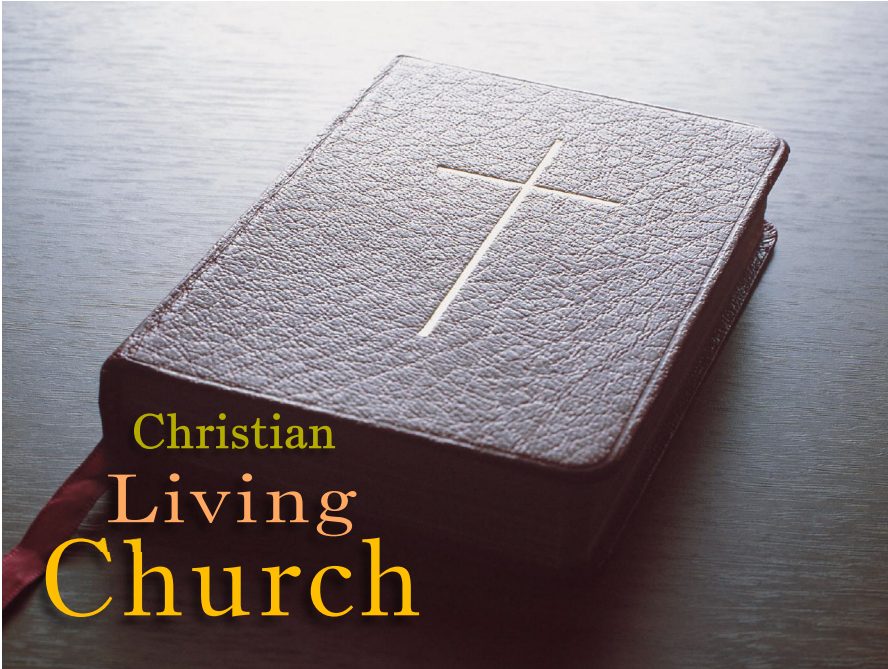


The Sanitary Law

“For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.”



Christian
Living
Church

The Sanitary Law



This series of lessons has been designed for private study or classroom presentation. The purpose of this foreword is to explain certain conventions utilized throughout the program. The overall concept is to begin with the basic concepts necessary for the new convert to understand and progress toward more complex doctrine. The lessons are numbered in order to maintain the proper sequence of study.

When Scripture references are encountered in the text, various actions are recommended. When in parenthetical bold (**Genesis 1:1**) the verse is to be looked up and read right away. Frequently, the next textual statement will comment on that verse. Reading verse and text in proper order will enhance one's understanding of the verse. Direct quotes from Scripture will be "*bold italicized and contained in quotation marks*" and, unless otherwise noted, will be from the King James Bible. When the reference is in parenthetical non-bold (Genesis 1:1) it is to provide the Scriptural basis for the statement if confirmation is desired. References in blue [Genesis 1:1](#) will be listed in the lesson section entitled [FURTHER STUDY](#).

[FURTHER STUDY](#) is the "homework" section. Its purpose is to encourage Bible study at home. The referenced verses have a short summation to assist the student desiring more knowledge about a subject to find what they are looking for.

The [DISCUSSION QUESTIONS](#) section is primarily for classroom use. Open discussion with the exchange of ideas produces growth for all involved. Most of the time the answer is contained in the referenced Scripture but sometimes the question is offered for open discussion. Even in private Bible study, analysis of the question and the search for its answer can be rewarding.

This work is offered to anyone with a desire to better understand God's Word. It is our hope and prayer that the person studying these lessons will come away with a better understanding of God's will and a closer walk with our Lord, Jesus Christ.

With Loving Concern for all those seeking God's Message
The Church of God Rocky Mount
Rocky Mount, Virginia

Key Verse: Deuteronomy 23:14



“For the LORD thy God walketh in the midst of thy camp, to deliver thee, and to give up thine enemies before thee; therefore shall thy camp be holy: that he see no unclean thing in thee, and turn away from thee.”

Discussion Question:

What does this Key Verse mean to you?

The Sanitary Laws emerged with Creation, being necessary to define the principles of hygiene for healthful living and to make people aware of practices that could cause disease and sickness. These laws spell out the do's and don'ts of everyday living in a world of bugs, germs, and conditions that if ignored could cause a nation to be a haven for unwholesome conditions and misery, but if followed would produce a thriving populace with a state of health that would be the envy of the rest of the world.

Some examples of early hygienic laws are warnings about handling diseased dead animals (**Leviticus 5:2**); keeping meat too long (**Leviticus 7:15-18**) (remember, there was no refrigeration then); and contamination of articles coming in contact with dead animals (**Leviticus 11:32-33**). Note that items of wood and materials that can be scrubbed were to be washed, but earthen vessels which could absorb the contamination were to be discarded. Even during the preparation of the meal, if the meat being prepared to eat, while raw, should be rested upon the clay oven or the stones where the cooking pots were set, the oven and stones were to be discarded (**Leviticus 11:34-36**). The clay and stone would absorb the blood and over time could cause disease. Even the

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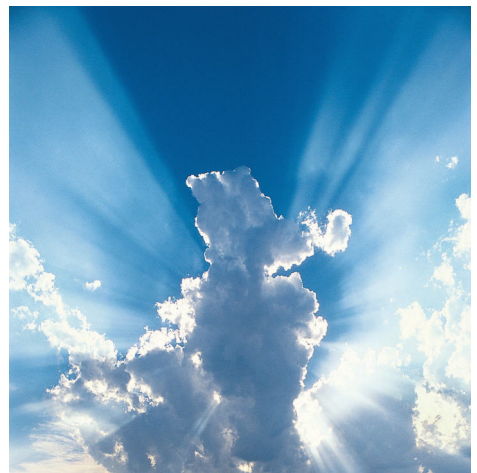


water used to wash the meat and any vessel wetted by that water were considered unclean (verse 34). If a dead animal was found in a well or source of water where there was sufficient flow to flush it out, the water was clean, but the persons removing the animal had to wash and cleanse themselves (verse 36).

There were laws of Quarantine also (**Leviticus 13:45-46**). The science of bacterial transfer from person to person was unknown then, but appropriate action was prescribed and because of God's instruction, they knew what to do. In all of these cases, without any of today's knowledge of science and medicine, the Sanitary Laws of God instructed the people to follow those guidelines that would keep them healthy and disease free. Do we know everything today? Definitely not.

Modern man likes to think he

has it all down pat, but the truth of the matter is that if he knew everything, there would be nothing else to learn, and we hear of new findings every day. Even those things we do know, many ignore and suffer for it. God had a reason for prohibiting us from eating certain meats (**Leviticus 11:4-8**), but the mainstream community insists that these laws no longer apply. Have the unclean meats changed since God gave this law? No. Did He have a reason for commanding us to refrain from eating them? Unless He is an impulsive reactionary



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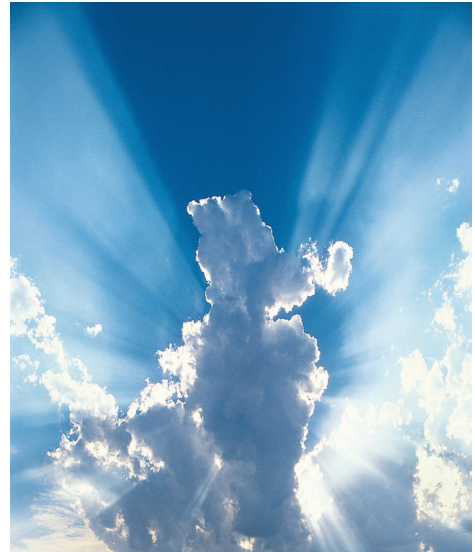


and does things for no reason, the answer is YES! Is it possible that this reason is one of the things we haven't found out yet? Quite possibly. The awareness of trichinosis and using the correct cooking temperature is one of the popular examples for justifying the eating of pork, but that is not the whole story. Pork causes high blood pressure, too. According to statistics compiled by autopsy activity, it is estimated that 22 million Americans have trichinosis and don't know it. They have this worm living in their body because a normal cooking temperature of 160 degrees doesn't kill it! It can also be said that they have it because they violated God's law (**Leviticus 5:17**). The phrase "bear his iniquity" means to suffer the consequences for one's own action.

Bottom-feeding scavengers are forbidden eating (**Leviticus**

11:9-12). No shellfish or shrimp has fins and catfish don't have scales. What they eat goes quickly into their flesh. This includes the droppings of all sea creatures that fall to the bottom. Would you want to eat that? That's why oysters give you hepatitis! The path to long life is revealed in God's word (**Psalm 16:11**).

The next lesson will deal with the Sacrificial Laws.



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Discussion Questions:

1. Is butter good for you? Cite past studies that dealt with this subject.

2. Considering the preceding question, does modern man know everything?

3. Does the widespread belief that the laws concerning unclean meat no longer apply prove the validity of such an idea?

Proverbs 14:12

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FURTHER STUDY:

Leviticus 11:1-31 Clean and unclean food defined.

Leviticus 11:37-47 Instruction for sanitary practice and forbidden food identified.

Acts 10:1-28 Peter's vision of unclean meat and his explanation of it.

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