

## **Will Eating Meat Jeopardize Our Eternal Blessing**

1<sup>st</sup> Cor. 8:8, “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.” .

Scientific study continues to prove to us that too much meat in the diet can be harmful. We are always encouraged to get more protein from other foods, as some believe too much meat can cause some of the diseases we suffer from today. While this may be debatable in the scientific world, whether or not to eat meat also relates to our temporal life. Our focus; here however, is on the Spiritual man and what will affect his relationship with God. Will eating any or certain meats cause us to endure hell fires? There are many questions on this subject and we will obtain our answers by searching the Holy Bible, which IS the Word of God and which IS the Truth!

In the Old Testament we find in the book of Leviticus instructions from the Lord to Moses to give to the Israelites regarding eating of meats: Leviticus 11:2-4, “Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth. Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is cloven-footed, and cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat. Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: as the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.” Here, God is showing us the difference between clean and unclean and Holy and unholy when it relates to meat.

The Advent of Jesus Christ into the world was made clear according to St. Matthew 5:17 .. “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.” The “law” referred to here speaks of the Ten Commandments which are still to be kept today.

The New Testament further bears record on the subject of eating meat. In the 10<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Acts, the Apostle Peter had a vision on a housetop where he went to pray. In a trance, he saw a vessel descend from heaven with all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth and wild beasts and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And a voice came to Peter and commanded him, rise, kill and eat! But Peter said, not so Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is common or unclean. And the voice spake unto him the second time, what God hath cleansed that call not thou common.

This story was not about meat itself, yet God used the literal meat to explain a Spiritual truth. Apostle Peter, a Jew, was being prepared for a significant ministerial encounter in which he would share the gospel to Cornelius, a Gentile. God in His own wisdom showed us that any meat cleansed by Him can be eaten.

The Apostle Paul writes Romans. 14:14, “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.” And again he writes in 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 8:8; “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.”

The Apostle Paul clearly gives us the final word on this subject: 1<sup>st</sup> 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.”

Will eating meat jeopardize our eternal blessing? This question has been sufficiently answered!