

THE FULLY PREACHED GOSPEL "Disciple's Food: Milk and Meat Doctrines"

John 21:1-9, 12-13

- 1 After these things Jesus shewed himself again to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias; and on this wise shewed he himself.
- 2 There were together Simon Peter, and Thomas called Didymus, and Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, and the sons of Zebedee, and two other of his disciples.
- 3 Simon Peter saith unto them, I go a fishing. They say unto him, We also go with thee. They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing.
- 4 But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus.
- 5 Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered him, No.
- 6 And he said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find. They cast therefore, and now they were not able to draw it for the multitude of fishes.
- 7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord. Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him, (for he was naked,) and did cast himself into the sea.
- 8 And the other disciples came in a little ship; (for they were not far from land, but as it were two hundred cubits,) dragging the net with fishes.
- 9 As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.
- 12 Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine. And none of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord.
- 13 Jesus then cometh, and taketh bread, and giveth them, and fish likewise. (KJV)

These disciples, who Jesus had trained, who had seen him in his resurrected form, had forsaken the ministry and gone back to fishing. To these disciples Jesus asked, "Children (little ones, immature ones, not fully grown ones) have you any meat?" To which they had to reply, "No."

Acts 2:46

And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness¹ and singleness of heart, (KJV)

Strong's definition-

20 agalliasis¹ (ag-al-lee'-as-is); from **21**; exultation; specially, welcome: KJV-- gladness, (exceeding) joy.

21 agalliao (ag-al-lee-ah'-o); from agan (much) and **242**; properly, to jump for joy, i.e. exult: KJV-- be (exceeding) glad, with exceeding joy, rejoice (greatly).

242 hallomai (hal'-lom-ahee); middle voice of apparently a primary verb; to jump; figuratively, to gush: KJV-- leap, spring up.

Thayer's definition-

20 **agalliasis**¹- exultation, extreme joy, gladness At feasts, people were anointed with the "oil of gladness". Paul, in Heb. 1:9, is alluding to this inaugural ceremony of anointing, and uses it as an emblem of the divine power and majesty to which the Son of God has been exalted.

Vine's definition-

2. **agalliasis**¹ ^20^, "exultation, exuberant joy" (akin to A, No. 2), is translated "gladness" in <Luke 1:14; Acts 2:6; Heb. 1:9>; "joy" in <Luke 1:44>; "exceeding joy" in <Jude 24>. It indicates a more exultant "joy" than No. 1. In the Sept. this word is found chiefly in the Psalms, where it denotes "joy" in God's redemptive work, e. g., <30:5; 42:4; 45:7,15>. (from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words)(Copyright (C) 1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers)

Heb 1:9

Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of **gladness**¹ above thy fellows. (KJV)

Heb 5:12-14

12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the **oracles**² of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Thayer's definition-

3051 **logion**²- a brief utterance, a divine oracle (doubtless because oracles were generally brief)

a) in the New Testament, the words or utterances of God

b) used of the contents of the Mosaic law

Acts 7:38 (KJV)

This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received the lively **oracles**² to give unto us:

Rom 3:1-2 (KJV)

1 What advantage then hath the Jew? or what profit is there of circumcision?

2 Much every way: chiefly, because that unto them were committed the **oracles**² of God.

1 Pet 4:11

If any man speak, let him speak as the **oracles**² of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. (KJV)

The oracles of God speak specifically to the law of Moses. The first principles of the oracles of God would be the ten commandments. Remembering this is the book of Hebrews, he's telling them that they are as those who need to be told again information that they should have learned

in infancy.

1 Cor 3:1-2

1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able. (KJV)

Paul is telling the Corinthians that not only was he not able to teach them meat when he was there, but that they weren't able to handle it now. What does that tell you about 1 Corinthians? What are some of the major doctrines contained in that book?

1 Corinthians 11	-	The Lord's Supper
1 Corinthians 12	-	Charismata and Manifestations
1 Corinthians 13	-	The Love of God
1 Corinthians 14	-	The Use of Spiritual Giftings in the Church
1 Corinthians 15	-	The Resurrection of the Dead

According to Paul's words, it's all milk! This should be encouraging, because when you see what the qualifications are for eating meat, you'll be much more confident about drinking your milk! (And not crying about when you spill it!)

Acts 18:11 (KJV)

And he continued there a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.

1 Cor 2:1-5

1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.

2 For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling.

4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

In the discipleship process, there is milk and meat instruction. Paul's declaration in 1 Corinthians is that he had taught them only milk, not meat. This milk of the word was Jesus Christ and him crucified accompanied by verifying signs of the Holy Spirit. This he did, as Acts 18 tells us, for a year-and-a-half. What are the milk doctrines?

Heb 6:1-3

1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,

2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

3 And this will we do, if God permit. (KJV)

Following is an example of how Peter touched on all the foundational milk of the Word in Acts 2:38-41.

Acts 2:38-41

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

40 And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. (KJV)

Repentance from dead works	-	"Repent"
Faith in God	-	"The promise is for you"
Doctrines of baptisms	-	"and be baptized"
Laying on of hands	-	"were baptized"
Resurrection of the dead	-	"in the name of Jesus Christ"
Eternal judgment	-	"save yourselves from this corrupt generation"

These doctrines are essential to the Christian faith. And as you can see, though one can touch on all of them in four verses, one could also spend a considerable time mastering each of them. We should not disdain the milk of the Word.

1 Pet 1:22-2:2

22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23 Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.

24 For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:

25 But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.

1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: (KJV)

Strong defines the Greek word [epipotheo] translated "desire": to dote upon, i.e. intensely crave possession. The milk of the Word does cause growth. Anyone who has watched a breast fed baby develop can attest to this wonder. The child receives nothing but liquid, and yet it grows. Maturing to meat does not mean an abandonment of milk.

2 Pet 1:12-13

12 So I will always remind you of these things, even though you know them and are firmly established in the truth you now have.

13 I think it is right to refresh your memory as long as I live in the tent of this body, (NIV)

Phil 3:1

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe. (KJV)

What are the attitudes that keeps us from being able to receive and digest meat?

1. Carnality-

Cor 3:1-3

1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.

2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.

3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men? (KJV)

Rom 8:5-8

5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. (KJV)

Heb 11:5-6

5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. (KJV)

Walking by the spirit without faithfulness is impossible! Hebrews 11 is the meat doctrine of faithfulness, not the milk doctrine of faith in God. If we cannot please him without faithfulness and we cannot please him by walking in the flesh, then it must stand to reason that faithfulness is required to walk by the spirit (or walking by the spirit is required for faithfulness) and thus a God-pleasing life. What is the cure for carnality?

Rom 13:14

But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof. (KJV)

As we put on the Lord Jesus Christ, we grow up in Him and thus reach maturity.

1 Cor 2:6

Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect [*mature, fully grown*]: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: (KJV)

2. Laziness-

Heb 5:11 (KJV)

Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are **dull³** of hearing.

Strong's definition-

3576 **nothros³** (no-thros'); from a derivative of **3541**; sluggish, i.e. (literally) lazy, or (figuratively) stupid: KJV-- dull, slothful.

3541 nothos (noth'-os); of uncertain affinity; a spurious or illegitimate son: KJV-- bastard.

Heb 12:8 (KJV)

But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye **bastards**, and not sons.

The connection in Scripture between diligence (or the lack thereof) and eating is extensive.

Prov 6:6-11

6 Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise:

7 Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler,

8 Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

9 How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?

10 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

11 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man. (KJV)

Prov 10:5

He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame. (KJV)

Prov 12:27

The slothful man roasteth not that which he took in hunting: but the substance of a diligent man is precious. (KJV)

Prov 13:4 (KJV)

The soul of the sluggard desireth, and hath nothing: but the soul of the diligent shall be made fat.

Prov 19:15 "Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger." (KJV)

Prov 19:24 (NKJ)

A lazy man buries his hand in the bowl, and will not so much as bring it to his mouth again.

Prov 20:4

The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing. (KJV)

Prov 24:30-34

30 I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding;

31 And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the

stone wall thereof was broken down.

32 Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.

33 Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep:

34 So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man. (KJV)

Matt 25:26, 30

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed:

30 And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. (KJV)

Slothfulness is not a character trait that God admires. The fourth commandment says that "Six days you shall labor and do all your work." The first thing God did with Adam after he created him was to put him in the Garden to work it and take care of it. Think for a moment how many slothful people God called into ministry. Abraham was a successful shepherd, warrior, and businessman. Isaac diligently reclaimed wells his father had dug. Jacob diligently worked for Laban for twenty years. Joseph was on an errand from his father when he was sold into slavery. Moses was tending his father-in-law's sheep when he encountered the burning bush. Saul was looking for his father's donkeys. David was tending his father's sheep when he was anointed king and was on an errand from his father when he killed Goliath. Peter, Andrew, James, and John were all fishing when Jesus called them. Matthew was collecting taxes when Jesus called him. And Saul was diligently and zealously persecuting Christians when the Lord called him. Diligence will not only get meat on your table, it will aid you in digesting it as well.

Rom 12:11 "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord;" (KJV)

"not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord;" (NKJ)

II Th 3:10-12

10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

12 Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread. (KJV)

The ministry of teachers is a necessary and vital ministry in the body of Christ. That being said, our diet should not simply consist of someone else's baking. Disciples need to work the Word themselves in quietness and eat their own bread as well.

Heb 6:10-12

10 For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

11 And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end:

12 That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. (KJV)

3. Deafness (or Selective Hearing)-

Matt 13:10-16

- 10 And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them in parables?
- 11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given.
- 12 For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.
- 13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand.
- 14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:
- 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.
- 16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. (KJV)

What kind of information does this tell you that parables contain? Meat!

Rom 11:8

(According as it is written, God hath given them the spirit of slumber, eyes that they should not see, and ears that they should not hear;) unto this day. (KJV)

2 Tim 4:3-4

- 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;
- 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. (KJV)

Gal 3:1-5

- 1 O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?
- 2 This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?
- 3 Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?
- 4 Have ye suffered so many things in vain? if it be yet in vain.
- 5 He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? (KJV)

Rom 10:17 "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. [Christ]" (KJV)

4. Inexperience-

Heb 5:13

For every one that useth milk is **unskilful**⁴ in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. (KJV)

Strong's definition-

552 **apeiros**⁴ (ap'-i-ros); from 1 (as a negative particle) and **3984**; inexperienced, i.e. ignorant:

KJV-- unskilful.

3984 peira (pi'-rah); from the base of **4008** (through the idea of piercing); a test, i.e. attempt, experience: KJV-- assaying, trial.

4008 peran (per'-an); apparently accusative case of an obsolete derivative of peiro (to "pierce"); through (as adverb or preposition), i.e. across: KJV-- beyond, farther (other) side, over.

Vine's definition-

1. **apeiros**⁴ ^552^, "without experience" (a, negative, peira, "a trial, experiment") is used in <Heb. 5:13>, RV, "without experience," KJV, "unskillful," with reference to "the word of righteousness."# In the Sept., <Num. 14:23>, of youths; <Jer. 2:6>, of a land, "untried"; <Zech. 11:15>, of a shepherd.# (from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words) (Copyright (C) 1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers)

Heb 11:36

And others had **trial**⁴ of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: (KJV)

The term "unskilled" in the Greek does not refer to technical research knowledge. It means trying it out, actually doing it. They were still in need of milk because they were not used to walking out on the word of righteousness. As we taught last week, we need to be doers of the word not hearers only.

A carnal, lazy, deaf, and inexperienced Christian is by definition immature. We need to be led by the spirit, diligently attentive to our Lord's direction and obedient to carry it out.

1 Cor 2:6-8

6 Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

8 Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. (KJV)

The wisdom of God is imparted to those who are mature. It is the wisdom contained in the mystery. That is why I told you that the parables contained meat. Parables are hidden wisdom.

Heb 5:14

But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. (KJV)

1 Tim 4:7-8

7 But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

8 For bodily exercise profiteth little: but godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. (KJV)

We are to condition ourselves, work out and strengthen our skill in godliness, our true vital relationship with God. Surely, he exercises us to a proper relationship with him through chastening.

Heb 12:11

Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. (KJV)

We prepare ourselves to receive the meat of God's Word by having correctly assimilated the milk: hearing, doing, growing. Instead of being carnal, we walk after the spirit. Instead of being slothful, we show diligence in the Father's business. Instead of being deaf, we listen to our Lord with pierced ears. Instead of being inexperienced, we gain understanding through obedience to what we have heard. In doing all this, we are exercising ourselves unto godliness with a well used judgment that can tell the difference between good and evil and chooses the good way.

What then are the meat doctrines? As you recall, the principles of the oracles of God are the Ten Commandments. Also, to receive meat, we must be after the spirit, not the flesh.

Rom 8:2-4

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (KJV)

The letter of the law affected the flesh of man. This is why Christ abolished the law "in his flesh" (Eph. 2:15).

Gal 3:24-26

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. (KJV)

Gal 4:1-7

1 Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be lord of all;

2 But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.

3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements [*same word as the word "principles" in Heb. 5:12*] of the world:

4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,

5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ. (KJV)

When we begin talking about walking as a son of God and being His heir through Christ, we have transitioned from the letter of the law to the spirit of the law, from infancy to maturity, from milk to meat. What is the meat of the word that the writer of Hebrews wanted to transmit?

Heb 5:8-11 (KJV)

- 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;
- 9 And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;
- 10 Called of God an high priest after the order of Melchisedec.
- 11 Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing.

Sonship obedience learned by suffering as exemplified by our High Priest after the order of Melchisedek, Jesus Christ! The following chart is a short synopsis of the remaining chapters in Hebrews, where meat is served.

THE MEAT OF HEBREWS		
Reference	The Old (milk)	The New (meat)
Hebrews 7	Aaronic Priesthood	Melchizedek Priesthood
	Priest by law (vs. 28)	Priest by Oath (vs. 28)
Hebrews 8	Old Covenant	New Covenant
	Earthly Sanctuary	Heavenly Sanctuary
Hebrews 9	Blood of animals	Blood of Christ
Hebrews 10	Body of animals	Body of Christ
Hebrews 11	(The Way of Faithfulness)	
	Walk by sight	Walk of hope
	Land of Canaan	Heavenly Jerusalem
Hebrews 12	Penalty of the Law	The Father's discipline
	Mount Sinai	Mount Zion
Hebrews 13	Table of shewbread	Bread from Heaven
	Sin offering burned outside the camp	Fellowship of His Sufferings (vs. 3, 13)
	Temple Sacrifices	Sacrifice of Praise and Alms Deeds

Heb 13:20-21 (KJV)

- 20 Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
- 21 Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is

wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Isa 55:1-3

1 Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

2 Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labour for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.

3 Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David. (KJV)

May the Lord bless us in the sure mercies of David and give us meat from His table. Amen!