

IF GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD WHY ARE WE SO SICK?

The Bible tells us that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son so that man could live. If God so loved us, why are so many of us so sick?

Psalms 119:73 says: “Your hands made me and fashioned me.” We might ask ourselves, if I am the product of a perfect God, why do I feel so bad? And if we read the rest of the verse, it might put us on the right track. “Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.”

Who’s to blame?

Hosea 4:6 gives us the answer: “My people are destroyed because they don't know me, (or, for lack of knowledge) and it is all your fault, you priests, for you yourselves refuse to know me; therefore, I refuse to recognize you as my priests. Since you have forgotten my laws, I will 'forget' to bless your children.” AMP

And back in verse 4 God is even more direct, "Don't point your finger at someone else and try to pass the blame to him! Look, priest, I am pointing my finger at you.”

The ministers may be at fault but does that relieve us of the consequences of our actions? I think not.

But God promises His chosen in Exodus 15:26: "If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the LORD, am your healer."

And in Exodus 23:25-26, "But you shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread and your water; and I will remove sickness from your midst. There shall be no one miscarrying or barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days."

And you can depend on our God for He is consistent, "For I, the LORD, do not change" (Mal 3:6). Also in Hebrews 13:8 Paul tells us that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. But of course, after all, He is the God of the Old as well as the New Testament.

But does that apply to us?

What scriptures was Paul referring to in II Timothy 3:16-17, when he said, "All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work?" The New Testament had not been written yet, so it had to be the Old Testament.

Proverbs is a good source of much needed wisdom:

“My son, do not forget my teaching, But let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life And peace they will add to you” (Prov. 3:1-2).

“Listen, son of mine, to what I say. Listen carefully. Keep these thoughts ever in mind; let them penetrate deep within your heart, for they will mean real life for you and radiant health” (Prov. 4:20-22).

Cause and effect, for every effect there is a cause. Proverbs 26:2 remind us that, the curse, causeless shall not come.

Why ask for healing if we keep doing the thing that made us sick? If you always do what you always did you will always get what you always got. It's so hard to break old habits and traditions, so we continue doing what we always did.

The creator has set certain laws that has always been and will always be in effect. Man has never yet broken one of those laws; he just breaks himself against them, but the law remains.

There are laws that cover and set in order many things.

There are laws of physics, like the law of gravity, or the law of thermodynamics, which proves that anything left to itself, will simply degenerate back to its basic elements.

There is a law of agriculture, if you plant weeds, no-matter how hard you pray you won't raise corn. How many of us have sown wild oats and then prayed for a crop failure?

There are health laws that we constantly seem to be breaking and then asking God to heal us so we can do it again. Why not clean ourselves up physically as well as spiritually?

Leviticus tells us of things God holds to be clean and unclean, what He made for food and what He made to clean up the earth. That is His determination not ours. To be clean is to be separated *for* God; to be unclean is to be separated *from* God. Do you think God might be speaking physically as well as spiritually?

On being clean, we read in Deuteronomy 23:13-14 of a law concerning sanitation: “Each man must have a spade as part of his equipment; after every bowel movement he must dig a hole with the spade and cover the excrement. The camp must be holy, for the Lord walks among you to protect you and to cause your enemies to fall before you; and the Lord does not want to see anything indecent lest he turn away from you.” The old adage, “cleanliness is next

to godliness” may not be in the Bible, but we can see that God likes things to be clean.

Many armies have caused their own defeat by ignoring this simple law of hygiene, and perhaps it caused God to turn away from them as well.

London’s cholera epidemic

In 1847 London suffered a devastating epidemic of cholera because they would not apply this principle taught by the Bible. A very wise man by the name of Edwin Chadwick was put in charge and was finally able to clean up the open sewers and cesspools that plagued all of London. He brought the plague to an end through cleanliness; but, he had to step on many political toes and made so many enemies that he was universally denounced.

Chadwickism was to the nineteenth century what McCarthyism would be to the twentieth century. When he first accepted the job of cleaning up London he wrote in his diary, “It will involve trouble, anxiety, reproach, abuse, unpopularity, I shall become a target for private assault and public press---God give me strength.” Such is the fate of anyone who attempts to change the status quo.

After 22 years of 10 and 12-hour days, he was forced into retirement, a very sick man. Yet many of today’s cities still use the methods he developed.

Hospital death rates

At about the same time, there was a doctor by the name of Ignaz Semmelweis who worked at a hospital in Vienna. He attempted to introduce the ridiculous procedure of washing ones hands between patients. Germs and bacteria were unheard of in those days so why bother with some old book that said one should practice cleanliness. Even though the death rate of his department dropped from 18% down to 1%, he was unable to convince anyone and became known as “the clean freak.”

His successes at saving lives eventually cost him his job. Truth was blinded by prejudice, jealousy and pride. After a series of defeats and the frustrations of trying to change established procedures, Semmelweis was committed to and died in an insane asylum. If only someone would have taken Leviticus 12 or Numbers 19 seriously

Norway’s battle with leprosy

In the 1700’s Norway was losing a battle with an epidemic of leprosy. Finally someone read, believed and acted on Leviticus 13:46 and isolated those with the disease. By the 1800’s leprosy was under control; but surely it couldn’t have been those silly biblical superstitions that stopped it. It must have just run its course.

And so the enlightened ones, who knew that the Old Testament was meant only for the Jews, then allowed lepers to wander freely throughout the cities. Guess what?

Once again leprosy flared out of control. Will we ever learn?

A storage bin for poison

We are told in Lev. 7:23 not to eat the fat. It's referring to the hard fat in particular that lies just under the skin around the out side of the muscle, or meat. We now know that that is where the body stores much of the poisons, infectious diseases, parasites and anything harmful to the body that the body can't get rid of any other way. But fat makes things taste so good when it's used to cook with. Umm, smell that aroma. Is the taste test a good measure for determining healthy food?

Appetite has been the downfall of mankind as far back as the Garden of Eden, when Eve, as we do today, decided God didn't really mean what He said.

We are also told not to eat blood. We now know that blood not only delivers nutrients throughout the body, but it also acts as the bodies sewer system and carries off waste products.

A certain tribe in Africa requires the drinking of blood as a coming of age rite. That would be like drinking water from a sewer. It's significant that that tribe has a shorter life span than others in the area and is plagued by more diseases. Ever tasted blood pudding or blood sausage? Its been said, we dig our graves with our spoon. How true.

Most of the meats we consume have not been bled properly and we are inadvertently eating blood. Soaking meat in salt water before cooking does help to draw the blood out. I'm sure restaurants take the time to do that, don't they?

Why did God create scavengers?

Let's not ignore the great house cleaners the scavengers, God's garbage collectors, purposely designed to keep land and waters clean, but are they for human consumption? God calls them unclean for good reason.

God has much to say about Swine, "the other white meat," in all its many forms. The flavorful, aromatic, tasty meat that is so popular. Have you ever noticed how difficult it is to avoid pork? When you start reading labels you will be surprised at where you will find the many byproducts of the swine. One would think there is an evil agenda being perpetrated here on earth, humm?

The modern way of raising pigs is now so much better, that we no longer need to be concerned about the health problems of eating swine, right? Wrong. The pig was not designed for human consumption and no matter what man does to make it clean God still knows that it is unclean. Consider what God says about the eating habits of some in the latter days.

"Those who [attempt to] sanctify themselves and cleanse themselves to enter [and sacrifice to idols] in the gardens,

following after one in the midst, eating hog's flesh and the abomination [creeping things] and the mouse, their works and their thoughts shall come to an end together, says the Lord” (Isa 66:17 AMP).

The cow eats grass, yet the food that is eaten is filtered through four stomachs before it gets into the cows body. The pig will even eat it's own excrement and what it eats goes through a very short digestive system and then directly into it's flesh, mostly unchanged.

In an experiment at M.I.T. hogs were fed various refuse, and within two hours it was found unchanged in the flesh of the pig. In another experiment, infected pork was heated to extremely high temperatures in a pizza oven to see if the trichina worm could survive. Most died but some lived. So much for cooking your pork chops well done.

Shellfish and other bottom feeders we now know were put on earth to clean up polluted waters. Oysters, clams, lobsters etc, will actually purify waters that have been polluted by industrial wastes or any other poisonous wastes. Where do the poisons go? In you, if you are careless enough to partake of those fine delicacies.

God didn't change our digestive system when Jesus died on the cross nor when He was resurrected.

Instructions from the manufacturer

God asks us a very important question in Isaiah 55:2-3, "Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And delight yourself in abundance. Incline your ear and come to Me. Listen, that you may live;"

In Mark 7 Jesus chastised the religious leaders for emphasizing their physical traditions over God's spiritual law. In verse 15-23 he explains that observing physical laws alone will not produce spiritual cleanliness. Verse 19 does not say, or imply that Jesus is declaring "all foods clean" as many new translations declare. Jesus was making the point that what you eat will not make you spirally clean or unclean, but what comes out of your heart will. The Jews were depending on physical rituals to make them spiritually clean, review verse 20.

There is so much more that needs to be discussed. Such as the four white killers, white flour, white sugar, white salt and white fat. But let me point you to some good sources of information. Remember your health is your responsibility. Take charge of it.

"GOD'S KEY TO HEALTH AND HAPPINESS" by Elmer A Josephson, a Baptist minister, was dying of cancer and given only a few weeks to live. He decided to

take God's instructions more seriously than he was taught in seminary and cured himself.

"WHY CHRISTIANS GET SICK" by Rev. George H. Malkmus. He had to fight colon cancer at age 42; and he won, because he acted on God's word.

"WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT HEALTHY LIVING" by Rex Russell, M.D. Rex and his family were suffering from many ailments but cured them all except for his diabetes which he was able to bring under control.

Dr. Russell developed a simple three-step formula that guided him and his family to radiant health.

1. Eat only what God created to be food for mankind.
2. Eat it as close to it's natural state as possible.
3. Do not become addicted to any food or drink.

How to break the yoke of addiction

Isaiah 58:6 "Is not this the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the bands of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every [enslaving] yoke?"

This verse, as with many in the bible, has a dual meaning. If one is addicted to anything he is under the yoke of wickedness, and is oppressed and enslaved. To break that yoke - **Fast**, particularly concerning what you are addicted to.

Other good books:

"THE BIBLE CURE" by Reginald Cherry, M.D.

"NONE OF THESE DISEASES" by S. McMillen, M.D.
and David E. Stern, M.D.

"WHAT WOULD JESUS EAT?" By Don Colbert, M.D.

"SPIRITUAL SECRETS TO PHYSICAL HEALTH" By
Paul Johnson, M.D.

"HEALING WISDOM FROM THE BIBLE" by James E.
Gibson, Ph.D.

Knowledge can be learned, but wisdom comes from God. The wise will learn and do; the foolish will always find reason to keep doing what they have always done. Why shouldn't they get what they always got?

The temple of God

Jesus was very respectful of His Father's temple while here on earth. Consider the time Jesus went up to Jerusalem and found the moneychangers doing business in the temple (probably on the Sabbath). Jesus became so angry that He physically drove them out of the temple. Why? Because it was His Father's house (John 2:13-16). And then in verse 17, "And his disciples remembered that it was written, The zeal of thine house hath eaten me up." (Ps. 69:9)

Since our bodies are the holy temple dedicated to God shouldn't we be concerned how we treat them lest we offend the Holy Spirit?

I Cor 3:16-17 “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? 17 If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.”

Read again how He cautioned Israel in Deuteronomy. 23:14 to be careful not to offend Him? He said, “For the LORD thy God walks in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.”

God was speaking to Israel but wouldn't the principle apply to His people today?

If you believe what Christ said, why not believe what He wrote? “To the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them” (Isa 8:20). Does your minister (or anyone) tell you God's law is no longer applicable? Avoid them, there is no light in them (Isa. 8:12).

The relative value of health and wealth depends on which you have left.

Your body, as temporary as it is, is a priceless, irreplaceable gift from the King, treat it accordingly. 

A key to mental health and happiness

“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things” (Phil 4:8). *Fill your mind with these thoughts continually and there wont be room for Satan’s darts.*

Pray for a forgiving attitude, remembering that vengeance belongs to the Lord and He will repay. Forgiving others is a healing balm that spreads its remedy to all concerned (especially you), mentally, emotionally, as well as physically; it also removes a great stumbling block for your prayers.

“And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses” (Mark 11:25-26).

“Take heed to yourselves: If thy brother trespass against thee, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he trespass against thee seven times in a day, and seven times in a day turn again to thee, saying, I repent; thou shall forgive him” (Luke 17:3-4).

It's not harmful because it's a sin, it's a sin because it's harmful. Salvation is a gift from God. His laws teach us how to live.

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**“As scarce as truth is the supply
has always exceeded the demand”
Mark Billings**

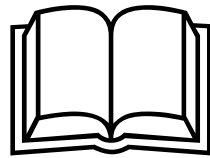
Other of study guides of interest:

AND YE SHALL BE AS GODS
ANSWERS TO THOSE WHO HAVE CREPT IN UNAWARES
RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BRETHREN
TAKE HEED THAT NO MAN DECEIVE YOU
THOUGHTS ON PRAYER

I Peter 2:24

(Jesus) “Who his own self
bare our sins in his own body
on the tree, that we, being
dead to sins, should live unto
righteousness: by whose
stripes ye were healed.”

KJV



Where answers to life are found.

*Should you have any questions
comments or disagreements with
this article, I would appreciate
hearing from you.*

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