

Words of

# Truth & Reason

Acts 26:25

AUGUST 2012 – VOL. II, NO. 8  
CHURCH OF CHRIST—QUAIL VALLEY

## DOES GOD CARE WHAT WE EAT?

*What part of our life does NOT involve God? Does God have any concern about what we eat?*

In last month's article titled "Sinfully Delicious Hamburgers" (which can be read at our website) we noticed a few examples of *lies* and *doctrines of demons*, like *commanding to abstain from foods which God has created to be received...* (1 Tim. 4:1-5). It was not always this way.

At creation, God only permitted man to eat herbs and the fruit of trees (Gen. 1:29). After the Flood God said, *Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs* (Gen. 9:2-3). See the change? God's dietary law for Israel was more limited, but today God's permits us to eat both

plant and meat (1 Tim. 4:1-5; Acts 10:13-16; Rom. 14:2-3).

So, what about eating human flesh? Murder aside, when a human dies, is it right to eat that meat? I know it's a gruesome thought but to be realistic, that practice has existed, may continue in some places, and is justified by some people today who view humans as merely highly evolved animals. So clearly this is a valid question. Is this a sin? What does God say? Before you read the answer below, think about it and answer for yourself—does God care what we eat? How do we know?

### In This Issue:

- Does God Care What We Eat?
- God Cares What We Eat
- God Cares Who We Marry
- What Would Jesus Write?

Author & Editor: David Halbrook

## GOD CARES WHAT WE EAT

A forgotten question today is "What did God say about...?" Many people today do not look for God's approval in decisions, assuming that unless God said "Do not \_\_\_" then it must be okay. Do you believe that? If so, apply that thinking to the question asked in the above article—does God permit us to eat human flesh?

No Scripture in the New Testament specifically forbids cannibalism—does that mean it is acceptable? No! God has given us permission to eat plants and animals (1 Tim. 4:1-5; Acts 10:13-16; Rom. 14:2-3). Having permission from God to eat plants and animals makes it right. We have no permission from God to eat human flesh, and that is why it is wrong. Neither Jesus nor the apostles mentioned cannibalism, but God's Word thoroughly equips *us for every good work* including what we may eat (2 Tim. 3:17).

God has forbidden the eating of blood in the past and present (this occurs today in other countries), proving again that we must seek God's permission for all that we do, even what we eat (Gen. 9:4; Acts 15:20; Col. 3:17). Do you seek His permission in life's daily decisions?

# GOD CARES WHO WE MARRY

*God is interested in your life, wanting what is best for you. Do you consider Him in your decisions?*

Arkansas is not the only place with a recent shortage of rainfall. In India, natives performed the wedding of two frogs hoping Hindu rain gods would be pleased and send them rain. (Breaking News: It didn't work!!) Is this real marriage? Who says that marriage is only for humans? God does. Jesus taught that a man may marry a woman (Matt. 19:4-6).

If someone thinks they are born with the desire to marry an animal, may humans marry animals, if they love them? Though God did not say "A man cannot marry a frog," this is both silly and sinful because God only gave permission for marriage to a man and woman. You need to look for permission from God for all that you do!

This applies to polygamy. God gave permission for one man to marry one woman—that's all. No other combination is acceptable. Famous polygamists Joseph Smith (Mormonism) and Muhammad (Islam) claimed God's approval, but in no Scripture did God give such permission.

We must train our minds to seek God's approval for all we do, even in eating and marriage.

*Teach me thy way,  
O LORD; I will walk  
in thy truth: unite my  
heart to fear thy  
name. (Ps. 86:11)*

You are invited to:  
Sunday AM  
Bible classes: 10:00AM  
Sunday AM Worship:  
**10:45AM**  
Sunday PM Worship:  
**5:00 PM**  
Wednesday Bible  
Classes & Worship:  
**7:00 PM**

## WHAT WOULD JESUS WRITE?

When Jesus lived on earth, even without newspapers there were plenty of "reporters" so news got around (Matt. 28:15). If newspapers had existed, would Jesus have been asked, or permitted, to write? If so, what would He have written? We know by reading what His closest followers wrote for Jesus sent the Spirit who guided their writings (Jn. 16:7; 14:26).

He would have written parables, using physical facts to teach spiritual truths, like repentance, forgiveness, and salvation in His kingdom (Matt. 4:17). He would have written about Old Testament events and what may be learned from them (Matt. 19:4-9; 23:35). He also would have warned His readers about wolves in sheep's clothing (false teachers), "blind leaders," and their leaven (influence) (Matt. 7:15; 15:14; 16:6). In print, Jesus would have identified those who fit these descriptions (Matt. 5:20; 16:6). Today, the Pharisees and Sadducees are forever known by God's public, preserved record of their teachings and actions, identified by Jesus and forever recorded in Scripture. If Jesus were here and writing today, then when men, especially religious groups and leaders, violate God's word, do you think Jesus would react any differently? WWJW?

### Questions from this month's articles:

1. What did God permit Adam and Eve to eat in the beginning?
2. How do we know that cannibalism is forbidden?
3. Why is polygamy wrong?
4. How do we know about the teachings and practices of the Pharisees and Sadducees?

\* Mail your answers to church of Christ—Quail Valley 4104 East Harrison St, Batesville, AR 72501  
OR, e-mail your answers to **TruthAndReason@suddenlink.net**

\* If you have a comment or question, call (793-6700; 569-4491) or visit our website **WWW.QVCOC.COM**