

Are You Balanced?

Scripture reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-9

Leviticus 11:2-3, *Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth. 3 Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, and cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat.*

Let us see if we can understand what it means to “*chew the cud*” and “*be clovenfooted*” as it is described in these verses.

Chewing the cud: There is no phrase more apt than “*chewing the cud*” to explain the process of hearing the word and rehashing it in the mind until the word becomes “*flesh*” within us (John 1:14). Jesus was the word made flesh. We are flesh being made the word so that one day we shall be like Him - the living word manifested on earth. “*It takes time to be holy*” means there is much chewing on the WRITTEN WORD to produce within us the LIVING WORD so that which is written on the pages of the book may come forth in real life in us.

Cloven hoof: An animal that is clovenfooted has the hoof parted in two and encased in a hard bone-like substance. This animal walks in mud as well as on stones and there is hardly a case of sickness in the hoof.

The cloven hoof signifies a spiritual walk that is “*shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace*” (Ephesians 6:15). The two toes signify the walk that is balanced by the Spirit and the Word. A person who walks in the Spirit alone and does not believe in the authority and authenticity of the Word is bound to be tripped up by Satan somewhere along the way. The written word is the balance which God has placed here for us in our walk. When the church began to accept dogmas and logical assumptions to add to the word and/or to rationalize it, then it marked the decline of its spiritual life.

Many teachers of the word assume that since John said in John 21:25 that there were other words spoken by Jesus, it was a license to add other words to the Bible. They imply that there are other words and other Bibles just as important and authentic as this one. BECAUSE OF THIS, I went to the Lord for an answer as this piece of rationalizing seemed to be well founded. The Lord said to me, “That which is written in the Bible is sufficient for your salvation.” This was a most satisfactory answer to me for I have been discovering that we do not yet even understand that which is written, that it is just being revealed to us in a deeper measure, and there is much more to come.

It is also true as Paul said, “*But I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus*” (Philippians 3:12).

(Excerpt from *The Pattern*, pg. 88-89)

Thought for the day: Let us meditate on the Word of God balanced with the leading of the Holy Spirit so that we may see His nature changing us daily into the image of Jesus.