

1 Timothy 4:6 If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.

1 Timothy 4:4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; 5 for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

ARE YOU TIRED OF FOOD DISCOMFORT OR ALLERGIES, WHICH PROHIBITS NOURISHMENT WHICH YOU ENJOY? WANT SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE? DELIVERANCE? NOT “POSITIVE THINKING”, OR “MIND OVER BODY” POWER, BUT BASIC SCRIPTURE PRINCIPLES WHICH WILL NOT FAIL IF APPLIED...AS YOU FOCUS IN THE WORD OF GOD.

IN MANY INSTANCES WE MISS SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS AND PROMISES, WHICH ARE OURS, DUE TO LACK OF UNDERSTANDING “WORD” MEANINGS. IT IS NOT THAT WE ARE NOT AWARE OF WHAT A PASSAGE IN THE BIBLE SAYS, BUT WE DO NOT APPLY THE PASSAGE TO OUR INDIVIDUAL NEEDS.

HERE IS AN ILLUSTRATION OF WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS IN THIS REGARD.

Isaiah 28:10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little."

AND

Isaiah 28:13 But the word of the LORD was to them, "Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little," that they might go and fall backward, and be broken and snared and caught.

IN THE ABOVE, THE WORDS “LINE AND “PRECEPT” DO NOT HAVE AS GREAT AN IMPACT AS DO THE WORDS “VERSE” AND “INSTRUCTION”. REWRITING THE SCRIPTURE IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER OPENS UP MORE CLEARLY TO THE READER:

FOR INSTRUCTION MUST BE UPON INSTRUCTION, INSTRUCTION UPON INSTRUCTION: VERSE UON VERSE, VERSE UON VERSE: HERE A LITTLE, AND THEE A LITTLE.

ANOTHER VERSE WHICH MAY JAR THE READER TO A FULLER KNOWLEDGE WOULD BE:

Psalms 119:27 Make me understand the way of Your precepts; So shall I meditate on Your wondrous works.

IN OTHER WORDS, MAKE ME TO UNDERSTAND YOUR INSTRUCTIONS TO FOLLOW; SO I shall know your wondrous works.

HENCE, WE TAKE NOTE AGAIN OF THE MEANING OF THE WORD “PRECEPT”.

PRECEPT...A PRINCIPLE.....A RULE OF ACTION.....INSTRUCTIONS.
IN A SIMPLER TERM.....A BUILDING PROCESS.

AN EXAMPLE OF THE “BUILDING PROCESS” IS FOUND IN :

Mark 16:15 -20 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; "they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

NOTE THE BUILDING PROCESS:

1. HE THAT BELIEVES AND IS BAPTIZED.....YOU MUST BE SAVED.
2. WHEN YOU ARE SAVED.....SIGNS FOLLOW.....YOU CAST OUT DEVILS, SPEAK WITH NEW TONGUES, TAKE UP SERPENTS.....A DEADLY DRINK SHALL NOT HURT YOU, YOU CAN LAY HANDS ON THE SICK, THEY WILL RECOVER.
3. THE LORD WORKS WITH YOU AND CONFIRMS THE SIGNS.....

LET US CONTINUE OUR DISCUSSION REGARDING DISCOMFORT FROM FOODS.

WHEN PRAYING PRIOR TO OUR MEALS, WE PAY “BLESS THIS FOOD TO OUR BODIES”. THIS IS VAIN REPETITION REFERRED TO IN:

Matthew 6:7 "But when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

UNFORTUNATELY, WE DO NOT GIVE FORETHOUGHT AS TO WHAT WE ARE REALLY SAYING; THEREFORE, WE ARE STILL PLAGUED WITH PHYSICAL DISCOMFORT – BE IT EXCESS GAS, INDIGESTION, HEART BURN, ETC.

TO “BLESS” IS TO “MAKE HOLY, TO SANCTIFY”. IF WE PRAY WITH UNDERSTANDING, THE WORD OF GOD WILL STAND ON ITS OWN GROUND. IT CANNOT BE UNTRUE TO ITSELF.

MUST YOU BE ENDOWED WITH AN ABUNDANCE OF FAITH TO CLAIM OR SUCCEED IN THIS APPLICATION?.....OF COURSE THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION IS EMPHATICALLY NO. HOW CAN THE READER BE ASSURED?

Romans 12:3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.

ONE WHO BELIEVES THAT JESUS IS TRULY THE SON OF GOD AND CONFESSES WITH HIS MOUTH, HAS SUFFICIENT FAITH, FOR HIS FAITH CAME WHEN HE BECAME A BELIEVER. WHAT DOES THE SCRIPTURE SAY?

Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

AND

Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

LET THE READER (OR LISTENER) NOW ATTACK HIS MIND TO DISPENSE OF ANY PRECONCEIVED IDEA THAT YOU ARE STILL UNDER THE LAW OR CURSE.....YOU ARE NO LONGER IN BONDAGE TO THE ELEMENTS, AND THE OLD TESTAMENT, NOR IN BONDAGE TO THEOLOGY, SUCH AS ORDINANCES, DECREES, ETC.

AGAIN LET US QUOTE THE WORD OF GOD.....

Matthew 5:17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.

HOW DID JESUS FULFILL THE LAW?.....BY BEING CRUCIFIED AS IT IS WRITTEN:

Galatians 3:13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

IS THIS CONFUSING?.....PETER, THE APOSTLE WAS CONFUSED. HE WAS BESIDE HIMSELF...FOR 38 YEARS OR SO, THE LAW GIVEN BY GOD TO MOSES HAD BE PETER'S SCHOOLMASTER (IN OTHER WORDS, RULES TO LIVE BY), AND HE HAD ALWAYS OBEYED THE LAW. GOD SUDDENLY CHANGED EVERYTHING: GOD TOLD PETER (AND HE IS ALSO TELLING YOU), THAT NOW YOU CAN EAT ANYTHING, EVEN THOUGH GOD TOLD MOSES NOT TO EAT ANYTHING THAT WAS UNCLEAN. THIS DID NOT MAKE SENSE TO PETER.

THREE TIMES GOD HAD TO TELL PETER, AS WE READ.....

Acts 10:10 -16 Then he became very hungry and wanted to eat; but while they made ready, he fell into a trance and saw heaven opened and an object like a great sheet bound at the four corners, descending to him and let down to the earth. In it were all kinds of four-footed animals of the earth, wild beasts, creeping things, and birds of the air. And a voice came to him, "Rise, Peter; kill and eat." But Peter said, "Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean." And a voice spoke to him again the second time, "What God has cleansed you must not call common." This was done three times. And the object was taken up into heaven again.

PAUL TELLS US HOW TO HAVE THE VICTORY.

Romans 14:14 I know and am convinced by the Lord Jesus that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean.

WHAT HE IS SAYING IS THAT OUR PAST EXPERIENCE HAS CONVINCED US THAT IF WE EAT CERTAIN FOODS, WE WILL BE AFFECTED.....YET GOD SAYS OTHERWISE.

Romans 14:20 Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are pure, but it is evil for the man who eats with offense (UNBELIEF).

IF YOU EAT BELIEVING IT CAN HARM YOU, IT WILL.....BELIEVE IT WILL NOT HARM YOU AND IT WILL NOT.....POSITIVE THINKING?.....NO POSITIVE FAITH

WHAT ELSE DOES THE WORD SAY?

Titus 1:15 To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled.

HOW DO WE BECOME PURE?.....BY BELIEVING.....

- 1 Timothy 4:1 Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons,
- 2 speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron,
- 3 forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth.
- 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving;
- 5 for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

AND

Romans 14:22 Do you have faith? Have it to yourself before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves.

WHOM ARE YOU GOING TO BELIEVE?.....MAN OR CHRIST?

Matthew 15:10-11 Then He called the multitude and said to them, "Hear and understand: "Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man."

FOLLOWING UP, PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT;

Mark 7:15 "There is nothing that enters a man from outside which can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are the things that defile a man.

REMEMBER, OUR WALK WITH GOD IS ONE OF FAITH. AS IT STATES:

Romans 14:23 But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin.

1 Corinthians 8:8 But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse.

PRAISE THE FATHER THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, THAT YOU ARE NOW ABLE TO STAND ON THE WORD OF GOD.

YOU CAN NOW SAY AS THE WORDS SAYS:

- Romans 14:1 Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things.
- 2 For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables.

BELIEVE ON THE WORD OF GOD!

Colossians 2:6 As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,

PRAY BELIEVING, LOOKING AT YOUR FOOD, AND ASKING GOD TO SANCTIFY IT TO YOUR BODY IN THE NAME OF JESUS.

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