



The Bible Banner

July 2023



Giving God the Reins

In the horse and buggy days, a man was driving with his wife along a dangerous road. At a very narrow place the wife became frightened and seized the rein nearest to her. Her husband quietly passed her the other rein and let go.

Then more frightened than ever she said, "Oh, don't you let go!"

He answered, "Two people cannot drive one and the same horse; either I must drive or you must."

Then she gave him the reins and he drove safely past the danger.

Do you let God hold the reins in your life?

Today is the best time for you to "*Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.*" Psalm 37:5

Baked Beans

3 Tbsp molasses

½ onion, diced and sautéed

½ of a (6oz) can of tomato paste (85 grams) OR 2 Tbsp tomato powder mixed with 5 to 8 Tbsp of water

8 Better Franks or other vegan links (optional)

2 cans great northern beans, undrained

Mix together and allow flavors to marinate before eating.

If using home-cooked or unsalted beans, add salt to taste.



You can find the recipe for "Better Franks" here <https://www.swiftrunnerministries.com/recipes----everyday-entrees.php>

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"We shall never be clothed with the righteousness of Christ except we first know assuredly that we have no righteousness of our own."

— John Calvin

PROFITABLE TRADITIONS

"Let the wife make the husband glad to come home, and let him make her sorry to see him leave." ---Martin Luther

HOW?

1. Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: James 1:19
2. And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Ephesians 4:32
3. Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence [be in awe of] her husband. Ephesians 5:33



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Babylonian Skunk?

It had been a busy day, and as a result my husband and I were going for a walk a little later than usual. In a certain place, as we paused to discuss some of the events of the day, we heard a rustling noise in the bushes behind me. Thinking it was probably just a rabbit, we were startled to discover instead a black and white striped skunk running directly toward us. It obviously had not seen us either, because immediately when it saw us, you could see it “slam on the brakes” so to speak, and its eyes open wide in fear and surprise. Since it was only 8-10 feet away from us (plenty close enough to spray), neither of us were sure exactly what to do. We started backing away as quickly as possible and I took cover behind a nearby tree trunk that was far too thin to be adequate spray cover. The situation became more intense, when the skunk turned around with its tail in the air. Thankfully, it just turned around and waddled off in the opposite direction with Dallas telling it to, “Go on, get out of here.” This skunk situation and the potential skunk spray remind me of a Bible text found in 1 Corinthians 6:18. It says, *“Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.”* Like skunk spray that can get you from a distance, fornication also can contaminate you from nearby if you don’t flee quickly. It can come from a TV show, a book, the internet, radio programs, a magazine, even the news, or worldly friends.



As one author expounds concerning this verse, when met with fornication the best plan is, *“Flee fornication...Do not stop for one moment to reason. Satan would rejoice to see you overthrown by temptation. Do not stop to argue the case with your weak conscience. Turn away from the first step of transgression.”* (God’s Amazing Grace, pg. 147)

The reason we must flee fornication, both physically and spiritually (as idolatry and unfaithfulness to God), is because like skunk spray, fornication will be the natural result of being in the wrong place at the wrong time. You will have no choice, but to be “infected.” Revelation 14:8 warns, *“And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.”* Proverbs 7:21 adds of the harlot’s methods, that *“With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him.”*

Revelation 18 delineates the only method of dealing with Babylon, saying, *“And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory. And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.”* (Revelation 18:1-5)

The fornication/sin/false doctrine of Babylon is “catchy” or infectious. The only way to escape it is to flee, immediately. As I have observed many classes of people around the world, I see two classes forming. There are those who say, “Well, Pastor or Politician so and so says it’s okay” or “Doctor or Professor so and so doesn’t see a problem with it.” In contrast, there are those who say “But what does the Bible say?” Those who have come out of Babylon have ceased to ask what any men (including themselves) think about doctrines, traditions, etc. The only thing that matters to them is “What does God say about it?” God’s last-day counsel is *“Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils: for wherein is he to be accounted of?”* Isaiah 2:22 Indeed, it is written, *“It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man. It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.”* Psalm 118:8, 9 Don’t be in the wrong place at the wrong time and get sprayed with the fornication, sin, and false doctrine of the Babylonian “skunk.” Probation is soon to close, and it will be too late. Come out of Babylon, today, *“for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.”* Luke 16:15



“Scientific American” and Others Applaud Population Decline and other COVID Changes as ‘Good News’ Prophetic News Notes and Study to Show Thyself Approved

As we consider the signs of the times, we find *“And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.”* Matthew 24:12 This is certainly fulfilled by the increase of crime, especially murder, around the world. This will be one cause of God finally saying, “That’s enough.” In the Bible we find that one cause of God allowing the “calamity” of the southern kingdom of Israel being taken into captivity was the purposeful shedding of innocent blood by King Manasseh. The scripture records, *“Moreover Manasseh shed innocent blood very much, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another; beside his sin wherewith he made Judah to sin, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.”* 2 Kings 21:16 (See also 2 Kings 24:4) *“Wherefore the LORD brought upon them the captains of the host of the king of Assyria, which took Manasseh among the thorns, and bound him with fetters, and carried him to Babylon.”* 2 Chronicles 33:11



Today, the shedding of innocent blood or population reduction has come “accidentally” through COVID-19 *“prevention and control.”* It is being touted as a good thing. It is really no surprise that the website for the National Bureau of Statistics of China states, *“By the end of 2022, the national population [of China] was 1,411.75 million... a decrease of 0.85 million over that at the end of 2021. In 2022, the number of births was 9.56 million with a birth rate of 6.77 per thousand; the number of deaths was 10.41 million with a mortality rate of 7.37 per thousand...”* In the same “Population Declined” section it states, *“Generally speaking, positive results have been achieved in effectively coordinating the COVID-19 prevention and control and the economic and social development in 2022...”*¹

You might say, well, that is what one might expect from atheistic China. But how about “Scientific American” that is said to be *“the oldest continuously published magazine in the U.S.”*² It seems even much of once Protestant America has forgotten God’s command was to *“be... fruitful, and multiply; bring forth abundantly in the earth, and multiply therein.”* Genesis 9:7 Of course, this command was to be within the framework of marriage and common sense. But it doesn’t take a rocket scientist to figure out that “multiply” is the opposite of shrinking the population.

On May 4, 2023 “Scientific American” writer Stephanie Feldstein stated *“China’s population has fallen after decades of sky-high growth. This major shift in the world’s most populous country would be a big deal by itself, but China’s hardly alone in its declining numbers: despite the momentous occasion of the global population surpassing eight billion late last year, the United Nations predicts dozens of countries will have shrinking populations by 2050. This is good news. Considering no other large animal’s population has grown as much, as quickly or as devastatingly for other species as ours, we should all be celebrating population decline.”*³



The real question is: Is it coincidence that the population has declined or has Remdesivir, COVID vaccines, et cetera, played into the picture? Today, you don’t have to look too far to find eugenicists and abortionists who stop at nothing to reduce the population. What is considered to be for “the common good” is carried out at the expense of the individual. A three-fold union seems to be forming and sometimes sinister agendas are hidden behind religious packaging and double speak.

In an April 2020 interview posted on Jesuits Global, Arturo Sosa, the Jesuit General or Black Pope stated, *“One of the lessons of this situation is that we are one humanity...It’s not an accident the COVID-19...It’s a confirmation of our mission to collaborate, to contribute, in the change of this world...”* [Wait, did he just say COVID-19 is a confirmation of the mission of the “Society of Jesus” in the change of this world?] *And I think we can show the people, through reflecting about COVID-19, the fragility of the world we have create[d], and how we need to get together so we can go in another way. I don’t think so, that after the crisis things are going to change like this {snaps fingers}, no. There are so many interests behind this, and so many-- We are so used to the West, we are dreaming to come back to our one normality. We are dreaming to yes, live how we were before the virus came to our life. But that’s the great temptation... [Really, living a normal life with liberty is the great temptation?] So don’t forget this crisis...No, we have to take the lesson that if we don’t change after this, the next one will be worse.”*⁴

But however many PLANDemics may come, the Bible predicts the end result of those that shed innocent blood, and those that celebrate pride and other abominations. Consider this description in Proverbs 6:12-19. *"A naughty person, a wicked man, walketh with a froward mouth. He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers; Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth mischief continually; he soweth discord. Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy. These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren."*

As Christians, our job is to pray for the wicked to turn from their evil way and follow Jesus Christ, *"the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."* John 1:29 Maybe some who are behind the sinister agendas for our planet will repent like Manasseh did (2 Chronicles 33:12,13). For indeed, the scriptures warn, *"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!"* Isaiah 5:20

- 1- http://www.stats.gov.cn/english/PressRelease/202301/t20230117_1892094.html
- 2- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scientific_American#:~:text=Scientific%20American%2C%20informally%20abbreviated%20SciAm.magazine%20in%20the%20United%20States.
- 3- <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/population-decline-will-change-the-world-for-the-better/>
- 4- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V8xI3LwstI&ab_channel=JesuitsGlobal 25, 37- 39 minute marks



TUG-OF-WAR WITH AN ALLIGATOR

"Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins." James 5:20

On a hot summer day in south Florida a little boy decided to go for a swim in the old swimming hole behind his house. In a hurry to dive into the cool water, he ran out the back door, leaving behind shoes and socks as he went. He flew into the water, not realizing that as he swam toward the middle of the lake, an alligator was swimming toward the shore.



His mother, in the house, was looking out the window and saw the two as they got closer and closer together. In utter fear, she ran toward the water, yelling to her son as loudly as she could. Hearing her voice, the little boy became alarmed and made a U-turn to swim to his mother.

It was too late. Just as he reached her, the alligator reached him. From the dock, the mother grabbed her little boy by the arms just as the alligator snatched his legs. That began an incredible tug-of-war between the two.

The alligator was much stronger than the mother, but the mother was much too passionate to let go. A farmer happened to drive by, heard her screams, raced from his truck, took aim and shot the alligator. Remarkably, after weeks and weeks of special care, the little boy survived.

His legs were extremely scarred by the vicious attack of the animal. And, on his arms, were deep scratches where his mother's fingernails dug into his flesh in her effort to hang on to the son she loved.

The newspaper reporter who interviewed the boy after the trauma, asked if he would show him his scars. The boy lifted his pant legs; and then, with obvious pride, he said to the reporter, *"But look at my arms. I have great scars on my arms, too. I have them because my mom wouldn't let go."*

Instead of getting mad at those who try to help you do right and pull against the world, the flesh, and the devil, you should be thankful that they love you enough to not let go.



Carob-- Biblical Food and Effective Medicine

"And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;" Mark 1:6

"Carob, (Ceratonia siliqua), also called locust bean or St. John's bread, tree of the pea family (Fabaceae), grown for its edible pods.... The names locust bean and St. John's bread stem from the belief that the "locusts" on which John the Baptist fed were carob pods."¹



Carob is most often used as a replacement for chocolate. Turns out, not only is it a nutritious food, but also an effective medicine. *"Carob is naturally sweet, rich and delicious. It also contains vital nutrients but is completely free of caffeine, making it a great option for kids and anyone looking to keep their caffeine intake low or nonexistent.... One of carob's most impressive benefits is its scientifically demonstrated ability to help with diarrhea."²*

Carob is caffeine-free, high in fiber, contains calcium, but no oxalates, is low in sodium, naturally low-fat, and a good mineral provider.

"Carob contains significant amounts of key macrominerals (ones you need large amounts of daily) like potassium and calcium. In fact, when you compare 15 grams of carob powder to 15 grams of whole milk, the carob actually wins when it comes to calcium — the milk contains 16.9 milligrams of calcium while the carob powder contains 52 milligrams!

Other important macrominerals like magnesium and phosphorus are also found in carob fruit in lesser amounts. Plus, carob contains trace or microminerals, such as iron, copper, zinc and manganese."²

Also "Thanks to its tannin content, carob powder has been used as a natural remedy for diarrhea. Tannins are polyphenols found in some plants. Research suggests that administering tannin-rich carob powder with an oral rehydration fluid is safe and effective for treating acute-onset diarrhea in infants aged 3 to 21 months."³

In one study *"Infants aged 3-21 months with acute diarrhea of bacterial and viral origin were treated as inpatients with oral rehydration fluid and randomly received for up to 6 days either a tannin-rich carob pod powder (40% tannins or 21.2% polyphenols and 26.4% dietary fiber), 1.5 g/kg/day (n = 21) to a maximum of 15 g, or an equivalent placebo (n = 20). The duration of the diarrhea from admission was 2.0 +/- 0.27 days in the test group and 3.75 +/- 0.30 days in the placebo group (p less than 0.001). Normalized defecation, body temperature, and weight and cessation of vomiting were reached more quickly by the patients who received the test substance. The test substance was well accepted and tolerated."⁴ So the diarrhea, as well as the vomiting, got over almost two days quicker in the group taking the carob. This has proved to be the case in our own repeated use of carob with diarrhea patients. It has always worked, even with one patient with C. difficile. Repeatedly, it has made the difference between "Nope, not going to leave the bathroom area" and freedom to move and travel.*

Another study cited in the Journal of Pediatrics is of interest. *"This non-randomized study was done in 1948 to evaluate the effect of carob powder on infants with diarrhea. All 30 infants underwent the then customary period of 'starvation,' during which food (excluding water and electrolytes) was withheld. During this period of 'bowel rest' (usually 24 to 36 hours), osmotic diarrhea, the cause of most infantile diarrheas, showed apparent improvement. After this period, these infants were treated with a formula made of carob powder. Stool consistency and weight gain were monitored. Of the 30 infants, 29 had formed stools by the third day of therapy. Most infants responded within the first 2 days. Weight gain paralleled improvement in stool consistency. The authors concluded that carob powder improved stool consistency."⁵*

Indeed, *"Carob powder can help soothe irritated intestines. Start with one tablespoon, * mixed with some applesauce and [or] honey to make it palatable. Take it on an empty stomach."⁶ Or just take it in some water, and start to feel better soon.*

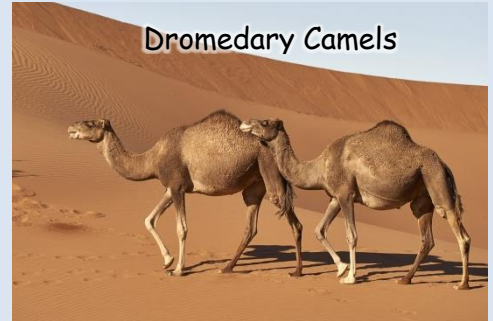
^{*}Note: The amount of carob powder given to infants per day in the first study varied from about 1 to 2 Tbsp depending on the baby's weight.

- 1-- <https://www.britannica.com/plant/carob> 2-- <https://draxe.com/nutrition/carob-chips/> 3-- <https://www.healthline.com/health/food-nutrition/carob-powder#diarrhea-remedy>
4-- <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/2723939/> 5-- [https://www.ipeds.com/article/S0022-3476\(99\)70111-3/fulltext](https://www.ipeds.com/article/S0022-3476(99)70111-3/fulltext) 6-- <https://www.drweil.com/health-wellness/body-mind-spirit/gastrointestinal/diarrhea/>



Bactrian Camel

There are three species of camels: Dromedary, Bactrian (also known as Mongolian), and Wild Bactrian. They live in Africa, Asia, and Australia. Camels are known for being able to go without drinking for long periods of time. The dromedary can go 10 days without drinking. A camel can also withstand changes in body temperature that would kill most



Dromedary Camels

animals. Its body temperature can go from 93°F (34°C) at the start of the day to 104°F (40°C) before sunset when it begins to cool off again. Isn't it amazing how God created these animals to survive in harsh conditions?

Can you find the 10+ objects listed in these verses in the picture?

"For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness." Psalm 18:28

"A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit." Matthew 7:18

"Ye shall no more give the people straw to make brick..." Exodus 5:7

"And Isaac departed thence, and pitched his tent in the valley of Gerar, and dwelt there." Genesis 26:17

"...and they did eat bread, and tarried all night in the mount." Genesis 31:54



"And he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them: and they all drank of it." Mark 14:23

"Behold, I come quickly: hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown." Revelation 3:11

"He hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed." Proverbs 7:20

"Thus hath the Lord GOD shewed unto me: and behold a basket of summer fruit." Amos 8:1

"The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone." Exodus 15:5