

The Mustard Seed Advent

The Gnat and the Camel

23-Nov-07

Nancy,

You replied by citing Lev 7:26, quoted below, and you use that text to discern that the Lord objected to trace elements of blood contained in the flesh. This theory has made you into an advocate of extensive and overly elaborate gyrations to remove all traces of blood from flesh. This non-scriptural procedure is what you refer to as “kosher”, a process evidently developed by Jewish tradition over their years of apostasy. You further advance Lev 7:26 to validate the wisdom of the non-Christian, Christ-rejecting Jews, and you falsely argue that the forum should accept their customs because they have done so for four-thousand years. Referring to the traditional Jews to whom the MSC has labeled as open detractors of Christ, you say the following:

“These open detractors have lived the law for 4000 years. These detractors will never accept a Jesus who has done away with the law which they know will ever be binding. Why don’t we show them that the law was NOT nailed to the cross as most Christians teach...and I have to wonder if you teach it too. EGW states that, ‘Among the Jews are some who, like Saul of Tarsus, are mighty in the Scriptures, and these will proclaim with wonderful power the immutability of the law of God. The God of Israel will bring this to pass in our day. His arm is not shortened that it cannot save. As His servants labor in faith for those who have long been neglected and despised, His salvation will be revealed.’ AA 381”. —Saturday, November 17, 2007 9:56 PM. Emphasis and ellipsis belong to quote.

Then you state the following:

“Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, [with] the statutes and judgments. Mal 4:4”

Already the careless renderings of the non-Christian Jews is made manifest in your work. First you foster the bold deception which implies that the Jews had been precise practitioners of the Law for 4000 years. The historical facts expose your careless and imprecise logic. The Bible shows that the Kingdom split under the reign of king Reahoboam, the grandson of ancient King David. It was only during this episode, some 3000 years ago, that Jews even became distinguished as a people and a nation. They may have remained in the “house” during that span; however, they were not loyal to its principles. The prophet, Jeremiah, approximately 2700 years ago, gave the Lord’s performance evaluation of Judah (the Jews) and Israel’s fidelity to the law, and it was far different than that which you seek to purvey. It shows that they were not governed by Bible righteousness but, to the contrary, they were governed by

Their Own Imaginations.~~~~~Such is the sad reality of all humanity: they fail to distinguish between the teachings which stem from their own heads from those which stem from the Bible. Resultantly, they develop customary and traditional rituals and vaunt those themes to be God’s law. Such is the case with your views of kosher. Examine Jeremiah’s appraisal of Jewish fidelity to the Law:

“The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying, Hear ye the words of this covenant, and speak unto the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. And say thou unto them, thus saith the Lord God of Israel; cursed be the man that obeyeth not the words of this covenant. Which I commanded your fathers in the day that I brought them forth out of the land of Egypt, from the iron furnace, saying, Obey my voice, and do them, according to all which I commanded you: so shall ye be my people, and I will be your God...Yet they obeyed not, nor inclined their ear, but walked every one in the imagination of their evil heart...and the Lord said unto me, a conspiracy is found among the men of Judah, and among the inhabitants of Jerusalem. They are turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, which refused to hear my words...Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up a cry or

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prayer for them: for I will not hear them in the time that they cry unto me for their trouble”
—Jer 11:1-4, 8, 14

“Then shall thou say unto them, because your fathers have forsaken me, saith the Lord, and have walked after other gods, and have served them, and have worshipped them, and have forsaken me, and have not kept my law; And ye have done worse than your fathers; for, behold, ye walk every one after the imagination of his evil heart, that they may not hearken unto me” —Jer 16: 11, 12

Today, Nancy, you foster the anti-Bible deception that the Jews have lived the law for 4000 years. And worse than that, you actually seek to deceive the forum to believe that the Jews today, after 3000 years of apostasy, have become master practitioners beyond the skill of their forefathers who received direct communion with heaven’s prophets. All must now acknowledge that your skewed renderings of history have been exposed. Many Jewish scholars today fail to even acknowledge the sober Bible fact that Moses and Aaron were themselves not even Jews. If nothing else could do so, this fact exposes their clumsy, careless, and blind renderings of the Bible. Yet you expect that such a haphazard and blind approach to Bible scholarship can define for Davidia the rules for proper diet. Is it your expectation that, merely because such men assign to themselves the label “Jew”, we are to worshipfully bow to their judgment? Admittedly, the Bible does forbid the consumption of blood; however, it does not require the excessive tactic of blood removal which the Jewish “heart” has “imagined” and has encouraged historically. Evidence of this will be supplied as we proceed.

You quote a statement from EGW, a statement which does not say that which you intend for it to prove. Saul of Tarsus was indeed mighty in Scriptures, but he did not become mighty to teach Christ until he —like Peter, James, John and the other disciples—was converted and convinced to abandon his formerly confused ideas about Judaism. Paul did a 180 degree turn on this point. This is why he is a Bible hero. It is Saul’s conversion, not his scholarship, which made him a champion of truth. It is this same brand of conversion to which EGW pointed the church. The MSC does not disagree. All should read its publication 2.01, *From Beyond the Rivers of Ethiopia* and also, 4.1, *Journey through the Murky Bogs*. Both books clearly manifest that the MSC does not teach that the Law was nailed to the cross. They both show the place which many “Jews” especially those now in the nation of Israel, will take to finish the Gospel work. The MSC, rather than taking exception to the work of EGW, thoroughly agrees with it and shows Bible prophecies to substantiate its views. Unlike many other religious teachers, the MSC kindly acknowledges the final work of the Jews, and it acknowledges their link to the ancient people. But the MSC, like Christ did beforehand, does not soft peddle when it comes to bad theology and foolish traditions which war against the truth.

The crux of the matter points us to Lev 7:25, 26. Before examining it, you must discern whether your understanding coincides with the Lord’s or, as condemned above in *Jer 16*, your opinion stems from the imagination of your own heart. It reads as follows:

“For whosoever eateth the fat of the beast, of which men offer an offering made by fire unto the Lord, even that 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”.

As explained in the prior E-mail, the fat does not refer to the substance commonly contained in all muscle, the substance which melts away when the food is processed by fire (fried); to the contrary, it refers to the isolated, monolithic substance which covers the organs, the liver and the kidneys. These are the substances which Israel was commanded to remove during their ceremonial sacrifices and to burn it as a sweet savor. This understanding being very plain from the text, forces us to judge the Lord’s opposition to the consumption of blood in the same light. The blood likewise refers to the fluid which courses through the veins and arteries. It, as a substance, was forbidden as a source of food. There are people and cultures alive today who actually drain and consume the blood of animals; this is the practice which the Lord condemned. “Fat” and “blood” are both found throughout the body; however, as solitary sources of food, they

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were both forbidden. As we shall discuss in greater clarity, the Lord was not commanding them to uncover a scientifically advanced approach to removing every last residual of blood before the flesh could be eaten.

This issue will be addressed thoroughly as I summarize the work regarding vegetarianism produced by the MSC, themes which you have either missed or ignored: For now, we must summarize many of the reasons for which the MSC supplies to show the Lord's

Rejection of Vegetarianism Today~~~~~Below are many of the arguments which you have either missed or ignored:

(One) The standard for judgment imposed upon the men in the “last day” diverges from that imposed upon men who must pass through the grave to receive life. The two classes have different standards because the rewards of life are likewise different.

COMMENTS: This is made clear by the fact that the Lord Himself promised to raise His testimony again in the last day—and not an hour before. And since this is the hour, proven by Scripture, whereby man must first learn to choose the good and refuse the evil, then logic dictates that the doctrines of all men and their concepts of morality prior to this day of light, is by comparison, grossly inferior. Consequently, all should have anticipated that His final call would diverge greatly from their customary and traditional views or immature concepts of good and evil. They must cast aside all their non-scriptural ideas and even their expired doctrines that were proven to be scriptural yesterday so as to embrace “the pearl of great price”. You must sell all that you have to purchase the Kingdom, the Mustard Seed, the *Pearl of Great Price*. Why then Nancy, do you seek to exclude vegetarianism from this requisite? Do you not understand that it too must be relinquished to win the Kingdom. Like Jacob's money given to his sons, even though it came from inspiration (Jacob), it must be exchanged to win the fountain, which is salvation from drought.

(Two) EGW's “Impressive Dream” affirms point number one above. It shows that the same non-scriptural luggage given to us by inspiration at the beginning must now be cast into the valley so that we may safely complete the journey.

COMMENTS: Instead of doing so, you seek the opposite: you seek to add to the formula of salvation the equation of failed Jewish wisdom. This you feel will enhance the Lord's righteousness, a crime which has led the Jews historically to the quagmire of curses. This tactic is unacceptable because their wisdom still inspires warfare against Christ—their light is darkness; nothing from them can benefit the advanced Christian.

(Three) If Jewish dietary practices, those enforced by them through their tradition, was to have any value to the Christian walk, then Christ would have asked the Prodigal's elder brother (the Jews), the one who —by your own admission— never left the house, to prepare the fatted Calf. Instead, He gave a command to the men who —get this—actually respect His teachings.

COMMENTS: Christ is depicted to issue a command to His servants, the gentile Christians who obey the Lord, the people to whom the Gospel was redirected after the Jews. He abandoned those men who, with their dullness of perception yesterday, murdered the Only Begotten. This fact, relayed directly from the mouth of the Most High, and spoken by the lips of Jesus by way of the hidden presence of Christ, is a part of the *Testimony of Jesus* that will save you. For He said, “**Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death.**” His saying with the Prodigal son shows that His gentile servants will be responsible for meal preparations in the kingdom.

(Four) Never in Christian-inspired History has the church sought to enforce Jewish styled Kosher. Even EGW did not do so. She went from a ministry that, in the beginning, disregarded *Lev 11*, to one which next began to honor *Lev 11*, then it advanced —skipping the requirement of kosher—to become a proponent of the non-scriptural theme of vegetarianism.

COMMENTS: Lest you not realize, *Lev 11* is a central step in Christology because it carefully delineates clean and unclean foods and conveys upon those who are compliant the stamp of acceptance and righteousness. It says,

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“For I am the Lord your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; *FOR I AM HOLY*: neither shall ye defile yourselves...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...to make a difference between the unclean and the clean...”—Lev 11:45,47.

Notice, in this equation of holiness, it does not mention the contaminating impact of blood in that text. Also notice, Christ claims holiness. This fact will be made useful below.

As stated above when the Bible condemns blood it does so by condemning its use as a separate, free-standing food or a beverage. Even today, many people actually make food out of animals blood. In the slaughter houses, many drain the blood and use it as a food byproduct. Pagans, in their idolatrous rituals, actually drink the blood of their sacrifices. These are the things which the Bible condemns—not the traces of residual blood remaining in uncooked flesh. Such traces can be neutralized by thorough cooking. After all, is not fire the Lord’s cleansing agent?

Before advancing, it must be said that dedicated Jews today who still practice Judaism, do so because they do not embrace Christianity—pure and simple. According to *Act two*, the sincere and devout Jews of yesterday immediately manifested their genuine hearts by embracing Christianity as taught by Peter. Therefore, instead of ascribing extra wisdom to those men who still hate the Lord, instead of lauding them with honor because of their carnal link to Abraham, we must walk by the spirit and not by the flesh. We must walk with those who, by the Spirit, embrace the *Righteousness of Christ*. In so doing we, having the mind of Christ, will heed the Savior’s assessment of the Jews who resists His work. He accused them yesterday of straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel. Both gnats and camels are deemed unclean. Yet, it is the grossest of hypocrisy to accentuate or exaggerate the accidental ingestion of a gnat gasping and choking as if death were imminent; while at the same time, you zealously dine on the unclean flesh of a camel. This mental imbalance has been proven to still exist in the non-Christian Jewish community: some object to the traces of residual blood found in clean meat; meanwhile, many violate *Lev 11* by consuming koshered pig, the proverbial camel—as if their law of kosher was of greater estimation than God’s law of “clean and unclean” expressed in *Lev 11*. Yet, many in the Jewish community do these things often with the blessings of their rabbis. Being in such gross error about the mandates of even Moses’ law, how can any, as a consequence, ascribe wisdom to them for dietary reform today? Below is a list of other contorted Bible views held by the Jews yesterday which manifest this proclivity to have an imbalanced view on righteousness, the anxiety that comes after swallowing a gnat and the casual disregard to avoid swallowing a camel.

- They criticized the Lord for His diet; meanwhile, they also rejected John’s diet.
- They criticized the Lord’s disciples for not washing their hands before they ate saying, **“why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they wash not their hands when they eat bread?”** (Matt 15:2); yet, they soiled their hands by plotting the murder of their Lord.
- They could not balance the need for cleanliness with the need for charity by helping the wounded one whom the good Samaritan helped—see *Luke 10*.
- They rescued their poor trapped animals on the Sabbath but could not find wisdom to rescue a fellow human, a neighbor, on the same day.
- They respected their father’s honor in procreating sons; yet, they became enraged when Christ taught that God also had a Son—John 19:7.
- They sought to crucify Jesus, the one who miraculously healed them; meanwhile, they sought to let the real criminal, Barrabbas, to go free.
- They, ever eager to escape the Roman yoke, illogically sought to kill Jesus after He freed Lazarus from the grave and did so with Bible validation—John 11: 47-50.

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- Their concept of the Sabbath was so twisted, that they condemned the Lord for bringing peace by healing on that very day.
- The same Lord who said to the palsied man, arise and walk was not applauded. However, He was condemned when He told that man, “thy sins be forgiven thee” —Matt 9:5

The list goes on and on. Clearly such people, men who are so imbalanced in their theology, cannot ever win the confidence of the *disciples indeed* to lead them in the paths of righteousness. They clearly suffer from the malady described by Christ: that of choking and gasping at small offenses, crimes exaggerated in their own minds; while the vilest and most egregious sins such as killing the Son of God, barely phase them. These men, Nancy, people who strain at the gnat and swallow the camel, are the ones whom you have elected to guide you into proper Bible diet. For that you are in error. As you ponder upon that indictment, consider additional examples to illustrate that the Lord does not now enforce your brand of vegetarianism.

(Five) Proof that your outcry against the trace residuals of blood in clean flesh is a cry which is tantamount to straining at the proverbial gnat can be shown by carefully examining *Gen 18*.

COMMENTS: That text shows Abraham fetching a calf, giving it to his gentile servant to slaughter, then feasting with Christ upon it. Believe it or not, Christ ate at Abraham’s table. Who is Christ? —He is the very one in *Lev 11* Who claimed that “He is holy!” Therefore, He was just as holy in Abraham’s day as well; yet, He ate that non-koshered calf prepared by Abraham’s servant. In contradistinction to this point, you can believe that if Abraham sought to serve the Lord swine, the Lord would have refused for He is Holy. Conclusively then, His Holiness then just like now, will still be maintained when He serves and consumes the non-kosher calf in the Kingdom today, the calf likewise prepared by His gentile servants.

(Six) You seem to completely ignore the theme of the *Day of Atonement*. On that day the Lord specified that everyone should afflict their soul. Those men who did not were given the ultimate punishment: they were cut off from among God’s people —see *Lev 23:29*.

COMMENTS: The power of this point is made manifest when we realize that Christ left no specific mandate delineating in any detail the manner by which a man or the church should comply with that dictate. This fact converts into a scriptural command, that which was here-to-fore thought to be unscriptural, vegetarianism, the soul affliction which was instituted during the *Antitypical day of Atonement* beginning in 1844. Yet, that day, in the antitype, endures for many generation allowing for mandates of “self affliction” to change as clearly shown in *Isa 58*, “the fast that the Lord has chosen”. It can clearly be seen that, just as *the Day of Atonement* was not to last forever, neither was its complimentary soul affliction. If vegetarianism is not the atoning self affliction required by the Lord yesterday for all Adventist, then what practice do you do to honor His command and to afflict your soul during the *Antitypical Day of Atonement*?

(Seven) Theological vegetarianism completely ignores the fact that the Lord pronounced His creation good. All creatures intended to be vegetarians were created without a gall bladder. This was good! Man was given a gall bladder. Man was not created to be vegetarian. This was also good!

COMMENTS: We simply must learn to sell “all that we have”, all the things which we have elevated in our minds to be of great value, and from those proceeds, we must purchase the Pearl. We must learn to choose the good and refuse the evil. We likewise must discern that since man was created in the image of God —God, the One whose Holy Seed had the same genetic makeup to match that of Mary’s egg—God, Himself, cannot be a vegetarian. The only function of the gall bladder, the organ inherited to Jesus by both His mother and His Father, is to assist in the digestion of flesh. Therefore must all righteous men use all their talents and become non-vegetarians. That is, unless you think that the Lord has made a mistake; that Christ is indeed NOT right? —all Luciferian Christians, people who recognize Christ but esteem His subordinate angels of light to be superior to Him in judgment, embrace this thinking. The MSC resoundingly say that Christ is right and that He did not make a mistake. What do you say?

(Eight) Adam was created with an empty stomach, and he needed to eat right away.

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COMMENTS: Like men today, we require a meal at least twice a day. With the many other educational task at hand after the six day of creation and with the time restraints to preclude starvation, Adam was given a simple diet of foods already prepared, fruits, nuts and grains. The Lord had time, later —after the other more pressing lessons of righteousness were learned--- to allow Adam to develop a taste for more complex food such as the Kingdom-Passover cuisine of bread and flesh.

(Nine) Also, Adam did not know how to choose the good and refuse the evil. In this sense, even though created perfect, Adam was an immature Christian, a man devoid of the knowledge of good and evil --Gen 3:22.

COMMENTS: Therefore, until the Lord could instruct him on the very sensitive issue of consuming flesh, a product which would make use of Adam's newly installed gall bladder, the Lord gave to him a simple diet. Had the Lord done other wise, had He given Adam a butcher knife and told him to kill to eat, Adam, like most men today, would have lost his appetite. Most flesh eaters do not slaughter the same food that they eat, they depend upon servants to do their killing. Yet, as shown by the Lord's testimony, this is the heightened level of theology that man must acquire today if He is to be like Christ, a flesh eater.

(10) You ignore the fact that Christ sat and ate flesh, beef, with Abraham.

COMMENTS: You may infer that the calf was kosher; however, you have no Bible evidence. Infact, it was not until just after the Exodus —hundreds of years after the days of Abraham—that commands which we can cite to make a remote comparison to kosher, were installed. In the Kingdom, will you be more righteous than Christ? Did He make a mistake by eating flesh with Abraham? Could it be that Christ is not Right? Again, the Luciferian Christian answers yes to these question; for this is the reason why they follow him to hell. The MSA claims the Righteousness of Christ by faith. What is your position?

(11) You ignore the fact that Christ promises to eat the Pascal Lamb in the Kingdom.

COMMENTS: As a matter of ritual and symbolism, the blood was drained and collected. It was not to be eaten; rather, it was to be stricken “on the two side post”. The Jews may have developed a more extensive ritual for removing the blood; however, as stated already, they cannot be accepted as an authority to exhibit Bible righteousness. Their rejection of Christ's ministry speaks volumes to their lack of credibility. Furthermore, since Christ gave no mandate nor procedure to bleed every microscopic drop of blood from the animal —He accepted their capabilities while in Egypt to comply with the ritual—then accepting His righteousness, we must understand that He did not object to residual drops of blood contained within the flesh. He allowed for further purification to be accomplished by the roasting flames. And since, He commanded Israel to extract **the blood** for the Passover ritual, then He was clearly referring to it as a substance, like the bones or the fur. It is clear that this substance, the blood as a by product, That Israel was commanded to avoid. They were prohibited from consuming blood as a beverage.

(12) You ignore the fact that the Prodigal's Father, representing Christ, Commanded His servants to kill the fatted calf and serve it as a means to become happy —not healthy.

COMMENTS: Believe it or not, God wants man to be happy too. This is the reason why He created the Garden of Eden and gave to Adam his lovely wife, Eve. In the day of salvation, the Lord again desires that the redeemed no longer be haunted with misery but that they become merry. Thus does he promise to have His servants to “*bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry*”. Beyond this point, the evidence is irrefutable that the Prodigal represents Israel, consequently, his angry brother, the one who never left the house, could only represent Judah, the Jews, the people who never left the ancient house of the Lord. But neither one of those groups were given this assignment; instead, it was a different people, men identified in the Bible as His servants. These could only represent men from the Christian-gentile nations. They are a people who have never instituted among themselves, the practice of serving koshered meats. This practice is a phenomenon of the Jews only.

You argue that the Jews had the fountain in their day. This manifest a blindness to Bible reality. None-the-less, it is error which must be answered. The Bible, point to our very day, the day when Christ makes the righteous merry, promises, “*In that day there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness*”—Zech 13:1. Notice, it is the fountain, not traditions of kosher, which cleanses. The

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MSC is now presenting such to you. You need no longer look to “Jewish” —nor for that matter, Christian—traditions and customs to remove your uncleanness.

Finally, you argue that the Prodigal son is merely a parable, but parables were part of the Lord’s communication to His people. Remember, all of Christ words were prescribed for Him by Father, so that we can have everlasting life. He Christ, even professes to have withheld His very own words and thoughts so that we may benefit from Father’s counsel, untainted by other doctrines. He said, **“I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say and what I should speak. And I know that HIS commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.”** —John 12: 49-50. Therefore, all of Jesus’ Testimony, including the parables, were given to win for us, in the “last day”, eternal life. Thus the test is made easy for you: today you must embrace His words in your growth to learn to choose the good and refuse the evil. Until you master this skill first introduced by Immanuel, the man who nourishes the young cow (the writings of EGW and VTH) and to two sheep (the Bible), then you will eternally resist many things that are good merely because you mistakenly, without solid Bible evidence, presume to be evil. Like the Jews who rejected Christ and still do so today, you will eternally strain at a gnat while you swallow the camel. Such is the legacy of the carnal heart.

Sincerely,

Derek