching for a meaningful relationship with God through His Son Jesus Christ.

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Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

WEB SITES

We host the following websites:

www.tstl.net
www.tstlstore.com
www.tstlseminars.com

ADDED LAST MONTH TO:

WWW.TSTLSTORE.COM:

- Updated the hours
- Created VIRTUAL CARS web pages and links

FUTURE WWW.TSTL.NET:

- Completed the transfer and indexing of the children's counting pages from the current to the new web pages.

Changes At TSTL's Secondhand Goods & Educational Seminars

Store hours are now:

- ▶ Sundays 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM
- ▶ Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM
- ▶ Tuesdays 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- ▶ Fridays 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Educational Seminars now include 8:00 AM and 3:00 PM starts for computer and other classes.

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for a catalog.**

Although Peter said, "We ought to obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29), the Bible never teaches us to disrespect authority. For Peter also wrote, "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well" (1 Peter 2:13-14). Further, Paul wrote, "Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work, To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, [but] gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men" (Titus 3:1-2).

So when God and man do not conflict, the government is to be obeyed and even honored with our respect.

Outdated relationship?

We do not seem to have slaves as prevalent as there once were, but nonetheless, if we find ourselves the recipient of this ungodly practice, the words to follow are "Servants, [be] subject to [your] masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the forward" (1 Peter 2:18). This applies today to our employers.

Spouses

A touchy area is that of the spousal relationship. Many distortions occur regarding submission, which appears to be primarily in the light of wives doing whatever and whenever the husband demands. Far

from it!

Although the Bible clearly says, "Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord" (Ephesians 5:22), the husband is to "love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Ephesians 5:25). Husbands are to earn the submission of wives by always looking out for her best, not requesting anything that God would not ask, and even to go as far as to die for her.

On top of that, both spouses are to be "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God" (Ephesians 5:21). So the notion that it is only one direction is unbiblical.

That means a wife is to disobey when it is against God's way. Likewise, a man is to disobey a wife for the same reason. This even goes as far as obeying God rather than "that's what my parents did!"

Summary

People obey who they honor. The fifth commandment covers the direct parent and child relationship but also covers the spousal, employer, authorities, and more. But the bottom line is that we are to obey God first, and if it is the opposite of the demand placed upon us, disobedience to that demand is the only course of action. Jesus never compromised, nor "did it this one time".

TRAIN UP A CHILD IN THE WAY HE SHOULD GO: AND WHEN HE IS OLD, HE WILL NOT DEPART FROM IT (Prov. 22:6)



Character Examples From the Bible – Dorcas

Acts 9:36-42 "Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did. And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid [her] in an upper chamber. And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring [him] that he would not delay to

come to them. Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them. But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning [him] to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up. And he gave her [his] hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive. And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord."

Dorcas, or Tabitha as her real name was,

performed many wonderful works. She was very giving of her time, means, and thoughts. She was considerate and always thinking of how best to help others. She devoted much of her time to the needs of others, so much so that she neglected her own health. What she had, she gave to others. She was a true example of Christian generosity. Although God does not want our lives to end prematurely through neglect,

many use staying in good health as an excuse for not straining for others. It used to be that one asked what the church needed and then asked what the family needed. Now people ask, "What do I want" and what is appeasing for the church. This includes time, money, and even thoughts. How much time do you spend thinking about God, His church, the mission of seeing souls won for Him?

THAT THOU MAYEST PROSPER AND BE IN HEALTH, EVEN AS THY SOUL PROSPERETH (3 John 1:2)



HEALTH SNIPPET:

Topic: Obedience

Exodus 15:26 "And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the

LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I [am] the LORD that healeth thee."

Keeping God's commandments and statutes will keep us in health or bring us from sickness into health. For instance, keeping the commandment that says, "Thou shalt not commit adultery" (Exodus 20:14) will decrease greatly the likelihood of getting sexual diseases. Not coveting relieves much stress. Even many of the statutes listed in the other books of Moses are not for ceremonial reasons alone but

HEALTHY ALTERNATIVE RECIPE:

Barley Gravy (one of our favorites)

- 3 c. water
- 1/2 c. barley flour, dextrinized*
- 2 T. olive oil
- 1 t. salt

Mix all ingredients in a blender and cook in a saucepan, stirring until thickened, then cover and simmer for about 10 minutes.

*Dextrinize flour by placing it on a dry cookie sheet and baking it 10 to 15 minutes (until lightly brown) at 300 degrees. This brings out the flavor and keeps the flour from lumping.

are real health issues. We are wise to keep God's statutes and commandments for health reasons.

NEWS FOR CHILDREN OF LIGHT (1 Thessalonians 5:5)



December 16, 2003 and January 15, 2004.

[Preview future news snippets concerning the post September 11 actions at www.tstl.net/suddendestruction.]

-COMMENTS ON ITEMS IN THE NEWS SURROUNDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 -

▶▶ NONE

The following are "sudden destruction" news items that appeared between

IN THE CHILDREN'S NEWSLETTER

PAGE 1 — New Testament Lesson in children's language.

PAGE 2 — Old Testament Lesson in children's language.

PAGE 3 — Character Lesson — Application of character attributes from both Bible lessons.

PAGE 4 — Nature Lesson — Learning from God's nature.

PAGE 5 — Health Lesson — Taking care of the body.

PAGE 6 — Coloring Page — Alternating between either the Old or New Testament

PAGE 7 — Puzzle and Definitions — Matching from both Bible lessons and answers to questions.

PAGE 8 — Learning Activities — Object lessons in our work and in our play.

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BIBLE



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How To Study the Bible

Sunday, March 7,
3:00 P.M.

No matter what denomination you are, there is a wrong way and a right way to study the Bible. The Bible teaches us how to study it. Examples of studies will be demonstrated. And the importance of Bible study will be addressed.

Can I Trust The Bible?

Sunday, March 14,
6:00 P.M.

With all the different versions available and some versions contradicting another version, can we really trust the Bible? We are over 3000 years from the first word being penned for the Bible. Has time and copying altered the Bible? These and other related questions will be addressed.

What Does the Bible Says About Food?

Sunday, March 14,
3:00 P.M.

The Bible teaches that God is not only concerned about right and wrongs but also with our health. Is the New Testament different from the

(Continued on page 6)

BIBLE STUDY



Woman Losing A Coin (Luke 15:8)

1. What is a woman symbolic of? **Jeremiah 6:2**
2. What is Zion? **Isaiah 51:16**
3. What is the light that is lit? **Psalms 119:105**
4. What does a coin represent? **Luke 15:9-10**
5. What needs swept? **1 John 1:7**

ANSWERS TO LAST MONTH'S STUDY:

Defiled? (Mark 7:18)

1. What defiles? **Matthew 15:11** "Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the

mouth, this defileth a man."

2. What from the outside of a person can defile? **Mark 7:15** "There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man."
3. Who is Jesus addressing? **Matthew 15:1** "Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying." Jesus was addressing Jews.
4. What practice did Jesus cast down? **Matthew 15:20** "These are [the things] which defile a man: but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man." Ceremonial washing of hands was cast down, but not the healthy practice of washing hands.
5. How did Peter understand the teaching regarding eating unclean meats? **Acts 10:14** "But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean."
6. Was Jesus telling Peter he may now eat unclean meats? **Acts 10:28** "And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean." No.

WHO HATH BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM IS THE ARM OF THE LORD REVEALED? (Isaiah 53:1)



- COMMENTS ON ITEMS IN THE NEWS -

The following are news items that appeared between December 16, 2003 and January 15, 2004. [Preview future news snippets at www.tstl.net/news/]

►►WorldNetDaily, January 15, 2004 - Baptist leader shot dead while praying

Probe launched amid report of possible anti-proselytism campaign. A Baptist leader was shot dead while praying in a chapel in the Central Asian Muslim nation of Tajikistan.

COMMENT: Luke 6:22 "Blessed are you when men hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil,

because of the Son of Man."

►►Reuters, January 12, 2004 - Research Raises Cancer Concerns Over Deodorants

Chemicals found in underarm deodorants have been detected in the tumors of breast cancer sufferers, British scientists said Monday.

COMMENT: 3 John 1:2 "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." God is concerned about your health. And here is one health issue that

TSTL'S EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

700 CLAY STREET, CARLISLE, PA 17013 ♦ (717) 249-8785

MARCH SCHEDULE

Monday 1-Mar

8:00 Home Budgeting
3:00 Microsoft Windows—Introduction
6:00 Microsoft PowerPoint Introduction
6:00 Herbal Self-care

Tuesday 2-Mar

8:00 Microsoft Access Introduction
3:00 Introduction To ASP

Wednesday 3-Mar

8:00 Microsoft Windows - System Tools
3:00 Microsoft Word Introduction
6:00 Introduction To Computers

Thursday 4-Mar

8:00 Microsoft PowerPoint Techniques
3:00 Microsoft Excel Lookup Functions
6:00 Digital Camera and the Web

Friday 5-Mar

8:00 Lose Weight and Continue Eating
Your Favorite Foods
10:00 Estate Planning
11:00 Family Law

Sunday 7-Mar

2:00 Estate Planning
3:00 How To Study the Bible
3:00 Family Law
6:00 The Gift of Sleep

Monday 8-Mar

8:00 ASP Coding With Access Database
3:00 Microsoft Access Queries
6:00 Microsoft Outlook Introduction
6:00 Homeopathy & Homeopathic 1st Aid

Tuesday 9-Mar

8:00 Excel Logical & Inform. Functions
3:00 Stress Reduction

Wednesday 10-Mar

8:00 Web Development Introduction

10:00 Estate Planning
11:00 Family Law
3:00 Microsoft Access Forms
6:00 Virtual Homes
6:00 Self-massage For Aches & Pains

Thursday 11-Mar

8:00 Basic Computer Typing
3:00 Microsoft Windows Explorer
6:00 I Can See!
6:00 Intro to Home and Personal Security

Friday 12-Mar

8:00 Microsoft Excel Financial Functions

Sunday 14-Mar

3:00 What the Bible Says About Food.
6:00 Can I Trust the Bible?

Monday 15-Mar

8:00 Microsoft Excel Introduction
10:00 Estate Planning
11:00 Family Law
3:00 Web Development White Space,
Special Characters, And More
6:00 Internet Safety
6:00 Herbal Self-care

Tuesday 16-Mar

8:00 Web Development Forms
3:00 Microsoft Excel Page Setup

Wednesday 17-Mar

8:00 A Healthy You
3:00 ASP w/ SQL Server Database
6:00 Microsoft Excel Budget

Thursday 18-Mar

8:00 A Healthy You (Part 2)
3:00 Microsoft Publisher Introduction
6:00 Jesus Revealed In the Feast Days

Friday 19-Mar

8:00 Web Development Links

Sunday 21-Mar

2:00 Estate Planning

3:00 Microsoft Publisher Mail Merge
3:00 Family Law
6:00 Bible Says About the Last Days...

Monday 22-Mar

8:00 Microsoft Excel Charts
3:00 Microsoft Word Art
6:00 Introduction To Computers
6:00 Homeopathy & Homeopathic 1st Aid

Tuesday 23-Mar

8:00 Microsoft Windows - Introduction
3:00 Microsoft Excel Edit Menu

Wednesday 24-Mar

8:00 Microsoft Outlook Introduction
3:00 Microsoft PowerPoint Introduction
6:00 Microsoft Word Introduction
6:00 Estate Planning
7:00 Family Law

Thursday 25-Mar

8:00 Microsoft Excel Cell Formatting
10:00 Estate Planning
11:00 Family Law
3:00 Lose Weight & Eat Regular Foods
6:00 Microsoft Excel Loan Amortization

Friday 26-Mar

8:00 ASP Coding - Page Counters

Sunday 28-Mar

3:00 Who Is the Great Red Dragon?
6:00 Holidays And Their Origins

Monday 29-Mar

8:00 Web Development Introduction
12:00 Estate Planning
1:00 Family Law
3:00 Excel Date & Time Functions
6:00 Hyperactivity - Natural Remedy
6:00 Self-massage For Aches & Pains

Tuesday 30-Mar

8:00 ASP Coding - Functions
3:00 Web Development Text Formatting

Wednesday 31-Mar

8:00 Introduction To ASP
3:00 Microsoft Access Reports
6:00 EBay

Thursday 1-Apr

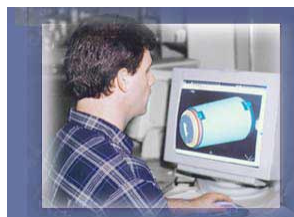
8:00 Excel Introduction To Databases
3:00 Virtual Cars
6:00 Internet Introduction
6:00 Self-massage For Aches & Pains

Friday 2-Apr

8:00 Microsoft Windows - System Tools
10:00 Estate Planning
11:00 Family Law

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Bible Classes...*(Continued from page 4)*

Old on this subject? Is Satan disabling God's army without them knowing it? These and many more questions will be answered.

Jesus Revealed In the Feast Days

Thursday, March 18,
6:00 P.M.

Leviticus 23 reveals seven specific feasts. Did you know that they were a shadow or forecast of Jesus' ministry? You may ask how that is possible. Enroll and find out.

What the Bible Says About the Last Days...

Sunday, March 21,
6:00 P.M.

Beyond the increase of earthquakes, of which your great grandparents probably heard about, the Bible is quite specific regarding signs of the last days both inside and outside of the church.

Who Is the Great Red Dragon?

Sunday, March 28,
3:00 P.M.

Revelation 12 reveals a great red dragon. Is it literal? Is it symbolic? What is the purpose of the great red dragon? What is the objective?

Holidays And Their Origins

Sunday, March 28,
6:00 P.M.

Is Christmas really a Christian Holiday? What does the Easter Bunny have to do with celebrating the resurrection of Christ? Is Valentines day just secular? Was St. Patrick Catholic? These and other questions will be answered as we investigate the origins and transformation of holidays over time.

was presented in the public and was considered ridiculous. Interesting how godly messages are considered ridiculous and how a major news outlet is considered factual. These are the same people that do not believe in a literal creation. Basically we were born to sweat. It removes toxins from the body. But people like to stay dry, even extra dry. What an anti-perspirant does is plug up the pores and logically those chemicals are even quickly absorbed into the body. And here is scientific evidence that points to the fact that it was not ridiculous. If you need deodorant, buy deodorant only and not anti-perspirant. But better yet, greatly reduce processed food. Adam and Eve did not have deodorant. It has been found that processed foods greatly increase perspiration.

►► Fox News, January 8, 2004 - Lottery Loser Admits She Told 'Mega' Lie

A woman admitted through tears Thursday that she lied about losing the winning ticket for a \$162 million lottery prize, saying: "I wanted to win so badly for my kids and my family."

COMMENT: Exodus 20:16 *"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."* Many condemn this person who wanted to supposedly use the money to even fund the policemen that were recently laid off. That may sound like a good reason to do anything to get the money. But before we go condemning this act, first, how many lies were told to children last month about somebody that does not even exist? A lie is a lie. Once you make confession to God about it and then with His help determine not to do it again next year, then pray for this woman to make true confession.

►► Sun-Sentinel, December 30, 2003 - S. Florida teen girls discovering 'bisexual chic' trend

It's not an unusual scene, according to South Florida high school students, who say the newest trend for teen girls isn't wearing the latest designer jeans or driving a cool car, but declaring themselves to be bisexual. "It's a countrywide thing," she says.

COMMENT: As the story unfolds, many are faking the bisexual part for attention but 1 Thessalonians 5:22 says, *"Abstain from all appearance of evil."*

►► ABC News, December 24, 2003 - U.S.**Probes How Cow Contracted Disease**

Federal officials raced on Wednesday to find out where a Washington state cow, apparently infected with mad cow disease, was born and may have been infected. But because the brain-wasting disease is usually transmitted through contaminated feed and has an incubation period four to five years, it is "important to focus on the feed where she was born" in 1999, USDA chief veterinarian Ron DeHaven said. The animal in question was one of 20 slaughtered Dec. 9 at Vern's Moses Lake Meat Co. in Moses Lake, Wash., and meat from those carcasses was shipped to other processing plants on Dec. 11, Kenneth Peterson of the Food Safety and Inspection Service said. Federal food safety inspectors have been sent to four locations, not immediately identified, which received some of the 10,410 pounds of meat from the 20 carcasses slaughtered Dec. 9 in Moses Lake.

Nature News Service, December 22, 2003 - Blood transfusion linked to mad cow disease death

A patient who died from the human form of mad cow disease may have caught the illness from a blood transfusion. Policies governing blood donations may require a rethink as a result.

UPI, December 24, 2003 - USDA refused to release mad cow records

The United States Department of Agriculture insisted the U.S. beef supply is safe Tuesday after announcing the first documented case of mad cow disease in the United States, but for six months the agency repeatedly refused to release its tests for mad cow to United Press International. The USDA claims to have tested approximately 20,000 cows for the disease in 2002 and 2003, but has been unable to provide any documentation in support of this to UPI, which first requested the information in July. In addition, former USDA veterinarians tell UPI they have long suspected the disease was in U.S. herds and there are probably additional infected animals.

COMMENT: Genesis 1:29 *"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." God's diet is once again the best choice.

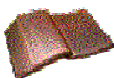
►► **National Post, December 23, 2003 - Church 'terminated' in same-sex battle**

An Anglican church defying its bishop by refusing to support same-sex unions has been "terminated" only days before Christmas. The decision by Bishop Michael Ingham to close Holy Cross in Abbotsford, B.C., is the latest action in a dispute that is

threatening to split the Anglican church worldwide.

COMMENT: Ephesians 6:14 *"Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth".* Leviticus 20:13 *"If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood [shall be] upon them."*

ANSWERS FOUND IN THE SCRIPTURE OF TRUTH *(Daniel 10:21)*



QUESTION #1 – Sacramento, CA – I am hearing the term "Divine Worship Hour" being used. Isn't the whole day divine?

ANSWER #1 – Because of today's society being 24 hours, 7 seven days a week, God's time has been reduced to an hour or sometimes less. A few seek more than an hour, but overall, the vast majority of Christians have gotten away from resting from their labors. They think nothing about putting in a few hours at a job immediately after church or later that evening, going to movies right after church, and even trading in church to participate in a soccer match. From the beginning, God set a day for rest, and those that ignored it found condemnation (Hebrews 4). Even the early Christians practiced it, and it continued even in the United States until the 1960's. To make church appealing, churches dropped the divine day and went with the divine hour. Hopefully churches will soon realize that it is more important to register souls for heaven instead of making church attendance easier for sinners that are trying to serve God and mammon at the same time.

QUESTION #2 – Sacramento, CA – Where in Acts 10 is the confirmation that we can eat unclean animals?

ANSWER #2 – The passage in question is Acts 10:9-16 *"On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour: And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance, 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. And the voice [spake] unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, [that] call not thou common. This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven."

To answer your question directly, there is only an assumption made. But as assumptions go, that does not mean it is correct. The purpose of the vision was not to give people access to eating unclean animals. What is the purpose?

Acts 10:28 *"And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean."*

So we cannot give you a confirmation but only the sole purpose of the vision – to teach us that no person is considered unreachable with the gospel, even despite being cursed in the Old Testament.

QUESTION #3 – Northumberland, PA – Why did Jesus cast the unclean spirits into the swine?

ANSWER #3 – The purposes of Christ were not thwarted. He allowed the evil spirits to destroy the herd of swine as a rebuke to those Jews who were raising these unclean beasts for the sake of gain. Had not Christ restrained the demons, they would have plunged into the sea, not



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FEBRUARY 2004


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 **QUESTION:** Why Did Jesus Cast the Spirits Into Pigs? (Page 7)

And more...



only the swine, but also their keepers and owners. The preservation of both the keepers and the owners was due alone to his power, mercifully exercised for their deliverance. Furthermore, this event was permitted to take place that the disciples might witness the cruel power of Satan upon both man and beast. The Saviour desired his followers to have a knowledge of the foe whom they

were to meet, that they might not be deceived and overcome by his devices. It was also his will that the people of that region should behold his power to break the bondage of Satan and release his captives. And though Jesus himself departed, the men so marvelously delivered remained to declare the mercy of their Benefactor.

BIBLE THOUGHT

Walk After the Spirit

Romans 8:1-6 “[*There is*] therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded [*is*] death; but to be spiritually minded [*is*] life and peace.”

If you are having trouble believing you cannot walk perfectly in this world without committing a sin, maybe you are not thinking right. Stop looking at the desires and start thinking of the power that heaven is willing to bestow.

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