



"This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast" - Hebrews 6:19

Welcome! We're glad you are here!

Sunday - May 28, 2023

Is It a Sin to Eat Blood?

by Troy Spradlin

We receive a lot of interesting questions through email and Bible correspondence because of our support and involvement with the *Good News Today* TV program. [I have two segments on the program: *Repairing Our Understanding* and *Have a Bible Question*]. It is broadcasted on cable television and radio in hundreds of towns and cities throughout the southeast United States. A recent question we received really caught my attention. Someone wrote, "Is it wrong to eat blood? If it is wrong to eat blood, should Christians read books that have a hero that is a vampire?" Hmmm ... well, vampires are fictional, so let's open our Bibles to find the answer about eating blood.

In the first book of the Old Testament, Genesis, we find God instructing Noah to "*Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth*" (Gen 9:1) after He had destroyed the wicked with a great flood (7:23). God went on to say, "*I have given you all things, even as the green herbs. But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.*" (Gen 9:3-4) God made it very clear that Noah had food restrictions to observe. Then, roughly 450 years later, God gave this command to Moses, "*Only be sure that you do not eat the blood, for the blood is the life; you may not eat the life with the meat.*" (Deuteronomy 12:23). In addition to these two verses, there are at least nine others that prohibit eating of blood: Gen 9:4, Exodus 12:7; Lev 3:17, 7:26, 17:11,14, 19:26; Deu 12:16, 27, 15:23.

The Bible is rather unambiguous when it comes to God's people consuming blood, it was a sin to eat it!

Yet, it is quite fascinating that there are many cultures who have consumed blood for centuries. When we were in Paraguay, *blood sausage* was a regular offering on buffets. In Vietnam and Britain, *blood porridge* is a very common dish, while in Poland, *black czarnina stew* is part of their traditional fare, which is similar to Portugal's version, called *Papas De Sarrabulho*. Meanwhile, in Finland, Norway and Sweden, they prepare *blood pancakes* as part of their gastronomic culture, while Italy mixes blood with chocolate to make what is known as *Sanguinaccio Dolce*. Taiwan has peculiar cultural tradition of *pig blood cakes* served up like a popsicle. Then, there is *sangre encebollada* which is a blood and onion concoction served as a Spanish meal.

So, with many cultures eating blood, have things changed since Old Testament times? More importantly, are Christians prohibited from eating blood? Perhaps, the best instruction for modern day Christians is found in **Acts 15:28-29**. "*It seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things: that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, ...*" Now, note that this was not the opinion of man, but rather, a matter of the Holy Spirit. In other words, it was an inspired, divine message. What did the Spirit say about blood? He instructed Christians to abstain from eating it! It is wrong to eat it.

Therefore, after considering these Bible passages, we can conclude that in every era of man's existence, God has commanded mankind to *NOT* eat blood. It was not allowed under the Patriarchal era, nor under the Mosaical era, or even now under the new covenant of Christ. So, it doesn't really matter how many cultures eat blood, or how common it may have become, God's will on the subject is all that matters. God's will is that His creation does not eat the very thing that gives it life and atonement (read Leviticus 17:11-12).



Blood sausage is a popular side dish in South America

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

YG BIRTHDAY NIGHT

Wed. May 31

5 pm in the FH



Kingdom Kids Splash Bash

June 3rd 11:00 am -1:00 pm

5318 Lakewood Drive

Milton, FL



Panhandle Devo

Sign up by
Wednesday,
May 24

June 4

SUMMER KICKOFF

JUNE 6

SIGN UP BY WEDNESDAY, MAY 24

2023 Camp Dates

Teen Week (6-12 grades):

June 11 – 16

Jr. Week (1-5 grades):

June 25 – 29

Register @

www.gulfcoastbiblecamp.com



Save the Date:
Saturday, July 1st

Margaret St.
Church of Christ



NEW HOPE MISSION TRIP

July 8-12

Sign up by Sunday, June 4

LEGACY

AT FAULKNER UNIVERSITY

Sign up & pay by May 7th

JULY 20TH-23RD, 2023

"How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word." - Psalm 119:9-1

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Special

- Patricia Ann* - prayers, health (MZL)
- Mark Autrey - open heart surgery / recovery
- Janice Carter* - tests, waiting on results
- Gifford family - loss of Jean
- Hatcher family* - loss of mom, Rachel Sullins
- Stefanie Jennings* - surgery, recovery
- Terry Jennings* - medical complication
- Linda Loftin* and family - loss of Jim*
- Eddie Longmire* - loss of brother, Sam
- Donald McGriff* - surgery/recovery
- Collin Mense - health (Pat Mense*)
- Greg Smith* family - loss of foster son
- Scott Shanahan - loss of father, Kevin
- Springer family - loss of Kayla
- Vonada family - loss of Troy*
- Gloria Vonada* - foot surgery / recovery
- Jan Whitney* - heart procedure, recovery

2023 Recently Baptized / Restored / Identified

- Brittany Parker* - Baptized
- Dawson Hitchcock - Baptized
- Olivia Gingerich - Baptized
- Lanie Scott* - Baptized
- Sharon Parker* - Baptized
- Terry & Judy Jennings - Identified
- Josh & Stephanie Jennings - Identified
- Laura Oliver* - Identified
- Jeremy & Amber Dunaway* - Identified

Mission Works

- Shanahans* - Mission Italy
- Eliezer Perez - San Lorenzo, Paraguay
- Trevor Smoot - Domestic Missions
- Sebastain Garcia - Brazil
- SRC Correctional Institute

Students in College

- Seth Crider
- Stephen English
- Caitlyn Frizzell
- Jackson Lash
- Caleb Owens
- Nick Webb
- Reed Wilson
- Lexi Wildes

Other Requests / Health Issues

- Gerry Baldwin - health (J.Pace sister)
- Sharon Ates - recovery (Gallagher*)
- Bob Black - health (Lipford*)
- John & Gale Broadfoot - health
- Winston Burnham* - health
- Sherryn Canniff* - health, pain
- Sherry Davis* - health
- Fatima Deem - pregnant, problems (Nunes)
- Keturah Dickey - MS (K. Longmire*)
- Laura Elliot - (S. Lee* mom)
- Myrna Fuller* - pulmonary fibrosis
- Steve Fulton - pain, health difficulties
- Dixie Gorham
- Daphne Hamilton - surgeries, health
- Edwina Harris - health (J.Pace sister)
- Steve Hartzog - health issues (Alona's friend)
- Barbara Helms* - health
- Chris Hollis - (McGriff)
- Kenna Jackson - (Kristina P's* friend)
- Marcia Jones - (Kenya's* friend)
- Lauren Kreis* (Martin family) - prayers
- Yvonne Loomis - prayers, health (Nunes*)
- Cindy Marotta - paralyzed (Nunes*)
- Vicente Martinez - kidney transplant
- Mary McGriff* - health, asthma
- Ron Miller - esophagus infection (Ina Ruth*)
- Jeffery Norman - transplant list (Nunes*)
- Patsy Prince - (Burnham*)
- Otis & Eleanor Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Kara Ritchie - blood disorder (M.Scott*)
- Glenn Rose - heart problems (Garcia*)
- August Smith - cleft palate (J.English*)
- Zylar Thompson - rescheduled surgery
- Julia Torpey* - health

Military

- Nick Bartell - Ft. Walton Beach
- John Bartell - Washington, DC
- Spencer England - Japan
- Spencer Gable-New London, Groton, CT
- Amya Huey* - Italy
- Ni Mack - Kansas

Cancer

- Kandi Armand - (Bostwick*)
- Justin Barnhart - former member
- Ron Bartanen* - cancer
- Darlene Baxley* - spread to her spine (Baxley*)
- Darrell Bozeman*
- Misty Bray* - (Bird*)
- Mark Carlson - (C.Davis*)
- Tish Clark - (Hatcher*)
- Pat Deforest*
- Eddie English - (R.English*)
- Timothy Ezzell - former member
- Chris Hendrix - (Baxley*)
- Ricky Jenning - (McGriff*)
- Lisa (Dixon) Johnson - (McGriff*)
- Tierney Lancaster - rare blood (Baxley*)
- Marie and Jeff Lorentz - (J. Bartell*)
- Peter Machon - (Torpey*)
- Darrel Mason - (D.Hill*)
- Karen Parker - (Spradlin* friend)
- Karen Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Megan Sanders - brain cancer (Blisse*)
- Al Sherdan - bladder/prostatic cancer (Coen)
- Brooks Ann Singley* - good news!
- Mary Lee Smith - (McGriff*)
- Marlene Smith - (Fulton*)
- Donnie Turner - cancer (Helms*)
- Reynold Voeltz - (Boughton's friend)
- David Walther - brain (English*)
- Kellie (Wiggins) Ward - (former mem.)
- Daisy Jean Williams - (J.Pace)

Assisted Living / Shut-Ins / Rehab

- Sherryn Canniff - homebound
- Josie Coons - hospice (McReynolds*)
- Donna Dudley - Life Care Center (S. Davis*)
- Annie Favorite - Haven (Mary Lou's mom)
- Bobbie Garcia* - Fort Walton Beach
- Betty Lee - homebound (D. Lee's mom*)
- Linda Mann* - Shut In
- Ina Ruth Miller* - Grandview Retire Center
- Ruth Phillips* - Shut In
- Jim Pitts - Daphne, AL
- Lillian Raines* - Victorian Manor
- Mary Salinas* - Victorian Manor
- Faye Smith (Jeanna's mom) - Shut In

*Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.
The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. ~ James 5:16*

Ladies Reconnect Weekend

— September 22nd - 24th —

Please make your payment online or
place in the collection plate.

Deadline is June 4th!



Planning Committee Meeting

June 4th @ 5 PM
ROOM 303

All are welcomed!



SERVING WITH HONOR

SUNDAY, MAY 28

MORNING

Opening Prayer Jared Lee
 Song Director Casey Bearden
 Sermon Troy Spradlin
 "Come to Jesus"
 Scripture Reading ... Luke McReynolds
 John 6:35-45
 Closing Prayer Joe Wilson

Serving Communion (Left - Right):

Jeff Scott Brett Napier
 Chris Davis Justin Davis
 Dane Harrington (Balcony)
 Comments John Pace

EVENING

Opening Prayer Bob Locklin
 Singing Brody Crider
 Scripture Josh Jennings
 Matthew 25:31-40
 Comments John Pace

Worship Service and Preparation:

Communion Prep David English
 PowerPoint Brooks Singley
 Greeters: Elsa Nunes
 Secure Building Jeff Scott

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Song Director Stephen English
 Opening Prayer Joe Bartell

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORT:

Sunday Bible Class 155
 AM Worship 200
 PM Worship 124
 Wed. Night Bible Class 166
 Contribution \$8,848

TIMES OF SERVICES:

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:00 am
 Sunday AM Worship 10:00 am
 Sunday PM Classes, Worship . 6:00 pm
 Wednesday PM Bible Class 6:30 pm

Visitors:

Thank you for coming!

You are our honored guest!

For more information about the church, spiritual topics, our classes, and activities, there is a tract rack at the entrance of the auditorium for your convenience.

Or, ask any member for assistance.

Please take a moment to fill out a visitors card, or sign our guest book so that we might have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

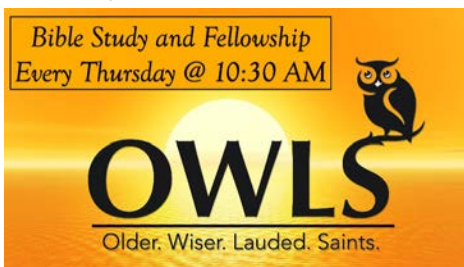
ADMINISTRATION

- Deadline for all bulletin items is Thursday, by noon.



EDUCATION

- Adult and Children Bible classes available on Sundays @ 9 AM and Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM.
- Willing to teach? See Chris Davis!



WORSHIP

- Service Rosters are available on the Welcome Desk and Margaret Street website (listed under "Archives")
- "LISTEN" devices available in the foyer, located in the Armoire.

<WiFi Password posted in Foyer>



Scan this QR Code to open webpage for online giving

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DEACONS* & MINISTRIES

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 Building & Grounds Paul Lipford*
 Education Chris Davis*
 Evangelism Troy Spradlin
 Finance
 Fellowship Jeff Scott*
 Involvement Joe Taylor*
 Lads to Leaders David English
 OWLS Stephen Fulton
 Missions Mike Scott*
 Visitation Bob Locklin
 Kingdom Kids Dane Harrington*
 Youth & Family Casey Bearden
 Worship Blake Hatcher*