

The Mustard Seed Advent

Reverse Passage: Light on Vegetarianism

22-Jun-09

Walt,

You, as head of the Davidian Forum who has determined to continue the non-scriptural discipline of vegetarianism, I feel compelled to write to you again on this issue. Hopefully, you will not ignore it today as you have done in the past. Dave, from Edmonton, has expressed to you via the below E-mail a very good point that should be heeded: Jesus, after His resurrection, did not honor your emphasis on vegetarianism; He asked for meat and then He consumed it. This He did after ascending to the Father's throne and returning. In spite of this fact, you continue to insist that the consumption of biblically defined "clean meat" is forbidden and is not right. Should we encourage others to follow Jesus' righteousness or yours? Also, whom do you suppose is more honored by "the Highest", you or Jesus? The record shows the following:

"And as they thus spake, Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. But they were terrified and affrighted, and supposed that they had seen a spirit. And he said unto them, Why are ye troubled? And why do thoughts arise in your hearts? Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have. And when he had thus spoken, he shewed them the hands and his feet. And while they yet believed not for joy, and wondered, he said unto them, Have ye here any meat? And they gave him a piece of a broiled fish, and of an honeycomb" —Luke 24: 39-42.

From this text, no honest man can deny that, after the resurrection, Jesus and the purged and purified Disciples, men on the record of heaven as being highly favored of God, considered fish to be meat, and consumed it in accordance to Father's righteousness. If vegetarianism were a valued heavenly discipline, then surely Jesus would not have asked for it. This I perceived is Dave's point, one which you need to honor. To add to this theme, we have no record of Jesus' diet in heaven, but since He ate flesh after being received by the Father, then it is possible that He may have continued that diet afterwards also. Afterall, all power in heaven and earth was given to Him!

Instead of acceding to a simple Bible revelation, in order to protect your desire to install the discipline of vegetarianism as a requisites of salvation, you emphasize the promise of restoration of all things, as cited in Matt 17:11—greatly over interpreting that theme— so as to sustain your concept of righteousness. To accept your logic, we must read the Lord's mind and inferentially conclude that the diet described in Genesis to Adam and Eve was, like the Passover diet, fixed for eternity; we must make this conclusion without Bible support. Christ merely said, "***Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things***". Had He been more elaborate on this point and said, Elias shall restore the diet of Eden or had Christ shown a consistent pattern throughout Scripture of enforcing that diet, then your point could be validated. So your failure in Bible logic is becoming more evident: Your reasoning does not orb your doctrine from deeper study—here a little, there a little— it is limited to your inferences, and it exposes Christ to the charge of hypocrisy for installing a diet that He Himself never declared holy and never enforced. As shown to you many times, Christ sat with Abraham and dined with him over a calf that Abraham served to Him. Afterwards, Christ did not condemn, but blessed, Abraham (See Gen 18). From that example alone, it is clear to see that Adam's diet was only intended to be temporary. This conclusion will be made even more "plain" as we proceed. Contrary to your wishful thinking, this pronouncement of *Matt 17*, skewed by you and many Adventists, does not establish Eden, during the days before the fall, to be the Lord's standard to which He pointed. Such an

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assumption asserts that the first couple had nothing else to learn. Consider also that, if all things in Eden were to be restored, then that would also mean no Commandments would be enforced; no races would exist; no 144,000 would be saved; no “Only Begotten of the Father” would be allowed; no Passover would be served; no other continents would be inhabited; no discernment to choose the good and refuse the evil would pertain; and that innocence instead of maturation would define the disciples, etc. Instead of these conclusions, we must know that the Lord merely promised to restore all things; yet He gave you no gauge, in that text, to point to so as to discern a fuller meaning. Thus, to do so your way is to commit the sin of presumption merely to establish and to validate your special brand of spiritual elitism, vegan vegetarianism. What is worse is that you practice your “alms”, blasting it (Vegetarianism) as a “trumpet” against Christ’s warnings (Matt 6: 1-4) and do so even in the face of direct and clear statements supporting flesh consumption made by the Lord Himself. To properly ascertain meaning from the Lord’s testimony, you must source His Mustard Seed, the man promised to make Christ’s proverbial speech “plain” just as promised in *Matt 20*, *John six* and *John 16*. He said,

“...whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister...even as the Son man came not to be minister unto, but to minister...”—Matt 20: 26, 28.

“...This is the Father’s will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day” —John 6: 39, 40.

He also said, **“These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father. At that day ye shall ask in my name...”**—John 16: 25, 26.

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, If a man keep my saying, he shall never see death...”—John 8:51.

Christ, reveals that in the last day, His testimony would not only be raised again, but it would be made plain. He showed this would occur in a day when His identity, His name, is clarified. Is this not exactly what the MSA is doing? As a result, the faithful living are to keep His sayings so as to win everlasting life. Thus, the Lord manifest that for life to be restored, His Testimony, His sayings as He abode upon Jesus, is designed to give us —RESTORES to us— what Adam lost, life. Therefore, *Matt 17* reveals a proverbial statement in need of being made plain. It could not point to us the innocence of Eden as the icon of complete restoration since the *Testimony of Jesus*, our source for restored life, was not given until 4000 years later and was not “made plain” until today. His testimony, the words that He had **“spoken unto you, being yet present with you”** —John 14: 24— is the Kingdom that is to be within the disciples, and it is the Rock upon which the wise are to build their house. He said, **“...whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock”** —Matt 7: 24— it distinguishes the wise from the foolish virgins since He also said, **“and every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand”** —Matt 7: 24. The restoration of all things point to this reality: Adam, similarly to you and many on the forum, became likened unto a “foolish man” —think of the foolish virgins— because he rejected the plain words of Christ which professed to him, **“in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die”** —Gen 2: 17. In essence, Adam was created immortal; the only thing that could change his immortality was ignoring Christ’s words. When he did so, he became mortal; he passed from life to death; he was a man scheduled for the grave. Instead of hearing Christ, he listened to an alternate channel, Lucifer, who said, **“ye shall not surely die”** —Gen 3: 4. Allow some room for creative imagination: Adam, like a character in a science-fiction movie, with his disdain for Christ’s word, immediately broke the invisible barrier and stepped through a portal-conversion chamber and found his feet planted in a different universe of reality than he beforehand knew; it was a path that redirected his life towards the grave. He was scheduled to surely die; thus, had he

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possessed telescopic vision through time, he would have seen a fate that he was not created for; he would have seen his own tombstone. The reverse of this event is now occurring, for Christ said, **“Verily, verily, I say unto you He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”** —John 5: 24. To hear the Lord’s words, one must be alive; thus, we have a criterion that is different than that given to the saints yesterday, who, like Adam also died. We have the criterion for the *Judgment of the Living* for those who elect to finally avoid the trap of death. Wisdom did not exist within the first couple —Christ could not liken them as wise men who built their house upon the Rock— but it will be installed within the saints today. They will, merely by embracing the *Testimony of Jesus* made plain, have their faith in Christ restored and will step back through that same poetic portal of transformation with the invisible barrier, and, in so doing, they will receive the reverse passage —a thing that did not exist in Eden. Colorful speech may cause some to understand that, yesterday, because the Lord’s testimony was unclear, we accepted your theoretical analysis pertaining to the restoration of all things. We did so because, like all before us, we existed in a day that was before the promised “last day”, a time when the saints had no teacher to expound upon Christ’s Testimony and thus no mechanism to learn to choose the good and refuse the evil, to choose the right ‘passage’. Therefore, still in Adam’s transformed flesh of rebellion and locked in the passage of death, we chose vegetarianism as a good standard and Christ’s following statements as evil:

“Then came the day of unleavened bread, WHEN THE PASSOVER MUST BE KILLED...and he said unto them, with desire I have desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer: For I say unto you, I will not any more eat thereof, until it be fulfilled in the kingdom of God” — Luke 22: 7, 15, 16.

“But the father said to his servants, bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: *and bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry”* —Luke 15: 22-24.

Notice, Christ says is this proverb, now made plain, that consuming the fatted calf makes a man merry. And, as promised, he has raised up this servant, Derek West, to remind you of His words. He has told you in advance of this hour that these things would occur for He said, **“The Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, WHATSOEVER, I HAVE SAID UNTO YOU”** —John 14: 26. Therefore, none who delight in the prospects of eating clean meats should become intimidated by your letter suggesting that the Mustard Seed saints are allured by flesh because it taste good. I ask, is there any other way that its consumption could make a man merry? You say the following:

“If we use all the resources before us, we shall indeed know whether or not Adam and Eve ate meat. That Jesus Christ ate flesh while on earth, is simply not the point. We are blessed with the ability to read and can see that He ate it. We have a concept of restoration, no matter how good that meat may taste, or how impossible it seem to break cultural ties, or the habit of eating such.” — Your E-mail, Monday, June 22, 2009 12:06 PM.

You too can now shake off your self-imposed, Laodicean “misery” and prepare to become merry. Instead of so doing, you seem to be in tune with the same voice that seduced Eve, the snake in the garden, who still desires to twist the Lord’s words promising the restoration of all things as an enforcing theme of vegetarianism. By using and teaching this tactic, you are enforcing carnalism and humanism upon the flock, Adam’s portal passage. You do so instead of heeding **“*every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God*”** —Matt 4: 4— heaven’s doorway to everlasting life. Mustard Seed Adventists are determined to take the Lord’s recommended approach: They desire to heed Jesus’ counsel and are determined to cease, as a predicate for life, the practice of consuming **“*bread alone*”**. In case you have not heard, **“*Man shall not live by***

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bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.” —Matt 4: 4. And what else could this “bread”, this substance which cannot restore life, represent but wheat, salt, yeast, and water— heavenly provided ingredients— that has been mixed, kneaded, baked, and sliced — added human works. We need more to be restored! Such may have been good for us yesterday, but today we must add to it, “*every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God*”. Bread is partial prophecy, mans works mixed with God’s. Paul said, “*Whether there be prophecies they shall fail...knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away..*” —1 Cor 13: 8-10. Interesting it indeed is that both knowledge, like the efficacy of vegetarianism, and prophecies, like EGW & VTH’s inspired work to show to us the importance of that practice, are promised to be extinguished today, the perfect day. Such was their “bread” which they handed to the church. As one locked in a time warp, you, in continuance of their legacy, now —in this new day— seek to ignore the concept of growth and represent this stale bread, molded and prepped by your hand, to the forum. My burden is to show you that yesterday’s partial knowledge and prophecies, the works of our own hands, the doctrines which you have laboriously massaged and reformed to make ready for human consumption has no efficacy today. In your kneading process, you presumed that the consumption of clean meats, Christ’s holiness —see Lev 11: 43-47— will be rejected in the day that Elijah restores all things. You do so having not even correctly identified Elijah. Your predicate for this presumption is derived merely from the Lord’s command to Adam, “*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*” —Gen 1: 29. Using your definition of the restoration of all things, not only does this formula preclude clean flesh meat, but it also eliminates vegetables, milk, eggs, butter, and honey, foods esteemed by the Bible as wholesome. We can see this merely by examining Christ’s promise of the Kingdom: Speaking metaphorically, He said, “*Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good...for butter and honey shall every one eat that is left in the land*” —Isa 7: 15, 22. If your interpretation of *Matt 17* pointed us to the diet of Eden making only its foods wholesome, then, by inference, you also suggest that the Lord used evil metaphors here in *Isa seven* to describe what everyone shall eat that is left in the land —another way to say “the restoration of all things”. Find for us a corresponding example whereby the Lord used an evil metaphor, such as eating swine in the Kingdom, so that we may know that He speaks with the inconsistency that you suggest. You cannot do so because swine consumption does not depict His holiness. He said,

“Ye shall not make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing that creepeth, neither shall ye make your selves unclean with them, that ye should be defiled thereby. 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 with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 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 beast, and of the fowl,...to make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten” —Lev 11: 43-47.

If a man discerns between a cow and a swine, discerning that the cow is edible and the swine is not (as shown in the full text of *Lev 11*), then, by making this distinction, He has taken on Christ’s Righteousness, His holiness. If, as some say, cows today have become unclean, they have been transformed into camels, or rabbits, or mice, then Christ, failing to warn us of this, has likewise failed to preserve for us His holy standard —God forbid. How could He be so careful to define that which will occur in the last day, even the proverbial diet that everyone will eat that is left in the land, and forget to tell us that one day, lambs, goats, cattle, etc, would be thusly transformed? How could any embrace His righteousness after He failed to warn us how we may lose our holy dietary perspective?

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I invite you to consider “new light” on this theme. Begin to do so by discerning that we have no evidence that Christ, in the beginning, created herds of sheep, goats, cattle or herds of any creatures. We do know that He created in six days all creatures, and then He rested. Afterwards, He left the duty of proliferation up to the creatures themselves as He gave to them the power to procreate. Such was energy efficient: for instead of wasting more of His creative energy forming herds, the pairs that He created, themselves, in the pristine sanctity and peaceful environment of Eden, could instead do that work. Below we see this concept that the Lord’s created couples. **“And Adam gave names to all cattle, and to the fowl of the air, and to every beast of the field; but for Adam there was not found an help meet for him”** —Gen 2: 20. Knowing this fact, then we have added insight into the original Edenic diet and can now fully discern the reason for starting man on a animal free diet. Had Christ not given to them a temporary diet of fruit (a substitute for meat), then all of His exhaustive labor would have been in vain as any creature that Adam would have slaughtered to eat would have immediately become extinct: He would have been forced to kill either the male or the female leaving no possibility of procreation and nullifying with his hands and mouth much of his Lord’s exhaustive work done by His, the Lord’s, hands and mouth. The story of the flood which occurred some 1600 years afterwards underscores this point since Noah was commanded, **“Every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female, and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female...to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth”** —Gen 7: 2, 3. It is amazing because we seldom discuss Christ’s love for all of the animals, clean and unclean; we almost never show His desire to protect them from extinction. Thus, with the flood, we can peer beneath the surface and also see the same efficiency of creation: rather than making a smaller Ark and destroying all the animals then recreating them, to avoid extinction, Christ used the material already deemed good at creation. He saved multiple, animal couples in the Ark along with multiple human couples. He did so because, unlike in Eden, premature or accidental death was a possibility after the flood. This illustration manifest that the Lord loved all the animals that He created. Just because a horse, the pig, the lion or the bear is not clean to eat never meant that they had no purpose and brought no joy. Beyond that, it gave to the righteous their test of holiness: the ability to discern which ones were acceptable for food.

As a final point, remember the words of ancient David when he said, **“I will praise thee for I am fearfully and wonderfully made”** —Ps 139: 14. Scientist and biologist now know that all non-vegetarian animals were created with an organ called the gall bladder. Man, being wonderfully made has a gall bladder also. Its only function is to store concentrated digestive juices, bile, to accommodate the consumption of flesh. If nothing else does, this fact proves that Adam was created “fearfully and wonderfully” to eventually consume clean flesh. The restoration of all things will not remove this organ from him; thus, it will not turn him into a vegetarian. So, we can now see that *Matt 17*, promising the restoration of all things, distributes to the disciples yet another statement from the Lord’s 3 ½ year testimony that has been made plain by the Mustard Seed and another reason to let him be your minister.

Finally, the Bible shows that in the Kingdom, herds of cattle will be saved. It says, **“...Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitudes of men and cattle therein”** —Zech 2: 4. If man were intended to be a vegan, one who does not consume flesh, milk, or butter, then why would he need the “multitudes of cattle”? This is another argument which dashes your presumptive theory pertaining to the restoration of all things for according to your thinking, Christ would need to limit His restored kingdom to two of every kind including man. Without a doubt, all can now see that the restoration of all things means a restoration of everlasting life, of peace, and of righteous government. Seeing this light, it is now time for you to embrace the Lord’s offer of grace, the reverse passage: It is now time to heed the Lord’s counsel and sell all your spiritual wealth and to follow Him. You must begin by selling this

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formerly enriching, SDA theme of vegetarianism, and exchange it for the “Pearl of Great Price”, life in the Kingdom of heaven.

Sincerely,

Derek