

Messianic Christian Fellowship

## with Ken Jenkerson

## "Four Rules" "Cult Prostitution"

After reading from Pauls Epistles last week in Romans 14 and 1 Corinthians 8 & 10. I concluded that Paul was not in fact talking about eating unclean animals, but rather Paul was talking about eating meat that had been sacrificed to an idol; otherwise, known today as halal. I think Pauls conclusion was that you should not eat meat sacrificed to idols, which would mean that you wouldn't be seen in the idolatrous temple eating and drinking. But I also think Pauls conclusion on meat sold in the market place, was that if you didn't know that it was leftover meat from an idolatrous sacrifice; then it was ok to buy and eat it. But it you did know that it was leftover meat from an idolatrous sacrifice then you should abstain from it. Unfortunately the so called church likes to take these passages of Pauls and use them to say it's ok to eat unclean animals! While Eating unclean animals was never even the topic of discussion in Pauls epistles.

Torah- The idea of not eating meat that had been sacrificed to an idol comes from Torah. Although to me it doesn't appear to be a direct commandment but rather an indirect commandment; or a conclusion you could come to from the actual commandment; or a commandment that is implied.

Leviticus 17:7- So if you are not sacrificing your animal or food to the goat demons; then obviously you wouldn't be eating meat sacrificed to an idol!

**Numbers 25:1-3** – The people ate the sacrifice and bowed down to the idols, thus joining themselves to this false god Baal of Peor.

Exodus 20:1-6 By sacrificing to them and eating the sacrifice I think you would be doing service to these false gods or serving them. Thus I would conclude that you should not eat meat sacrificed to idols.

As we continue, we will see some better verses implying not to eat meat sacrificed to idols.

Acts 15:19-21 The church has used a mis-interpretation of Acts 15:20 for the purpose of saying, "We don't have to keep the law". A further study of this verse will reveal the opposite of this view and as we use hermeneutics (letting scripture interpret scripture) we will see that "Not keeping the Law" doesn't line up with scripture.

Theologians for centuries have **incorrectly translated the word fornication** which is the second rule. Thus making this verse to look like the four rules are for the table of fellowship.

But these rules are not for the table of fellowship.

Rather they are Red Flags, Boundaries, Salvation issues.

The word used here is fornication in the greek it is porneia 4202 and it means idolatry + harlotry. Basically it is dealing with cult prostitution or religious prostitution not adultery or fornication, but rather religious adultery or paganism which still exists in the church today in the form of Christmas and Easter.

I like to use the word, cult prostitution or religious prostitution.

It means harlotry with idols or false gods.

**Ex.34:10-17** / Physical and Spiritual Prostitution & Eating the sacrifice would be things contaminated by idols. We see God giving explicit instruction to not play the harlot with false Gods this is cult prostitution or spiritual adultery. Or to go whoring after their gods.

Harlot= 2181 = Physical and Spiritual Prostitution. The spiritual part being partaking in this sacrificial ritual to a false god, and the physical part would be engaging in sex with the cult prostitutes. This is basically the same word used in the greek translated as fornication which is really physical and spiritual adultery or harlotry and idolatry.

In verse 15 we see at least 2 rules that James is issuing in the book of Acts. I think that 'Play the harlot' would include the strangling of the sacrifice and the drinking of the blood of the sacrifice. The word **harlot** itself has to do with the same greek word fornication which is physical and spiritual prostitution. **Eating the sacrifice would be things contaminated by idols**.

**Lev.17:10-14 / don't eat the blood**; I don't think this is referring to eating a steak that is medium well, but rather to drinking of the blood – a ritual performed still today by Satanists and back in the times of Messiah as a normal ritual possibly mocking the blood of Yeshua as the 3<sup>rd</sup> cup in the Passover Sader. This could be seen as a satanic counterpart to the partaking of Messiah's Blood.

**Deut.4:5-9 / Deut.5:1-10 Things strangled** has nothing to do with Jewish dietary regulations or table fellowship. It was a prohibition against participating in an idolatrous pagan ceremony that strangled birds and/or animals.

So we see the Israelites receiving instruction not to play the harlot, nor to eat of sacrifices to false gods, or to eat or drink the blood.

Before we can enter the promise of Yeshua, just like before the Israelites entered the promised land; we must understand that we can only serve one God and there is no other besides Him alone!

The four rules are the filter, and the first rules, the pagan Gentile convert needed to be aware of. The rest of the `rules' of Moses followed as they grew in Yeshua, and went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day to learn of `Moses' (Acts 15:21).

Why these four rules first? Because of Gentile propensity to add gods to the gods they already had, and to continue in their sacrificial-sexual idolatry (in honor of the gods and goddesses).

The four rules weren't made so the Gentile believer could fellowship with the Jewish believer, as important as that is, but so the Gentile could retain his salvation.

The Gentile needed to know the boundaries of the Covenant he had entered into. He had to realize what was permissible for him and what wasn't. The four rules of James are an inherent `whole.' **They are a package or a unit on sacrificial-sexual idolatry; paganism.** This pagan practice had to stop immediately, if Gentile faith in Yeshua; now grafted into Israel and no longer a gentile but an Israelite or Hebrew child of Yahweh was to be **recognized as genuine.** 

**The second rule** is commonly translated as sexual immorality or fornication but there's overwhelming evidence to support the understanding that cult prostitution is specifically what James meant.

Translating it as sexual immorality is very unfortunate because it not only hides the meaning of the second rule, but helps to distort the proper interpretation of what the Decree means.

## Rule one forbids the Gentile from eating the meat of the pagan sacrifice (at the sacrifice).

Rule two prohibits cult prostitution after the eating of the sacrifice.

Rule three, strangled, speaks of a pagan sacrifice where the neck was strangled. This is dealing with a sacrifice to a pagan god which involved the strangling of the animal. This must have been a popular ritual of the day for James/Jacov to include it.

And rule four forbids the drinking of the fresh raw blood from the pagan sacrifice which could be seen as the satanic counterpart to the drinking of Messiah's Blood from the Third Cup of Passover.'

The four rules specifically deal with sacrificial-sexual idolatry, something every Gentile in the ancient world fully understood, and many practiced. These rules had nothing to do with table fellowship. They were designed to filter out gross idolatry. That would be very offensive to the God of Israel and cost the newly converted Gentile to Israel his life; his eternal life.

One might think in terms of Christianity today; that anyone coming to Jesus wouldn't imagine they could worship Jesus and Zeus too, but Gentiles in the days of the Apostles believed they could have as many gods as they wanted.

**Conclusion:** In scripture we only see one law of God that Paul encourages men not to keep. Circumcision and nothing else. What Paul is really addressing is gentile believers becoming proselytes or obtaining Legal Jewish Status through the process of Circumcision, Immersion, and Sacrifice.

We understand that Paul concluded this because in the Torah, Abraham believed God and it was reckoned to him as righteousness, and this occurred many years before Abraham was circumcised; thus implying that circumcision isn't a means for salvation, rather faith is the means of salvation.

However we must understand that faith without works or without the law is dead. Keeping the Law or doing works is the proof in the pudding that you have faith in God!

We cannot partake in paganism/idolatry and the cup of the Yahweh! So when it comes to the pagan/idolatrous practices of today such as are embodied in Christmas and Easter and Sunday worship changing the Sabbath day Yahweh created, or any other pagan practice mixed with the worship of Yahweh; we cannot partake in these things. Partaking knowingly in paganism/idolatry can cost you your eternal life with Yahweh. As James or Jacov concluded in Acts 15:21 We must go to the synagogue or assembly and learn the Law of Moses and keep it; because it is from the law that we learn what pleases God and how to be holy!