

# Hebrews 5.14

## Of Feast and Famine

Some logical syllogisms from the truth that -

Since - Solid Food belongs to the spiritually mature

And - The Gospel IS that solid food for the soul

Thus - The Gospel belongs to those who are mature

Further -

All things are provided by God our Father

God our Father provides what belongs to those who are His

God provides the gospel and its power

And -

God Our Father is Omnipotent and provides all things from His own abundance

God our Father never lacks the ability to provide for us

When we lack solid food (the gospel, or other truth)

there is a reason which is NOT connected with a lack of ability on God's part

Finally -

God gives us the first source of our life, and provides the all the power we require in His Word through His Spirit.

God commands us to make use of that same Word and its power, to strengthen our souls, enlarge our minds in the mind of Christ, and sanctify our lives all by the power of that same Spirit.

To abuse His goodness by negligence is to run the risk of God withholding of that providence we enjoy, in order to discipline us to seek Him.

In short, to abuse abundance is to seek famine.

## **I. THE GOSPEL IS LIFE.**

a. The simple truth of God is that there is new life given to all who believe.

b. It is present IN all who believe because God has given this life and belief in Christ and in the Word of God is the simple evidence OF that life.

- c. Thus a healthy appetite for, and appreciation of AS WELL AS a ready supply of this required food is the expected right and promised inheritance of all who belong to the Father.
- d. The means by which God imparts this life is the word of the Gospel.

Romans 10:17(NKJV)

<sup>17</sup> So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

1 Peter 1:22–23(NKJV)

<sup>22</sup> Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, <sup>23</sup> having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

James 1:16–18(NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. <sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights,

with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. <sup>18</sup> Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

## II. THE TRUE CHURCH IS ALIVE

- a. There will always be a remnant of the true church in all ages.
- b. For God will always declare the truth of His own glory. –

Romans 11:5(NKJV) <sup>5</sup>

Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

- c. THIS is the reason for election. God is declaring His glory in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 3.8 – 12

- d. God will always keep the true church alive

- e. God will always feed the true church, she will always have bread enough, meat enough
- f. The woman (Israel & the church, NOT the Mary of Rome's imagination) of Revelation was driven into the wilderness by persecution of the enemy but was led to a place where God had prepared to feed her

### Revelation 12.1-6

- g. The enough of sometimes is more than the enough of others... there will times when God's provision is more plentiful and times when it is less according to His will; but those who seek spiritual food from the Word will always find it.

## III. FAMINE IS THE WORST OF GOD'S JUDGMENTS

- a. The slow death of a physical famine is a terrible thing. Destroying a people body, mind and soul

### Lamentations 4.6-11

- b. But a famine of the Word is to be feared above all else

Amos 8:11–12(NKJV)

<sup>11</sup> “Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord God, “That I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine of bread, Nor a thirst for water, But of hearing the words of the Lord.<sup>12</sup> They shall wander from sea to sea, And from north to east; They shall run to and fro, seeking the word of the Lord, But shall not find *it*.”

- c. - for the spirit is far more than the physical and the soul deprived of truth will eat something which will warp and twist it so out of shape that recovery is only to be found in a merciful God removing the judgement.
- i. Those rooted in false teaching are often too entrenched to even hear anything which shows the lie.
  - ii. They become in their warped imaginations something hideous and vain, too proud and

puffed up allow truth to be spoken to anyone and will combat it with perfect hatred.

#### **IV. FAMINE FOLLOWS THE ABUSE OF PLENTY**

a. Plenty is often coupled with pride and sloth, these three produce the sins of Sodom

Ezekiel 16:49–50(NKJV) <sup>49</sup>

Look, this was the iniquity of your sister Sodom: She and her daughter had pride, fullness of food, and abundance of idleness; neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. <sup>50</sup>

And they were haughty and committed abomination before Me; therefore I took them away as I saw *fit*.

- i. This led to cruelty and an utter lack of compassion for the poor and needy.
- ii. It led to rampant acceptance and forcing of homosexuality –

**Genesis 19.4-11**

iii. This is itself a judgement of God

### Romans 1.18-27

iv. DO NOT miss the truth that this is ALL about our refusal to hear the truth and seek after God. In the midst of our feasting, we in our arrogance think we have made all things and provide for ourselves. In the midst of our plenty, we create our want.

b. Famine is often closest when plenty is in the land. Consider the great famine of Genesis. During the seven years of plenty what was the attitude of the Egyptians when the worst famine ever known was just around the corner and they had been warned!

i. The nation and the world survived because God used Joseph to act wisely –

### Genesis 41.55-57



- ii. The Egyptians themselves could have followed his example and put by for themselves
- iii. But we find them not halfway through the famine having already sold all their possessions and livestock; now offering to sell themselves and their children to Pharaoh as slaves to purchase the stores that Joseph had procured.

### Genesis 47.18-19

- c. Store up what spiritual food you can while the Lord is gracious to provide it and do not allow anything to keep you from His word and the teaching of it.

## **V. EVIL MEN WILL CREATE FAMINE**

- a. The current social climate is seeking to suppress the proclamation of the Word
- b. There are things to be considered far more earnestly than the legal and constitutional questions. We see the writing on the wall, but consider the implications. The justice

department has been investigating people that speak against the popular narrative... If the fascist government now emerging sends their brown-shirts to every true church this day, breaking down the doors and imprisoning those who dare speak against their agendas - what would be the consequence for the church? For the nation? The nation would experience spiritual famine of epic and unprecedented proportions. We would quickly devolve into a monstrous entity far worse than Nazi Germany ever was for we have much more power and potential for good or evil than they ever had... and beloved understand that we are well on that path.

c. This is a great evil and will be judged by God Himself. –

i. Those who outwardly hate the truth and seek to destroy it -

**Jeremiah 11.18-23**

- ii. Those who secretly hate the truth and seek to twist it -

### 2 Timothy 3.1-9

- iii. Those who simply disregard the truth and see it as a means to their own gain –

### Ezekiel 34:9–10(NKJV)

<sup>9</sup> therefore, O shepherds, hear the word of the Lord! <sup>10</sup>

Thus says the Lord God: “Behold, I *am* against the shepherds, and I will require My flock at their hand; I will cause them to cease feeding the sheep, and the shepherds shall feed themselves no more; for I will deliver My flock from their mouths, that they may no longer be food for them.”

### Jeremiah 23.1-2

## VI. THE REMNANT WILL ENDURE.

- a. God Himself will always provide for and care for His own, He will not allow those whom He has

chosen to save to utterly perish. He Himself will feed them.

### Jeremiah 23.3-4

- b. This does not mean that He will not judge and chastise His people. In fact, the opposite is true. God will discipline every one that He accepts. This is the truth of Divine love. It wants what is truly best for us, not simply what is comfortable.

### Hebrews 12.5-8

- c. God our Father is always good in all His ways and is always Good to us.
- d. So the Word of God is to be treasured, consumed, pondered and sought after more than all else. Store up what you have been given, do not allow it to waste on a shelf without being taken in as nourishment... let nothing keep you from it, not difficulty, not pain, not persecution and certainly NOT your plenty... lest you ask the Lord for famine instead.