

What Jesus Ate

Bible Study | July 1, 2017 | EDSA Shangri-la Hotel | 2:00 p.m.



Introduction



Let's talk food.

We shall look into the kind of food that Jesus
ate while He was on Earth.



There is so much to learn from the diet of
Jesus Christ.



What is good for Jesus to eat must be good
for His followers to eat as well.



Food is a basic human necessity.
We need the energy from food to sustain
our physiological function. Man can
survive 3 days without water and 3 weeks
without food.



Yet, we know that eating is beyond necessity. There is more to food than nutrition. It has become one of life's pleasures. People no longer “eat to live” but rather “live to eat”.



Eating and drinking have become the
obsession of many - rich and poor.



Many have made food the focal point of their lives and are pre-occupied with thoughts of what to eat for breakfast, lunch and dinner, plus the small meals in-between.



Too many people have made food the “end all and be all”. We look for choice meat, flavors, spices and leeks. Those were the things the Ancient Israelites grumbled for in the desert.



Numbers 11:4-6

4 The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites started wailing and said, “If only we had **meat** to eat!



Numbers 11:4-6

5 We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost—also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic.

6 But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!”



Mankind has explored the world for the most exotic meat and food out there. Not because of pure nutrition, necessity and survival but of pure pleasure and adventure.



Food has become a lifestyle. Life is celebrated with the abundance of delicacies on the dining table.



In the process, men have made their
stomachs their gods.



Consider what Paul wrote in
Philippians 3:17-19.



Philippians 3:17-19

17 Join together in **following my example**, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us **as a model**, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

18 For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as **enemies of the cross of Christ**.



Philippians 3:17-19

19 Their destiny is destruction, **their god is their stomach**, and their glory is in their shame. **Their mind is set on earthly things.**



The tendency of man to crave and indulge in
the pleasure of food has veered man off
the course of right diet.



People end up sinning by what they eat.



In the last Bible Study on God's Treasured Possession, we learned that God's people are a holy people to the Lord.



The word 'holy' means being sanctified,
separated and set-apart by God for His
special purpose.



God's special elite people are separated by God to be His special possession. This separation or sanctification is marked by the in-dwelling of God's Holy Spirit in an individual.



Therefore, since our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit we need to keep ourselves holy. God has instituted statutes of holiness for His people. This sanctifies God's people from the rest of the world.



The statutes of holiness are detailed in Deuteronomy 14-16. This afternoon we will look at one of these statutes – the food law of God.



The questions we will consider today are:

1. What is the food law?
2. Why the food law?
3. Are Christians obligated to keep the food law? Or is the law only for the Jews?
4. Did Jesus do away with the food law?
5. What did Jesus eat when He was on Earth?
6. Did Jesus and the apostles keep the food law?
7. Why do you need to obey the food law?



It may sound like a lot of questions to ask.
But, the direct answers from the Bible will
surprise you and hopefully inspire you to
keep God's law.



What is the Food Law?



Of all God's creation, we are the only specie
that cooks. The birds of the air, the fish of
the sea and the livestock of the land do
not cook.



This is because we are created differently from all other creatures. Our physical composition is not suitable for raw meat and many other types of food. Our body and genome structure are designed differently.



Not everything that God created is for food.
There are certain foods suitable for man to
eat.



Just like the two (2) trees in the Garden; the fruits of the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. One brings life and the other death.



Not all creatures that fly, crawl, swim and wiggle are created to be eaten by man. Not all meats are fit for food either. We ought to know that.



Are Christians allowed to eat all meats? Or
are there foods that God forbids His
special people to eat?



God has provided mankind with dietary laws. He listed the foods fit to be eaten and those unfit for human consumption. They are called clean and unclean meats.



They are written in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14. Two chapters of the two books are devoted to this discussion.



Leviticus 11

- 1 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron,
- 2 “Say to the Israelites: ‘Of all the animals that live on land, **these are the ones you may eat:**
- 3 You may eat any animal that has a divided hoof and that chews the cud.



Leviticus 11

4 “There are some that only chew the cud or only have a divided hoof, but **you must not eat them**. The camel, though it chews the cud, does not have a divided hoof; it is ceremonially unclean for you.

5 The hyrax, though it chews the cud, does not have a divided hoof; it is unclean for you.



Leviticus 11

6 The rabbit, though it chews the cud, does not have a divided hoof; it is **unclean for you**.

7 And the pig, though it has a divided hoof, does not chew the cud; it is **unclean for you**.

8 You **must not eat their meat** or **touch their carcasses**; they are **unclean for you**.



Leviticus 11

9 “Of all the creatures living in the water of the seas and the streams you **may eat any that have fins and scales.**

10 But all creatures in the seas or streams that do not have fins and scales—whether among all the swarming things or among all the other living creatures in the water—you are to **regard as unclean.**



Leviticus 11

11 And since you are to regard them as unclean, **you must not eat their meat**; you must regard their carcasses as unclean.

12 Anything living in the water that does not have fins and scales is to be **regarded as unclean by you**.



Leviticus 11

13 “These are the birds you are to regard as unclean and not eat because they are unclean: the eagle, the vulture, the black vulture,

14 the red kite, any kind of black kite,

15 any kind of raven,



Leviticus 11

16 the horned owl, the screech owl, the gull,
any kind of hawk,

17 the little owl, the cormorant, the great
owl,

18 the white owl, the desert owl, the osprey,

19 the stork, any kind of heron, the hoopoe
and the bat.



Leviticus 11

20 “All flying insects that walk on all fours are to be regarded as **unclean by you**.

21 There are, however, some flying insects that walk on all fours that **you may eat**: those that have jointed legs for hopping on the ground.



Leviticus 11

22 Of these you may eat any kind of locust, katydid, cricket or grasshopper.

23 But all other flying insects that have four legs you are to regard as unclean.



Leviticus 11

24 “You will make yourselves unclean by these; whoever touches their carcasses will be unclean till evening.

25 Whoever picks up one of their carcasses must wash their clothes, and they will be unclean till evening.



Leviticus 11

26 “Every animal that does not have a divided hoof or that does not chew the cud **is unclean for you**; whoever touches the carcass of any of them will be unclean.



Leviticus 11

27 Of all the animals that walk on all fours, those that walk on their paws are **unclean for you**; whoever touches their carcasses will be unclean till evening.

28 Anyone who picks up their carcasses must wash their clothes, and they will be unclean till evening. These animals are **unclean for you**.



Leviticus 11

29 “Of the animals that move along the ground, these are unclean for you: the weasel, the rat, any kind of great lizard, 30 the gecko, the monitor lizard, the wall lizard, the skink and the chameleon.



Leviticus 11

31 Of all those that move along the ground, these are **unclean for you**. Whoever touches them when they are dead will be unclean till evening.



Leviticus 11

41 “Every creature that moves along the ground is to be **regarded as unclean**; it is not to be eaten.

42 You are not to eat any creature that moves along the ground, whether it moves on its belly or walks on all fours or on many feet; **it is unclean**.



Leviticus 11

43 Do not **defile yourselves** by any of these creatures. Do not make yourselves unclean by means of them or **be made unclean by them.**



Leviticus 11

44 I am the Lord your God; **consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy.** Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves along the ground.

45 I am the Lord, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; **therefore be holy, because I am holy.**



Leviticus 11

46 “These are the regulations concerning animals, birds, every living thing that moves about in the water and every creature that moves along the ground.

47 You must **distinguish between the unclean and the clean**, between living creatures that may be eaten and those that may not be eaten.’”



Deuteronomy 14

2 for **you are a people** holy to the Lord your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the Lord has chosen you to be his **treasured possession**.



Deuteronomy 14

3 Do not eat any **detestable thing**.

4 These are the animals you may eat: the ox, the sheep, the goat, 5 the deer, the gazelle, the roe deer, the wild goat, the ibex, the antelope and the mountain sheep.



Deuteronomy 14

6 You may eat any animal that has a divided hoof and that chews the cud.

7 However, of those that chew the cud or that have a divided hoof you may not eat the camel, the rabbit or the hyrax.

Although they chew the cud, they do not have a divided hoof; they are ceremonially unclean for you.



Deuteronomy 14

8 The pig is also unclean; although it has a divided hoof, it does not chew the cud. You are not to eat their meat or touch their carcasses.



Deuteronomy 14

9 Of all the creatures living in the water, you may eat any that has fins and scales.

10 But anything that does not have fins and scales you may not eat; for you it is unclean.



Deuteronomy 14

11 You may eat any clean bird.

12 But these you may not eat: the eagle, the vulture, the black vulture,

13 the red kite, the black kite, any kind of falcon,

14 any kind of raven,



Deuteronomy 14

15 the horned owl, the screech owl, the gull,
any kind of hawk,

16 the little owl, the great owl, the white owl,

17 the desert owl, the osprey, the cormorant,

18 the stork, any kind of heron, the hoopoe
and the bat.



Deuteronomy 14

19 All flying insects are unclean to you; do not eat them.

20 But any winged creature that is clean you may eat.



Deuteronomy 14

21 Do not eat anything you find **already dead**. You may **give it to the foreigner** residing in any of your towns, and they may eat it, or you **may sell it to any other foreigner**. **But you are a people holy to the Lord your God**. Do not cook a young goat in its mother's milk.



This shows the importance of the food law to God. God's food law reveals that not all animal meats are suitable for food.



Some animals are fit for food while others were created for environmental purposes – sort of garbage cleaners of the environment to maintain the ecological balance of the Earth – the scavengers.



Animals fit for human consumption are mainly herbivores – grain, grass and roots eaters.



Their metabolisms are designed differently from scavenger animals. This means that scavenger animals - environmental cleaners - like crocodiles, snakes, crabs, lobsters, clams, mussels and pigs have digestive systems and metabolisms very different from that of humans.



When you eat a scavenger animal, you are actually partaking of their food chain, including decaying animals.



This means that you are introducing into
YOUR system much of the cells, bacteria
and viruses common to their food chain.



Scavenger meats contain more toxins,
bacteria, viruses, micro-organisms and
chemicals that are not compatible with the
human body.



Why the Food Laws?



The food law has health benefits as we have seen from the video. Physically, we get the benefit of living healthier and adding a few more years to our lives.



However, the true benefit is spiritual. The food law is a law of holiness.



Leviticus 11:43-47

43 **Do not defile yourselves** by any of these creatures. Do not make yourselves unclean by means of them or be made unclean by them.

44 I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves along the ground.



Leviticus 11:43-47

45 I am the LORD, who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; **therefore be holy, because I am holy.**

46 “ ‘These are the regulations concerning animals, birds, every living thing that moves about in the water and every creature that moves along the ground.



Leviticus 11:43-47

47 You must distinguish between the unclean and the clean, between living creatures that may be eaten and those that may not be eaten.’ ”



Leviticus 20:25-26

25 “You must therefore make a distinction between clean and unclean animals and between unclean and clean birds. **Do not defile yourselves** by any animal or bird or anything that moves along the ground—those **that I (God) have set apart as unclean for you.**



Leviticus 20:25-26

26 **You are to be holy to me** because I, the LORD, am holy, and **I have set you apart** from the nations to be my own.



The food law is only for God's people.
Non-believers can eat anything. The food
law keeps us holy, clean and sanctified
before God.



Paul clearly said in 1 Corinthians 6:11-20.



1 Corinthians 6:11-20

11 But you were washed, **you were sanctified**, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

12 “I have the right to do anything,” you say—but not everything is beneficial. “I have the right to do anything”—but I will not be mastered by anything.



1 Corinthians 6:11-20

13 You say, “Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both.” The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.



1 Corinthians 6:11-20

14 By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also.

15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never!



1 Corinthians 6:11-20

16 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, “The two will become one flesh.”

17 But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.



1 Corinthians 6:11-20

18 Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body.



1 Corinthians 6:11-20

19 Do you not know that **your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit**, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own;

20 you were bought at a price.

Therefore **honor God with your bodies.**



To keep our body, the temple of the Holy Spirit, holy, there are two (2) things we cannot do:

1. Desecrate your body with unclean food and
2. Engage in sexual immorality.



Paul said these are the two (2) things you do to your own body. All other sins are outside of the body. Since our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, we need to keep it holy as God is Holy.



Are Christians obligated to keep the food
law?



The answer is YES!



People of God are required to keep the food law as a sign of holiness. It is the sign that identifies you as God's people.



Mainstream Christian churches have all abandoned the dietary law of God. The chastisement of prophet Ezekiel comes to mind.



Ezekiel 22:26

“Her **priests do violence** to my law and **profane my holy things**; they **do not distinguish between the holy and the common**; they **teach that there is no difference between the unclean and the clean**; and they shut their eyes to the keeping of my Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them.”



God's laws have not changed and the food laws need to be observed today.



Ezekiel 44:23

“They are to **teach my people the difference between the holy and the common** and show them how to distinguish between the unclean and the clean.”



Many churches erroneously quote
1 Timothy 4:4-5.



1 Timothy 4:4-5

4 “For everything God created is good, and
nothing is to be rejected if it is received
with thanksgiving,

5 because it is consecrated by the word of
God and prayer.”



Does this mean that if you have unclean meats on the dining table; like, a snake, cat, dog, lizard or monkey, you just need to pray over it and it becomes clean to eat?



Is Paul telling Timothy that unclean meat
can now be eaten? Many want you to
believe that it is so but it is farthest from
the truth.



Now. Let us consider what Paul meant
by studying the true context of
1 Timothy 4:1-5:



1 Timothy 4:1-5

- 1 The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and **things taught by demons.**
- 2 Such **teachings come through hypocritical liars**, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.



1 Timothy 4:1-5

3 They forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from CERTAIN FOODS, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth.



1 Timothy 4:1-5

4 For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving,

5 because it is consecrated by the word of God and prayer.



What are these teachings of demons? Paul said the two (2) teachings of demons are forbidding to marry and to eat certain foods.



What is Paul trying to say here? Is Paul saying that distinction between clean and unclean meats is a teaching of demons? Is Paul suggesting that those who teach such distinction are teaching false doctrine?



Of course, not! It is blasphemous to even consider the instruction of God on food law as teachings of demons! The food laws are God's direct instructions of sanctification for His people!



The key to understanding 1 Timothy 4:1-5 is to understand what is meant by “certain FOODS”? What is food in the context of the Bible?



Deuteronomy 14 and Leviticus 11 define the classification of clean and unclean meats. Clean meats are suitable for food. While unclean meats are considered detestable, abominable and not suitable for food.



For example: would you consider a
scorpion, a centipede or a woodworm as
food?



You probably won't consider them as food because they are unclean, maybe even poisonous and not fit for consumption. Hence, they are not classified as food in the Bible.



The context of 1 Timothy 4 is about complete abstinence from meat. During the Apostolic time, vegetarianism was a contention that the gentile churches had to face. Vegetarianism for spiritual reasons has pagan roots.



The moral proposition of “not to kill for food” stems from the concept of immortal soul, reincarnation, and transmigration of soul and spirituality in animals.



So during the apostolic time, there were
gentile converts coming into the church.
Some brought in their beliefs and started
to forbid others to eat meats.



Thus, Paul's instruction to Timothy in 1 Timothy 4 on the matter. Some former vegetarians prefer to keep the vegetable diet and were forcing it upon others and vice-versa. A contention on meat eating arose that Paul necessitated to address



Thus, Paul's instructions in Romans 14.



Romans 14:1-4

- 1 Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters.
- 2 One person's faith allows them to **eat anything**, but another, whose faith is weak, **eats only vegetables**.



Romans 14:1-4

3 The **one who eats everything** must not treat with contempt the **one who does not**, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them.



Romans 14:1-4

4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand.



Romans 14:13-23

13 Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in the way of a brother or sister.

14 I am convinced, being fully persuaded in the Lord Jesus, that **nothing is unclean in itself**. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for that person it is unclean.



Romans 14:13-23

- 15 If your brother or sister is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died.
- 16 Therefore do not let what you know is good be spoken of as evil.



Romans 14:13-23

17 For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit,

18 because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval.



Romans 14:13-23

19 Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.

20 Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. **All food is clean**, but it is wrong for a person to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble.



Romans 14:13-23

21 It is better **not to eat meat** or **drink wine** or to do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall.

22 So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves.



Romans 14:13-23

23 But whoever has doubts is condemned if they eat, because their eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin.



Both in 1 Timothy and Romans 14, the message is clear. Paul declared that vegetarianism for spiritual reason is wrong.



The belief that there is an immortal soul that goes through a series of transmigration and reincarnation is definitely a doctrine of demons.



Paul did not invalidate or abolish the food law that God instituted; thus, God's people should continue to keep it.



Did Jesus Do Away with the Food Laws?



Did Jesus do away with the food laws?
The answer is a NO!



The truth is Jesus upheld the food laws!
How come many claim that Jesus did
away with the food laws citing Mark
7:14-15 as the support scripture?



They claim that Jesus declared all foods to be clean.



Mark 7:14-15

14 Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.

15 **Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them.** Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.”



What was Jesus talking about here?
Was He talking about abolishing the food
law?



Let us go to Mark 7 again to establish the context of the discussion in order to find out what was the subject matter of the discussion.



Mark 7 (NIV)

- 1 The Pharisees and some of the teachers of the law who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus
- 2 and saw some of his disciples **eating food with hands that were defiled**, that is, **unwashed**.



We need to ask:
“What food were the disciples eating?”
“Were they eating clean food or unclean food?”



The Pharisees accused the disciples of eating with unwashed hands not on eating unclean foods.



If the disciples were eating unclean food,
wouldn't that be a bigger issue for the
Pharisees to call out than eating with
unwashed hands?



Obviously, from this particular verse, the exegesis and interpretation of the text is that they were eating clean food with unwashed hands.



Mark 7 (NIV)

- 3 The Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they give their hands a ceremonial washing, holding to the TRADITION of the elders.
- 4 When they come from the marketplace they do not eat unless they wash. And they observe many other traditions, (such as the washing of cups, pitchers and kettles).



Mark 7 (NIV)

5 So the Pharisees and teachers of the law asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the **tradition of the elders instead of eating their food with defiled hands?**” (The accusation was not about eating unclean food but about tradition of eating with washed hands. This is the context of the discussion and must be interpreted from this situation.)



Mark 7 (NIV)

- 6 He replied, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: “ ‘These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. 7 They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely **human rules**.’



Mark 7 (NIV)

8 You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions.”

(Jesus confirmed that discussion was about a Jewish man-made tradition.)

9 And he continued, “You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!



Mark 7 (NIV)

10 For Moses said, 'Honor your father and mother, 'and, 'Anyone who curses their father or mother is to be put to death.'

11 But you say that if anyone declares that what might have been used to help their father or mother is Corban (that is, devoted to God)—



Mark 7 (NIV)

12 then you no longer let them do anything for their father or mother.

13 Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And you do many things like that.”



Mark 7 (NIV)

14 Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, “Listen to me, everyone, and understand this.

15 **Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them.** Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them.”
(this refers to evil thought)



Mark 7 (NIV)

17 After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable.

18 “Are you so dull?” he asked. “Don’t you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them?

19 For it doesn’t go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body.” (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean.)



This is an annotation not found in the original manuscript. Let us consider two (2) other translations – the KJV and Wycliff Bible – to see if the annotations are there as well.



Mark 7 (KJV)

19 Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?

20 And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man.



Mark 7 (Wycliff)

19 for it hath not entered into his heart, but into the womb, and beneath it goeth out, purging all meats.

20 But he said, The things that go out of a man, may not defoul him?



There is no annotation in these two (2) earlier translations. What these verses say is that there is nothing wrong or evil with eating with unwashed hands. You may get some bacteria but the digestive system eventually purges them out.



Mark 7

21 For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder,

22 adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

23 All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”



From the context, the discussion was not talking about eating clean or unclean food. If it were about the food law, the Pharisees and the teachers of the law would have called that out. Rather, the call out was about washing of hands before eating a meal.



To conclude that Jesus declared all foods clean in this incident is a gross error and a gross misunderstanding of the scripture.



Did Jesus do away with the food law?
The answer is no, He did not. In fact, Jesus
was upholding the food law because the
disciples were eating clean foods.



What Did Jesus Eat?



What did Jesus eat and drink when He was on Earth? This should put the issue of whether or not Christians must observe the food law to rest. As imitators of Christ, what Jesus ate should be the standard for Christians, right?



1. What did Jesus feed the 5,000?



Matthew 14:17

We have here only five loaves of **bread** and **two fish**,” they answered.



So, Jesus ate bread and fish.



2. At the wedding at Cana, Jesus made
water into what?



John 2:9

and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into **wine**. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside



Jesus turned water into wine.



3. When Jesus met the disciples at the shore after His resurrection, what did Jesus grill on the shore?



John 21:10-13

10 Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish you have just caught.”

11 So Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn.

12 Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” None of the disciples dared ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord.

13 Jesus came, **took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.**



He ate bread and fish.



4. What did Jesus eat with the disciples at the last supper?



Luke 22:7-14

7 Then came the day of Unleavened Bread on which **the Passover lamb** had to be sacrificed.

8 Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, “Go and make preparations for us to **eat the Passover.**”

9 “Where do you want us to prepare for it?” they asked.



Luke 22:7-14

10 He replied, “As you enter the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him to the house that he enters,
11 and say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’



Luke 22:7-14

12 He will show you a large room upstairs, all furnished. Make preparations there.”

13 They left and found things just as Jesus had told them. So they **prepared the Passover.**

14 When the hour came, Jesus and his apostles reclined at the table.



He ate lamb.



5. Why did the Jews called Jesus a glutton and a drunkard?



Matthew 11:19

The Son of Man came eating and drinking,
and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a
drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and
sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her
deeds."



He drank wine.



6. What food did Jesus eat with the disciples during His 3 ½ years of ministry?



He ate clean meats all the time in keeping
with the food law.



Did Jesus and the apostles
keep the food law?



Jesus, in His life and during His three and a half (3½) year ministry with the disciples, kept the food law. Jesus and the disciples never ate unclean meats.



Many use the account of Acts 10 to teach that Jesus showed and instructed the apostle Peter to kill and eat all kinds of animals because God had cleansed all meat and it was now permissible for Christians to eat any and all kinds of reptiles and meat of unclean animals.



We will go through the account of Acts 10
and you tell me if indeed that was the
instruction of Jesus to Peter: to kill and eat
unclean animals.



Acts 10

1 At Caesarea there was a man named
Cornelius, a centurion in what was known
as the **Italian** Regiment.



This man named Cornelius was a Romans Centurion – therefore a gentile. In those days, a Jew will not co-mingle with a gentile more so go to his house. The gentiles were considered unclean people. Jesus in one instance draw the analogy of an unclean gentile to an unclean animal; i.e., a dog.



We can read this in Matthew 15:22-28

22 A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.”

23 Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”



Matthew 15:22-28

24 He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”

25 The woman came and knelt before him.
“Lord, help me!” she said.

26 He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”



Matthew 15:22-28

27 “Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the **dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.**”

28 Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.



As we go through the message of the vision to Peter, it is important to keep in mind that the gentiles were considered unclean.



Acts 10

- 1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment.
- 2 He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.
- 3 One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, “Cornelius!”



Acts 10

4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. “What is it, Lord?” he asked. The angel answered, “Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.

5 Now **send men to Joppa** to bring back a man named Simon who is called **Peter**.



Acts 10

6 He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea.”

7 When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier who was one of his attendants.

8 He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa.



Acts 10

9 About noon the following day as **they were on their journey** and approaching the city, **Peter went up on the roof to pray.**

10 He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance.



Acts 10

11 He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners.

12 It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds.



Acts 10

13 Then a voice told him, “Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.”

14 “**Surely not, Lord!**” Peter replied. “**I have never eaten anything impure or unclean.**”



The response of Peter is most revealing.
Peter said “surely not, Lord!” Peter knew
from the first instance that unclean food
cannot be eaten.



He further said that he had never eaten anything impure and unclean in his life. And, this includes his 3 ½ years with Jesus. Therefore, it's confirmed that Jesus and the disciples never ate anything unclean. All their lives they ate clean meats in keeping with the food laws.



Acts 10

15 The voice spoke to him a second time,
“Do not call anything impure that God has
made clean.”

16 This happened three times, and
immediately the sheet was taken back to
heaven.



Acts 10

17 While Peter was wondering about the meaning of the vision, the men sent by Cornelius found out where Simon's house was and stopped at the gate.

18 They called out, asking if Simon who was known as Peter was staying there.



Acts 10

19 While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Simon, three men are looking for you.

20 So get up and go downstairs. Do not hesitate to go with them, for I have sent them.”

21 Peter went down and said to the men, “I’m the one you’re looking for. Why have you come?”



Acts 10

22 The men replied, “We have come from Cornelius the centurion. He is a righteous and God-fearing man, who is respected by all the Jewish people. A holy angel told him to ask you to come to his house so that he could hear what you have to say.”



Acts 10

23 Then Peter invited the men into the house to be his guests. The next day Peter started out with them, and some of the believers from Joppa went along.

24 The following day he arrived in Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends.



Acts 10

25 As Peter entered the house, Cornelius met him and fell at his feet in reverence.

26 But Peter made him get up. "Stand up," he said, "I am only a man myself."



Acts 10

27 While talking with him, Peter went inside and found a large gathering of people.

28 He said to them: “You are well aware that it is against our law for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. **But God has shown me that I should not CALL ANYONE IMPURE OR UNCLEAN.**



Acts 10

29 So when I was sent for, **I came without raising any objection.** May I ask why you sent for me?”

30 Cornelius answered: “Three days ago I was in my house praying at this hour, at three in the afternoon. Suddenly a man in shining clothes stood before me



Acts 10

31 and said, 'Cornelius, God has heard your prayer and remembered your gifts to the poor.'

32 Send to Joppa for Simon who is called Peter. He is a guest in the home of Simon the tanner, who lives by the sea.'



Acts 10

33 So I sent for you immediately, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us.”

34 Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism



Acts 10

35 but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.

36 You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, announcing the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.



Acts 10

37 You know what has happened throughout the province of Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached—

38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.



Acts 10

39 “We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a cross,
40 but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen.



Acts 10

41 He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen —by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

42 He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead.



Acts 10

43 All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.



Acts 10

45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles.

46 For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said,



Acts 10

47 “Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have.”

48 So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.



Was the vision about eating unclean meats
or the calling of the gentiles?



I hope the Holy Spirit can reveal to you the true meaning behind the vision for you not be deceived by wrong teachings.



Do You Need to Keep the Food Laws?



Many say that the food law had been
abolished in the New Testament.



What if there is a command not to touch the
unclean things would you follow it?
Yes, there is such a command!



1 Corinthians 6:14-18

14 Do not be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do **righteousness and wickedness** have in common? Or what fellowship can **light have with darkness**?

15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? Or what does a **believer have in common with an unbeliever**?



1 Corinthians 6:14-18

16 What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God. As God has said: “I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people.”



1 Corinthians 6:14-18

17 Therefore, “Come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. **Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you.**”

18 And, “**I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters,** says the Lord Almighty.”



What Do You Think?



Should you be touching or eating unclean things?



Isaiah prophesied the time of Jesus coming
with these words in Isaiah 66.



Isaiah 66:15-17

15 See, the **LORD is coming with fire**, and his chariots are like a whirlwind; he will bring down his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire.

16 For with fire and with his sword the LORD will **execute judgment on all people**, and many will be those slain by the LORD.



Isaiah 66:15-17

17 “Those who consecrate and purify themselves to go into the gardens, following one who is among those **who eat the flesh of pigs, rats and other unclean things—they will meet their end together with the one they follow,**” declares the LORD.



Summation



God is a loving God and He knows what is best for His people. God didn't give the dietary laws because he was mean and didn't want us to enjoy good food.



God gave the laws because He loves us and knows what is best for us. He knows how our human body functions and that by following His dietary laws we should eat a healthy diet and live healthy, clean and holy lives.



Improper foods have a long-term effect on the DNA that last for generations. What we eat not only affects our own health, but also affects the health of our children and grandchildren.



We know from science that scavenger meats are unclean and are not fit for human consumption. They are not compatible with the human genome system and can leave generations of epigenetic effects on the DNA.



Beyond the health benefits of food law is a law of holiness and sanctification. The intent of God is to separate a group of highly favored people, His treasured possession to be holy before Him.



1 Peter 1:13-16

13 Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.

14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.



1 Peter 1:13-16

15 But just as he who called you is holy, **so be holy in all you do;**

16 for it is written: **“Be holy, because I am holy.”**



Now that you know all these things – that
the food law still exists today for God's
people - what must you do?



When you start keeping the food law people
will start to mock at you, laugh at you and
ridicule you.



They will say many funny things about you.
You will be looked at as odd, strange and
even weird for your abstinence from
unclean meats that you used to love so
much before.



When this happens, remember the words of
encouragement from Paul.



Colossians 2:16-17

16 Therefore **do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink**, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day.

17 These are a **shadow of the things that were to come**; the reality, however, is found in Christ.



It is clear in scriptures that the word of God,
including the food law, is forever.



James 1:17

“Every good and perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father of the
heavenly lights, **who does not change like
shifting shadows.**”



God changes not – not His mind, words,
laws and commands. He is the same
yesterday, today and forever. His laws
stand forever.



Now, this brings us back to the creation account. God created two (2) trees in the garden. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”



We know what happened next. The woman saw that the tree was **good for food**, that it was **pleasant to the eyes**, and a tree desirable to **make one wise**, she took of its fruit and **ate**.



She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. Both Adam and Eve, thought that the forbidden fruit was good for food against the advisement, counsel and command of God.



This scenario is still being played out today.
God's laws and food laws have not
changed. But, some people think and
teach that the forbidden unclean meats
are good for food and make one wise and
strong.



Apostle Paul strongly reminds us today
saying:

“Come out from among them And be
separate, says the Lord. Do not touch
what is unclean, And I will receive you. I
will be a Father to you, And you shall be
My sons and daughters, Says the Lord
Almighty.”



Now you know. Now you have a choice. It is not easy to keep the food laws. Exotic meats are enticing to the eyes and we can make God of our stomach.



It was not easy for Eve when tempted, it was not easy for people during the time of Jesus and the disciples nor it is easy for us today to keep the food laws.



It takes faith to keep all God's
commandments – including the food laws.
Yet, it will be your sign of holiness.



You keep the food laws because you are a people holy to the Lord – God's very precious and treasured possession!



Keep the food laws.
Be holy because God is holy!

