

When Did Yahshua Remove the Torah Requirements Of Kashrut?

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The Hebrew term kashrut simply means the dietary laws of Torah. It refers to the outline by Yahuwah in Torah, of the separation of the unclean animals from the clean. These dietary instructions were designed by Yahuwah to portray His holiness, as being separate from sinners, as well as being a guidepost of protection, to protect His people Israel from all diseases that pagan nations were contracting from their eating patterns. Kashrut then, is a visible token of a community of people, that have been called out and covenanted to Elohim through a call to personal, practical and experiential holiness. Most of these instructions are found in Leviticus chapter 11.

Since many of the early church fathers taught and still continue to teach that the church has replaced Israel in Yahuwah's promises and purposes, a natural progression of that false premise has been that keeping kosher is Jewish legalism. Since Israel was replaced (as is falsely taught) so have their dietary laws and instructions. However as we shall soon discover nothing like that is taught in Holy Writ, neither does New Covenant Scripture even remotely suggest that!

In Acts chapter 10, we have the account of Yahuwah instructing Shimon Keefa (Peter), to kill and eat from a selection of animals that were clearly not kosher (verses 12-13). These instructions are given to Keefa in a vision after a period of intense prayer. Yahuwah tells Peter in verse 15, that nothing that He has cleansed is unclean or traef. If we stopped there, as most churches have for 2000 years then it

would be right to falsely conclude that Yahuwah was reversing the instructions of Leviticus 11. But if we are willing to study further, we notice that in verse 28 of the same chapter, Keefa (Peter) himself gives the interpretation and midrash on his very own vision. He clearly states that the only purpose of the heavenly vision that he received atop Simon the Tanner's roof, was to show him that when Yahuwah begins to cleanse non Jews through faith in His finished atoning work on Calvary's tree, that Jews no longer have the right to refer to non-Jews and Ephraimites as unclean dogs! Rather they must now be accepted into the kingdom mishpocha, as fellow heirs of the gift of eternal life. In verse 28 Peter states: "Yahuwah hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean". We see that Yahuwah straightened out through Keefa, the common thinking of traditional rabbinical Judaism of his day, which taught that non-Israelites were trash and that all Israelites must remove themselves from non-Israelite influence, unless the stranger was willing to join the children of Israel through Torah observance.

In order for Shimon Keefa to visit the house of a Roman centurion named Cornelius to preach the Gospel of love and forgiveness to other nations, his heart, mind and understanding of Yahuwah's plan had to be revealed to him. Immediately after Keefa came to this understanding, Yahuwah sent three men to lead him to Cornelius's home, which resulted in Cornelius's entire family getting saved and even sealed with the same Ruach Hakodesh as had the 120 Israelite talmidim on Shavuot 33 AD in the Temple on Mt. Moriah. Peter even rehearses the vision and the subsequent events to the elders at Yerushalayim, in the very next chapter. In the same manner that Keefa's initial understanding was wrong and had to be corrected by Yahuwah, so has much of the teachings on these verses

been wrong throughout the centuries. Yahuwah was not in any way, shape or form reversing the laws of kashrut to the people of New Covenant Israel. He was however reversing unkosher attitudes toward other nations who would no longer be unclean, after their purification by faith in the cleansing blood of Messiah!

One must ask oneself, where on earth did the church ever get the idea that Yahuwah was doubleminded and confused so that He reversed the dietary instructions that He Himself gave? That is only poppycock wishful thinking, by dyed-in-the-wool replacement theologians and dispensationalists. To falsely establish a separate entity from New Covenant kosher keeping Israel, these folks created a separate diet and menu for their church system!

In Acts chapter 15, we can clearly see exactly what the Brit Chadasha truly teaches about kashrut. After the Jerusalem council met to determine if non-Jewish believers RETURNING FROM THE NATIONS, were under obligation to keep all 613 mitzvahs of Torah. We find their ruling in verses 28 & 29 of Acts 15. The Ruach Hakodesh had revealed to the Messianic elders, that only four brief and simple parts of Torah were INITIALLY binding on non-Jewish believers who came into Yahuwah's family by grace through faith. Two of the four mini-Torah requirements were to avoid things strangled, as well as to avoid eating meats with blood. This was the simple way to get them started towards a full Torah observant lifestyle, since Yaakov determined that further Torah instruction would come in their local cities from where they originally came (Acts 15:21).

That is a simple way of making the dietary laws of Leviticus 11 binding on all believers in the Brit Chadasha. In biblical practice, clean animals were never strangled as the pagans

did, rather the throat was and still is slit for pain-free and immediate merciful death to the animal. Biblical practice repeatedly throughout Torah commands that blood resulting from this pain-free death to the animal must be poured out to and upon the ground. We see then that the instructions of kashrut, have not only not been nullified or voided by Israel's Messiah, rather through the Ruach Hakodesh in Acts 15:28 & 29, Yahuwah expands these mitzvahs to be binding on all non-Jewish believers from the nations!! Does your Pastor teach you that? Why not? The Bible does!

Perhaps if pastors were less concerned about being contaminated by "so called Judaising" they would be far more receptive to truth. If you are an Ephraimite who has decided to seek Yahuwah with all of your heart, why not ask your spiritual leader the reason that he is not teaching kashrut (keeping kosher) to his church flock. You may be surprised at some of the unbiblical responses you may get. Now let me ask you, does Acts 15 sound like kashrut has been done away with in the Newer Covenant?

Another scripture that many church leaders love to twist is found in Colossians chapter 2 verses 14-22. Supposedly in verse 14 Rav Shaul teaches that Yahshua nailed all Torah observance to the cross. If this were so then Rav Shaul, would be in direct contradiction to what Luke recorded in Acts 15. The primary rule of biblical hermeneutics is that scripture never contradicts itself. First of all "the thing" that was nailed to the cross in verse 14 of Colossians chapter two, was the list by Yahuwah of all of the broken ordinances of Torah that you and I were guilty of! The list handwritten by Yahuwah Himself was nailed to the tree of Calvary when we became forgiven. Nowhere does this verse teach that first Yahuwah gave Torah and then He later got rid of it. If Torah is Yahuwah's eternal Word and if it will never pass away

(Matt. 5:17-19), how and why would Yahuwah call Torah a list of ordinances that was against us! Deuteronomy repeatedly reminds us that the following of Torah gives and imparts life if we keep it flawlessly. That does however exclude all of Adam's children! Rav Shaul would never refer to Torah as a document that Yahuwah gave us to kill us with. No! What was nailed to the cross was our debt certificate, or Yahuwah's handwritten record of all the ordinances of Torah that we did indeed break. Colossians 2:21 teaches us those pagan nations, from whom the non-Jewish believers came from, have many weird legalistic ordinances about food. Rules such as don't touch this food (sacrificed to a pagan deity, don't eat or taste that food reserved for a pagan deity in need of food at some future time of hunger) or that food. Rav Shaul was forbidding adopting pagan laws concerning eating of foods. He further nails down this context by reminding non-Jewish believers in Colossus, that all these pagan laws concerning foods are not the "real Mc coy" found in Leviticus 11, rather they are traditions and legends of men that will eventually perish with the depraved minds who invented and use them.

Are some misguided christians trying to tell us, that the dietary laws of Torah are man made rather than divinely mandated? Would a Jewish rabbi like Rav Shaul call Torah man-made? Let's get real here! Verse 22 of Colossians two, cannot be referring to kashrut of Torah, since Rav Shaul clearly states that the eating laws that he is warning believers about, have pagan origins and can confuse them into disobedience to Acts 15, which commands kashrut upon all believers from all nations! Let Yahuwah continue to be true and let every man continue to lie and be lied to, if they do not desire to know what Yahuwah already knows!

Another favorite Scripture that is often twisted to fuel anti-

nomian teachings in the church regarding kashrut, is First Timothy chapter 4 verses 4 & 5. These verses have been commonly taught as Rav Shaul declaring all foods to be kosher that were previously unkosher in Torah, as long as they are sanctified by the Word and prayer. Therefore according to this version of Scripture wrestling, Christians are free to eat any garbage they want and as long as they pray and speak the Word to and over their food! Thus the convoluted logic goes, it will miraculously become a clean kosher food even if Torah previously forbade it. Do you really believe that religious mumbo jumbo? Why would Rav Shaul, a Torah observant Jew, teach a "feeding free for all" to returning saints, when that would contradict all the other teachings of Brit Chadashah, as well as overrule Yaakov's (James's) decree to non-Jewish converts to Biblical practices found in Acts 15?

Let's look at what these verses truly teach. If you believe and know the truth about Yahuwah's Word (Torah) in verse 3, then you'll know that all of Yahuwah's original creation was good, according to the Genesis account. Since Christians were becoming believers in the Genesis account of creation rather than adhering to pagan fables, it now gave them the freedom to receive kosher foods with thanksgiving and gratitude (verse 3). In verse four of First Timothy 4, Rav Shaul gives one condition to this new Ephraimite attitude of thanksgiving to the true and living Yahuwah for their daily food and sustenance. He reminds them that thanksgiving to YHWH is fine, as long as they prayerfully discern the clean from the unclean. In verse 4, Rav Shaul reiterates that the only kind of thanksgiving that Yahuwah will receive regarding our food choices, is if through prayer a believer attempts to rightly discern if the food or foods he is about to consume, have already been sanctified by the Word of Yahuwah. In other words only foods sanctified by and through Torah

(Yahuwah's Word), should be eaten with an attitude of thanksgiving. Yahuwah would not want us to thank Him for a provision, if in fact He never allowed the provision for His people in the first place! To put it another way, a believer should not eat, pray or consume anything that is not first outlined in Torah as being previously sanctified. Does that sound anything like what your preacher has been sharing? Perhaps it is time for you and me to reevaluate a lot of the doctrines of man that we have been taught! Do you realize that just the thought of christians keeping biblically kosher makes the devil mad, as well as having the ability to make many apostate church leaders regurgitate? But truth is truth, is it not?

Lastly in Mark 7 verses 18-23, HaAdon Yahshua is said by many, to be teaching His talmidim that everything is clean when it comes to food choices and that the true unclean things come out of a man's heart. Is that really what He is teaching? Read it again! Nowhere in these verses does He instruct His Torah observant talmidim to have a food orgy, since the body's digestive system is going to purge them. He is merely using the principal of "stacking" to teach a greater revelation, which does not negate the revelation of kashrut, but rather uses kashrut as an object lesson, to show that a kosher heart is of the greater import in an individual's life and relationship with Yahuwah. This principal is known as "stacking", where the greater revelation is stacked upon the already revealed lesser revelation but never negates it, as much of the church has falsely taught. What Yahshua is telling the Prushim (Pharisees), is that kashrut is fine. But what good is their strict kashrut, when their hearts are defiled by all kinds of unkosher thoughts and desires, which He outlines for them in verses 20-23 of Mark 7? Yahuwah never negates a lesser principal in order to teach and establish a greater one. Rather through "stacking", He uses the lesser,

as an object lesson to point and instruct onto the greater revelation. Or to put it another way, He uses the physical and the natural, to explain the spiritual and the supernatural. Where in any of these verses does Yahshua rebuke kashrut for anyone? Especially His disciples?

Frankly brethren I fear and tremble for all the sincere teachers of the Word, who have been teaching this anti-nomian doctrine to their flock for all these years. Many have done it out of ignorance, or perhaps cowardice and prejudice. I appeal to you and beseech you as a brother in Yahuwah, to recall the words of Jacob (James) in James 3:1. Many believers should not be teaching and those who do must constantly be re-evaluating their teaching for freshness and accuracy, as Yahuwah gives added progressive and selective revelation. Church teachers should be grateful that Yahuwah is willing to grant refreshing aromas through the impartation of pure Bible doctrine, through the modern Messianic Nazarene Yisrael movement! If Yahuwah has called you to teach His precious truths, it is up to you to line up your teaching with Scripture! According to Yaakov 3:1 when you and I stand before Yahuwah, we won't be able to blame our seminary, mentor, or any other person for our doctrinal failures. Now is the time to take stock of and to get our doctrinal house in order, especially as it relates to kashrut and its eternally binding admonitions upon all believers. Israelites (from both houses) and the Gerim from the nations that have joined us by Yahshua's blood are free to enjoy good health by enjoying good food blessed and provided by the Good Shepherd!