

**SUSTAINING THE FRUIT
OF
THE SHARED LIFE**

**MAY 06, 2020
DURING THE GREAT TIME OUT**

1 CORINTHIANS 10:31

MATTHEW 6:33; COLOSSIANS 3:17; 1 PETER 4:11

I. UNDERSTANDING BIBLICAL TERMS

- A. *Glory - the value of a thing; the heavier the more valuable; the value of a thing in its God-intended use; a thing thought common had glory or value if it was in its intended state and used the way God made it to be used*
- B. *Glorify - To acknowledge with gratitude and praise the God-given value of a person, place or thing and use it in its God-intended way; to use the principles of God's revelation, both natural and special to operate one's stewardship of what God has given him.*
- C. *Righteous, just - Systems operating in harmony with one another in the manner in which God created them. This is day seven of creation. Trusting God with one's life even when He is not clearly understood; believing the revelation God gives one*
- D. *Justice - Putting things back in their properly created order*
- E. *Peace - The state of harmony, interconnectedness, interactivity, inter-relatedness, and interdependence in which righteousness and goodness are the condition*
- F. *Unrighteousness - Systems failing or working in a manner not intended by God's creation*
- G. *Wickedness - The intentional misuse of any part of creation when one knows better*
- H. *Iniquity - To twist something out of its God-intended purpose; to give an object value not inherent in it from creation; to pervert a person, place or thing*
- I. *Sin - missing the mark of God's glory intentionally or unintentionally that is the fruit of iniquity*
- J. *Transgression - knowingly missing God's glory for one's own glory or target*

II. DO ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD

- A. *This puts every action, thought or word in the believer's life in the joy of doing it the way God had intended it.*
- B. *The believer is empowered to do it by the indwelling Spirit of God that is smoothly flowing in Him as He abides in Christ. The Holy Spirit is the life force flowing through the veins of his newly born again person of God*
- C. *Paul starts it with eating and drinking, food and drink*
1. *Eating is a normal action of taking in food that is to be a thoughtful action not just merely taken for granted. It is not merely for its nutritional value. It is a celebration and the gift of God*
 2. *Ec 3:9 What profit has the worker from that in which he labors?*
 3. *10 I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied.*
 4. *11 He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.*
 5. *12 I know that nothing is better for them than to rejoice, and to do good in their lives,*
 6. *13 and also that every man should eat and drink and enjoy the good of all his labor-it is the gift of God.*
 7. *(NKJV)*
8. *It is an action of communion with another in many biblical situations. It is to be enjoyed and is a part of hospitality, a human action reflecting the grace of God toward us. It was a significant part of the Spirit-filled church after Pentecost. It seemed to be a part of their worship. Acts 2:46*
9. *God intended as a good part of the man's life Psalm 104:14-18*
10. *Eating was important enough to be a part of the whole mandate of God to humanity and the animal creation*
- a. *It reflected the goodness of God in providing for them the sustenance that would keep them alive and healthy Gen 1:29; 2:16*
 - b. *It also reflected the warning of God that not everything He created was their intended food. The first prohibition in the Bible is about eating. Gen 2:17*

- c. *The first temptation in the Bible is about what can and cannot be eaten and what would be the result of doing so*
 - d. *The first sin in the Bible is about eating; the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil Gen 3:6-7*
 - e. *The judgment of God for breaking trust and disobeying Him dealt with eating Gen 3:17-19*
11. *Part of the command to Noah after the flood had to do with a change in diet Gen 9:1-4*
 12. *Part of the reason for the curse given by Noah upon his grandson was an abuse of drink Gen 9:20-24*
 13. *Part of the sin of Sodom had to do with the abuse of eating Ezekiel 16:48-50*
 14. *After the recovery of the captured goods of Sodom, the blessing of Melchizedek upon Abram was celebrated over food and drink Gen 14:18-20*
 15. *The blessing of the Lord to Abram in giving he and Sarai a child was over the hospitality of food and drink Gen 18:1-8; as the messengers left Abram and came to Lot it was hospitality of Lot that brought them off the streets. Gen 19:1-3*
 16. *Let's skip forward to the Exodus in which the Passover is commemorated with a meal: lamb, unleavened bread and drink*
 17. *The journey to the promised land had manna, water and quail as a part of the formula for keeping them alive*
 18. *Let's skip forward to part of the allure of the promised land is that it is a land flowing with milk and honey and eating the fruit of the land*
 19. *Many of Jesus' lessons were held at dinner parties or even in open fields in which He was the provider of all the food for the people present. He identified Himself as the Bread of Life and even as the Bread they fed on in the wilderness. The passage we are using as one of our foundational Scriptures, Matt 6:33, is the culmination of a passage that deals with the stress and anxiety over food and clothing*
 20. *The new covenant of the Lord Jesus Christ is commemorated around the food and drink of unleavened bread and wine*

21. That brings us to the command that was given by Paul to the Corinthians here and in chapter 11 where the abuse of eating and drinking had brought judgment on the church.