

Part 5 – The New Covenant Conditions Continued: the Feasts, First fruits, Accounting to God, Leaven, Seething a Kid in its Mother's Milk

Exodus 34

*22 And thou shalt **observe** the feast of weeks, of the firstfruits of wheat harvest, and the feast of ingathering at the year's end.*

23 Thrice in the year shall all your men children appear before the Lord GOD, the God of Israel.

Now God (YHVH) stresses the importance of observing three *specific* feasts where *all* adult men (twenty years and older) were to appear before the Lord God (YHVH). This command was stated back in chapter 23 and is also reiterated in the book of Deuteronomy...

14 Three times thou shalt keep a feast unto me in the year.

15 Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread: (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty:)

16 And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year; when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.

17 Three times in the year all thy males shall appear before the Lord GOD.

Ex 23:14-17

16 Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:

17 Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee.

Deut 16:16-17

In chapter 23, part 3 of Exodus [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Exodus/141] we also studied about God's Command that three times a year all males were to 'appear' before Him but do you remember what this was for? Since men were (and are still to be) the head of the family, they were accountable to God for what fruit their household produced; that's why it was the males who appeared before God. However, since Jesus has died for our sins (Heb 10:10), the way we observe the feast days is different because we no longer sacrifice animals [study more: **Should We Celebrate the Feast Days?** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/329>]. Thus, each person is *individually responsible* for their own *spiritual* fruits (Ez 33) and we will *all* be accountable to Him on Judgment Day (Rev 20:11-15). [To study more in depth on the feasts, check out the line-by-line study in Deuteronomy 16: https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Deuteronomy/57 and the special study on the **Feast Days of Israel** <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/1001>].

But, before we move on, let's again discuss the spiritual importance of these feasts for there is a great spiritual lesson within them. Since Jesus Christ fulfilled the blood sacrifices for all times

(Heb 10:10), He became our Passover. Therefore, *He is our representative to God for these three Feasts*. Consider firstly then, the time frame when Jesus rose from the dead – it was after 3 ½ days (Mth 12:41, 26:1-2, 16:21-24, Mk 16:1-6, Acts 2:24) - *that was during the **Feast of Unleavened bread***, which was a feast dedicated to removing the leaven (sin) *out of our hearts*. During this time, *Jesus conquered death* (He conquered sin) and consequently His flesh body was transformed into an *eternal* body. This proved He has power to conquer sin – to get all leaven out of the hearts of God’s children - *whomsoever will come to Him*. Thus, He has the power to give eternal life to whomsoever will crucify their old man Lk 9:23, circumcise their heart (Deut 10:16, Jer 4:4) and remove the beam of sin from their own eye (Mth 7).

Next was the **Feast of Weeks**, which is also known as Pentecost because it was fifty days after the previous Feast. This is when God gave Israel the Ten Commandments (Ex 20) *and* when Jesus gave the Gift of the Holy Spirit to whomsoever will circumcise their hardened heart and accept Him (Acts 2, 10). The last of these three feasts was the **Feast of Tabernacles**. This was right after the last harvest and looks forward to the end gathering when Jesus Christ returns (Mth 13:41-42, 24:29-31).

Now, notice also how, in Deut 16:17, God says: *Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD thy God which he hath given thee*. This is what the parable of the talents in Mth 25:14-28 explains. We are responsible to God to use the talents (gifts) He gives us, even if it’s only *one* gift. Find your gift (ask God to help you see it if you don’t know what it is) and use it with *all your strength* (Mk 12:30). Note that *fear* is what made the man with only one talent *not* use his talent (he hid it instead) and because of that, he was considered ‘wicked’ and ‘slothful’ and the talent was taken away from him when Jesus returned. We cannot let fear (or anything else) keep us from using our God given talent(s). Don’t be afraid of anything. Not your inadequacies, what people say about you, or anything else. *Fear is a lack of faith*, which in itself a sin (Rom 14:23); but you can increase your faith by studying God’s Word, meditating on it, praying to God (in Jesus’ name), and fasting spiritually from sin (Mth 17:21, 2 Tim 2:15). Although God’s gifts are, in this life, without repentance (Rom 11:29), they won’t be at the return of Jesus Christ. In other words, you must ‘use it’ (your gifts) *now* or ‘lose it’ when Jesus returns.

It’s also important to remember that God gave Israel all His Feasts for specific reasons and those reasons are *rooted in the process for spiritual cleansing*. **Each feast signifies Jesus’ atoning work, in some way**. Also, when studying the Old Testament, we must always remember that we do not sacrifice blood sacrifices anymore because Jesus Christ fulfilled those sacrifices once and for all (Heb 10:10). But the blood sacrifices are still examples for us to learn from (1 Cor 10:11, Gal 3:24-25). Additionally, God did not do away with the keeping of His Feast days; He only *changed* the method for observing them after Jesus died for our sins. Jesus explained in Mth 26 that we are to observe Communion until He returns, instead of the blood sacrifices and 2 Cor 5:7-8 explains this is to be done with sincere repentance for our sins while *sincerely* seek God’s *truth* (1 Cor 5:7-8). Jesus told us to take Communion in remembrance of Him (Lk 22:19), that is to say: we should *always* remember the great price Jesus paid for us on the cross.

So, the three feasts where all male adults were to ‘appear before the Lord (YHVH)’ are: Feast of Unleavened Bread (which began at Passover), the Feast of Weeks (also called Pentecost) and the Feast of Tabernacles (also called the Feasts of harvest or ingathering). It’s also important to remember that these three feasts were not the only feasts Israel was to keep. There were also the Feast of the First Fruits, the Feast of Blowing the Trumpets, and the Day of Atonement (Lev 23 gives details on all the feasts Israel was to observe). *But, why does God separate out three Feasts and command that all male adults were to ‘appear’ to Him?* Let’s consider them again...

1 – Unleavened Bread: this is the feast Israel was commanded to clean all the leaven out of their house. This was symbolic for how we are to clean the sin out of our heart (Lk 12:1, 1 Cor 5:6-8). This was the feast during which Jesus rose from the dead. Jesus had no sin – thus He kept (fulfilled) this Feast perfectly (Heb 4:15, 2 Cor 5:21, 1 Peter 2:22, 1 John 3:5).

2 – Pentecost (Feast of weeks): This is when Israel was to willingly give God a portion of *what was made from the first fruits*. It’s an offering of what comes from the first of the harvest (like a loaf of bread is made from the grain of the first fruit, Lev 23:17). This is also when the Ten Commandments were given (Ex 20) and also when the Holy Spirit of God was given (Acts 2). What gives us eternal life? God’s Holy Spirit, which is also His Word (Eph 6:17, Rom 8:14, 16). This feast reveals to us that: the Gift of the Holy Spirit of God *was the result of Jesus’ sacrifice* (Passover), and overcoming death (Unleavened Bread). Jesus also kept this Feast perfectly because His Holy Spirit was given on account of His great Sacrifice (Acts 2:33). His resurrection from the dead made Him the ‘first fruit’ of God (Rom 8:23, 1 Cor 12:20) and the Holy Spirit was the result of that ‘first fruit’ whereby there could be many more ‘first fruits’ for God (1 Cor 15:23, James 1:18, Rev 14:4).

3 – Feast of Tabernacles (End Gathering): This was the Feast when Israel was to bring God a portion of their fruit from the *last harvest* of the year. Thus, it is symbolic for when Jesus Christ returns to make the last ‘harvest’ of the end of this earth age (the age of ‘grace’). In other words, the Feast of Tabernacles is when Jesus will return (His Second Advent) to gather the end harvest (Rev 14:14-20, Joel 3:9-21, Zeph 3:8).

So, we see then that: while all the feasts put together teach us of the *spiritual cleansing process*, *these three put together teach us of the spiritual rebirth*. And, just as adult males were responsible to present themselves to God during these three times (to account for their sins and their fruit to Him) so too are we responsible to God, through Jesus Christ. Accountable for what? Have we *truly* accepted Jesus Christ? Have we *truly* worked hard to kick the sin out of our heart (Feast of Unleavened Bread)? Have we *truly* accepted His Law (Word) and His Holy Spirit? *Are we producing any spiritual fruit from the gifts (first fruits) He has given us?* (Pentecost, Feast of weeks). Producing fruit (works of faith, that is) is the *evidence* of spiritual birth (the new man rising) (Mth 7:20). We are accountable to God (through Jesus Christ) *each and every day* of our life here on earth, in these flesh bodies. But, when we die, we will have an ‘accounting’ for our life here on earth. And if we are still alive when Jesus Christ returns, we’ll have an ‘accounting’ for our life here on earth when He returns. *If we do not truly partake spiritually in these feasts, then the day of accounting will be a sad day for us indeed...*

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Matt 7:21-27

Only those who truly accept Jesus Christ (plug into His ‘vine) and learn to cut off the sins in their heart will be accepted. He determines this how?

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Matt 7:15-20

Jesus Christ knows by our fruits (physical and spiritual) if we’ve truly had a change of heart and learned to kill the ‘old man’ and allowed the ‘new man’ to rise within us. But we cannot fake it. We cannot try to merely change our actions for, *without a sincere change of heart* (that truly happens *over time* with diligence, perseverance and patience) we will only become self-righteous hypocrites (Lk 12:1).

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

Rom 8:14-17

God will indeed take an ‘accounting’ for all that we’ve done and *that is what these three feasts teach and remind us of*. But **they also teach us how to produce spiritual fruit**. We cannot simply say we ‘believe’ and ‘have faith’, ***our works must show a true change of heart***.

*3 For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.
4 But **let every man prove his own work**, and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.
5 For every man shall bear his own burden.
6 Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things.
7 Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.
8 For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but **he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting**.
9 And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.
10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.*
Gal 6:3-10

Exodus 34

24 For I will cast out the nations before thee, and enlarge thy borders: neither shall any man desire thy land, when thou shalt go up to appear before the LORD thy God thrice in the year.

When Solomon built the Temple in Jerusalem, God ‘put His name’ in that city (1 Kings 9:3, 11:36) and made an eternal covenant with it (Ezek 16). So, after that, Jerusalem was where all of Israel was to ‘appear before Him’. Some people would have to travel far to get there but God (YHWH) promised the Israelites that, when they went to appear before Him three times a year, no one would steal their land while they were away from home. Obedience to His Laws would result not only in security for their inheritance but also that He would continue to cast out the heathen out of the Promise Land so they would continue to have more land for their growing families. As usual, this promise (though physical to Israel of old) is as relevant to us today as it was back then to Him. Why? Because our true inheritance is not physical land (Eph 1:11-23, Heb 9:15, 11:8-10, 1 Pt 1:4-5), we are no longer supposed to worship at Jerusalem, as Jesus told the woman at the well...

*21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.
22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.
23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.
24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*
John 4:21-24

So, while Israel used to worship in Jerusalem, we are now to worship God (through Jesus Christ) *in our spirit* and that means, even our heart (carnal mind) must be directed (inclined) *towards*

Him (Joshua 24:23, Ps 119:36, Prov 2:2) because He alone is truth (John 17:17, 1 John 2:27, 5:6). Therefore, our true inheritance is getting an eternal body and being allowed to serve in God's eternal and righteous Government (with Jesus Christ as our King). And God promises no one will steal our spiritual inheritance, so long as we continue to appear before Him *spiritually*. Remember the three feasts. They teach us we must continue to clean out our sin (Feast of Unleavened Bread), study God's Word, cooperate (and accept) His Holy Spirit (Pentecost, Feast of Weeks) and then we will be given our eternal inheritance (the first resurrection) when Jesus returns (Feast of Tabernacles) (John 11:24-26, Rev 20:1-6, Luke 20:34-38) ...

17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

Phil 3:17-21

21 For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

*23 But every man in his own order: **Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.***

1 Cor 15:21-23

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

4 To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,

*5 Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation **ready to be revealed in the last time.***

1 Peter 1:3-5

So, let's make sure we continue to 'appear' before God Almighty, "in the spirit" (communicating with Him *daily*, in the name of Jesus Christ) so we *may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which ye also suffer* (2 Thess 1:5).

Exodus 34

25 Thou shalt not offer the blood of my sacrifice with leaven; neither shall the sacrifice of the feast of the passover be left unto the morning.

Let's remember that leaven is symbolic of sin. Jesus told us this clearly in Lk 12:1 and Paul tells us this also in a letter to the Corinthians...

6 Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?

*7 **Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:***

*8 Therefore let us keep the feast, not **with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness; but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.***

1 Cor 5:6-8

So, we cannot offer spiritual sacrifices (1 Peter 2:4-6, Ps 141:2), such as: thanksgiving (Ps 50:7-15, 107:11, 116:17, Jonah 2:9, Amos 4:5), praise (Ps 54:6, Ps 141:2, Jer 17:26, 33:1) and righteousness (Deut 33:19, Ps 4:5, Heb 13:15) while willingly keeping sin in our heart. Although removing sin (leaven) from our heart is a process (we cannot get it all done in one day, week, month or a year – it's a process we continue to do throughout our flesh lives) ***we cannot bring Him true spiritual sacrifices if we are not sincerely trying to rid our heart of the spiritual leaven (sin)***. And God knows if we are truly trying. He *does* listen to our prayers when we are sincerely trying to love and obey Him. But, if we are trying to fool Him (and/or ourselves) He also knows this too (Ps 11:4, Jer 17:9-10). Psalms 19 ends with a beautiful prayer that well expresses this command in Ex 34:25...

12 Who can understand his errors? cleanse thou me from secret faults.

13 Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.

14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Ps 19:12-14

The blood of God's sacrifice was the blood of Jesus Christ and this is symbolic of His Holy Spirit (Lev 17:11). And Jesus Christ is our true Passover (1 Cor 5:7-8). Thus, when we offer Him spiritual sacrifices (our love, praise, thanks, honor and our trying to do what's right) we must be sincerely striving to kill the 'old man' by cleansing our heart of sin. ***We can't keep sin willingly in our heart or leave any of the Passover (Jesus Christ) till 'morning' (by not studying all of His Word) if we want our sacrifices to be acceptable to God.*** The prophet Samuel was a type for us...

And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground.

1 Sam 3:19

As Samuel grew, he didn't let any of God's Word 'fall' to the ground. He took it all into his heart and mind. So likewise, as we grow up spiritually (mature) we too should *study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of*

truth (2 Tim 2:15-16). We shouldn't let any of God's Word 'drop' to the ground, meaning, we must not ignore any of God's Word just because it convicts us of sin. We must take it all in...

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart

Heb 4:12

Further, the prophet Ezekeil is also a type for us...

8 But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; Be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house: open thy mouth, and eat that I give thee.

9 And when I looked, behold, an hand was sent unto me; and, lo, a roll of a book was therein;

10 And he spread it before me; and it was written within and without: and there was written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

Ezek 2:8-10

When the angel told Ezekiel to 'eat'... *he obeyed*. Ezekiel at ALL of God's Word. He didn't 'overlook' some of it because it convicted his heart. Only the rebellious (vs 8) refuse to eat the entire Word of God – this is what leaving the Passover until morning means spiritually. Eat all of God's Word and continue to do so as you grow and mature spiritually, just as the prophets Samuel and Ezekiel did.

11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

1 Cor 10:11-12

Exodus 34

26 The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring unto the house of the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not see the a kid in his mother's milk.

This one little verse has an interesting twofold admonition. Israel was to bring the first fruits of the land to the house of YHVH, their God. Likewise, we too are to bring our spiritual first fruits to the house of the Lord our God (YHVH). But how do we do this? Prov 3:9 says: *Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase*. What is our spiritual increase? The Scriptures do tell us...

7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?

8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

Matt 3:7-8

*19 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision:
20 But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of
Judea, and then to the Gentiles, **that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet
for repentance.**
21 For these causes the Jews caught me in the temple, and went about to kill me.*
Acts 26:19-21

The first fruit we ever produce for God is the fruit of a good repentance. But then we should move on to cleansing our heart so we can bring forth true fruit that will produce works of repentance. Some call this ‘works of faith’ and that’s a pretty good term for it. James chapter 2 [https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_James/15] explains this very well.

*17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;
18 That they do good, that they **be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate;**
19 Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.*
1 Tim 6:17-19

*12 Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.
13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.
14 For here have we no continuing city, but we seek one to come.
15 By him therefore **let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.**
16 **But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.***
Heb 13:12-16

To us today, bringing our ‘firstfruits’ (what the Holy Spirit within us produces, Rom 8:23) comes in the form of using our God given talents (Mth 25:14-30) to further advance the Kingdom of God. We are to communicate (share) the Gospel to nonbelievers (as the Holy Spirit guides us to do) but we’re also to communicate to the other parts of the Body of Christ in that *we help them understand God’s Word better*, when God gives you understanding in a certain area’s other parts of the Body of Christ do not clearly understand. Scriptures such as Acts 2:4 and 19:4-7 explain that the Holy Spirit causes people to ‘prophesy’ (which means to teach or *explain* God’s Word). We’re also to encourage each other, exhort (restore) each other, comfort each other, support the weak and pray for each other (Heb 3:13, 1 Thess 5:14, 1 Tim 2:1, Gal 6:1). We have a duty to help, not only unbelievers come to Jesus Christ but also to help the Body of Christ grow and cleanse itself. Does not the ‘hand’ feed the mouth? Do not the feet take the body where it needs to go? Does not the colon cleanse the body? In 1 Cor 12, Paul explains how we’re all different parts of the Body of Christ. We therefore should use our gifts to help the Body of Christ,

however the Holy Spirit guides us to do. This is all part of bringing our ‘first fruits’ (the fruit of what the Holy Spirit produces in your own soul) to God Almighty.

Now, what does it mean here in Ex 34:26 when God says we’re not to *seeth a kid in his mother’s milk*? And why is it linked with the admonition to bring our ‘first fruits’ of the land to the House of the Lord our God (YHVH)? God commanded Israel not to *seethe a kid in his mother’s milk* back in chapter 23 of Exodus and also in the book of Deuteronomy. In Exodus 23, part 4 we learned that seething a kid in its mother’s milk was a Canaanite sacred ritual. Fertility cults believed they could either simulate or destroy fertility *at will* since it was under their control. There’s truly *nothing new under the sun* (Ecc 1:9). The heathen still try to destroy and ‘simulate’ life at their own will. That’s why orgies and sexual abuse (and perversion) is at the root of the occult. That’s also why they push such vile procedures as abortion. Therefore, using a mother’s milk to cook its own babe in, *is evil*. Just think about it... to use the same milk that *was supposed to nourish the kid* (baby goat) to then cook it in after it’s killed is like ‘double jeopardy’. You could also say it’s like ‘rubbing salt in the wound’. It’s bad enough a mother loses her babe, but to then use her own milk (again, which was supposed to nourish the babe) to cook the killed babe in, is just truly wrong. This statute goes for not just goats, but any animal and the implications are far reaching. And the heathen are still doing this albeit now to humans. They take aborted fetus’ (humans) and used them *in our food* to add ‘taste’. Moreover, they use them to ‘research’ and for ‘medical treatments’ and so forth. If you ever research all the things aborted baby parts are used for, your conscience and anger should be riled up. It’s an abomination and God does not wink at it. He keeps good records. He does not forget. As He warned long ago in the “song of Moses” ...

34 *Is not this laid up in store with me, and sealed up among my treasures? [God’s records]*
35 *To me belongeth vengeance, and recompence; their foot shall slide in due time: for the day of their calamity is at hand, and the things that shall come upon them make haste.*
Deut 32:34-35

So then, when God links the first fruit of the land to not seething a kid in it’s mother’s milk, **it is an admonishment for us not to misuse the Holy Spirit of God or the gifts He has given us**. Paul explains...

1 *Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not;*
2 *But have renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.*
3 *But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:*
4 *In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*
5 *For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus’ sake.*

6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Cor 4:1-6

Paul and the other apostles did not handle God's Word deceitfully. They did not use God's Word to gain for themselves. They were not looking for a following. They weren't trying to 'build a Church' *for themselves*. They simply wanted to share the truth and *allow the Gospel of Jesus Christ to save people's souls*. The gifts God gives us are to be used for good, not evil. We are not to use His Word or His gifts to make a profit from nor to gain glory for ourselves.

2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

*3 Not given to wine, no striker, **not greedy of filthy lucre**; but patient, not a brawler, **not covetous**;*

1 Tim 3:2-3

*8 Likewise must the deacons be grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, **not greedy of filthy lucre**;*

9 Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

1 Tim 3:8-9

Paul wouldn't even take a salary for preaching the Gospel (although he had a right to – 1 Cor 9:9, 1 Tim 5:18). He worked as a tent maker to make sure that those he taught knew that he wasn't 'in it for the money'. He didn't want to even chance 'hindering' the Gospel of Jesus Christ from taking root and flourishing. He also did not want to have any man telling him how or what to teach. Paul was free to teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, *as the Holy Spirit led him to*, because he had no human ties (financially or otherwise) to try and get him to pervert God's Word. Many Pastors today are compromised because those on the board of directors do not want them teaching all of God's Word. Anything they find offensive they demand not be taught, thus hindering the Pastor from teaching God's Word as the Holy Spirit leads them. This is the problem when 'religion' is organized by man – *it is so easily corrupted*. But the true Church of God is not organized religion. It is headed by Jesus Christ and organized by His precious, and powerful, Holy Spirit. [learn more about **The Church** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/332>].

All too often those who claim to work for God (or Jesus Christ) are not really representing Him. Instead, they are working *for themselves*. They want the glory, the power and the money. But... God *hates* this. He wants His children to be fed spiritual truth, *not lies*. And when anyone uses God's Word (or the gifts He has given us) to harm His children... it is the same insult as seething a kid in its mother's milk – it is evil. *God's Word is to be used to nourish His children, just as a mother sheep's milk is to be used to nourish her kid*. To use God's Word to harm His children is likened, therefore, to seething a kid in its own mother's milk – it's an analogy we should be able to grasp to understand how evil it is to use God's Word to gain money, power and/or glory for ourselves. All glory goes to God. He's the one that gives us gifts and He is the one that gives us

wisdom and understanding (1 Cor 12, Prov 2:6). God also warns about using (or mis-using) His Holy Name (YHVH) 'in vain' (to get money, glory and/or power) many places in His Word – Jeremiah 23, Ezekiel 13, 34 and so many other places – we could make an entire study out of the many places God says not to do this and why - but, suffice it to say that our Heavenly Father has made clear the duty of those who serve Him...

1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:

*2 **Feed the flock of God which is among you** [John 21:14-17], taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; **not for filthy lucre**, but of a ready mind;*

*3 **Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.***

4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.

1 Peter 5:1-4

So, the while the command *Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk* should indeed be observed physically, *it is also a figure of speech that warns us not to use God's Word to harm His children.* God's Word is to be used to nourish His children, just as the milk of the mother sheep was to be used to nourish its kid, *not to boil it with* [**Sinners Are Not Tormented Forever** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/330>]. He will hold those who do such a vile thing accountable for *judgment begins at the house of God* (Ezek 9:6) ...

17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

18 And if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?

*19 Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God **commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing**, as unto a faithful Creator.*

1 Peter 4:17-19

We'll pick this up in part 6...

AMEN.