



# WHAT'S FOR DINNER???

## ....A FAMILY DISCUSSION

Food in Relationship...  
How Food Brings Us Together (or separates us)...  
From A Jewish/Christian Perspective

## My Story...



Raised in a religious  
Jewish home...

Came to faith in Jesus  
in college...

Began to understand  
my Jewish heritage  
within the context of  
the New Testament as  
well as Old....

About 8 Years After The Death,  
Resurrection , and Ascension, of  
Jesus...

The Church Had Grown...  
Remaining Primarily Jewish...

It's 38 AD

# Acts Chapter 10...



**9** About noon the following day as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. **10** He became hungry and wanted something to eat, and while the meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. **11** He saw heaven opened and something like a large sheet being let down to earth by its four corners. **12** It contained all kinds of four-footed animals, as well as reptiles and birds. **13** Then a voice told him, “Get up, Peter. Kill and eat.”

**14** “Surely not, Lord!” Peter replied. “I have never eaten anything impure or unclean.”

**15** The voice spoke to him a second time, “Do not call anything impure that God has made clean.”

**16** This happened three times, and immediately the sheet was taken back to heaven.



PIGS IN A BLANKET!!!!

Although God told Peter to eat unclean food 3 times we know that Peter never ate unclean food for 2 reasons....

1- He was in a trance having a dream

2- They were Jewish and Cornelius was a God fearer...they would have not had any unclean food with them.

So a vision about food that has nothing to do with food.....

PEOPLE...GENTILES...YOU!!!

EAT = INTERNALIZE

EAT = BRING THEM IN

EAT = ACCEPT

EAT = MAKE THEM A PART OF THE BODY

Approximately 10 Years later...

Gentiles were coming to Jesus in  
numbers

Its 48 AD

In order to resolve the growing tension  
and misunderstanding between Jewish  
and Gentile believers a meeting is  
called... **The Jerusalem Council**

## ACTS 15

The Question: Do Gentiles need to keep  
the Law of Moses to be saved? Or...

Do Gentiles have to keep Kosher?

The apostles and elders, your brothers,

To the Gentile believers in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia:

Greetings.

24 We have heard that some went out from us without our authorization and disturbed you, troubling your minds by what they said. 25 So we all agreed to choose some men and send them to you with our dear friends Barnabas and Paul 26 men who have risked their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

27 Therefore we are sending Judas and Silas to confirm by word of mouth what we are writing. 28 It seems good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements; 29 You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things.

Farewell.

The Jerusalem Council had a three fold purpose to...

1- Communicate salvation by grace through faith alone

2 – Give Gentile believers instruction on what to do, and not do.

3 – Bring the body of Messiah, Jew and Gentile, into more unity.

## FOUR NO'S...

No Food Sacrificed to Idols: Watch what you worship. (Food)

No things strangled : Watch What You Eat (Food)

No Blood: Watch What You Eat (Food)

No Sexual Immorality: Be Pure

The Jerusalem Council gives principles for Gentile believers in relationship to the Law of Moses...

It does not “abolish the Law.”

All 4 prohibitions are found in Leviticus 17 and 18. The Law of Moses.

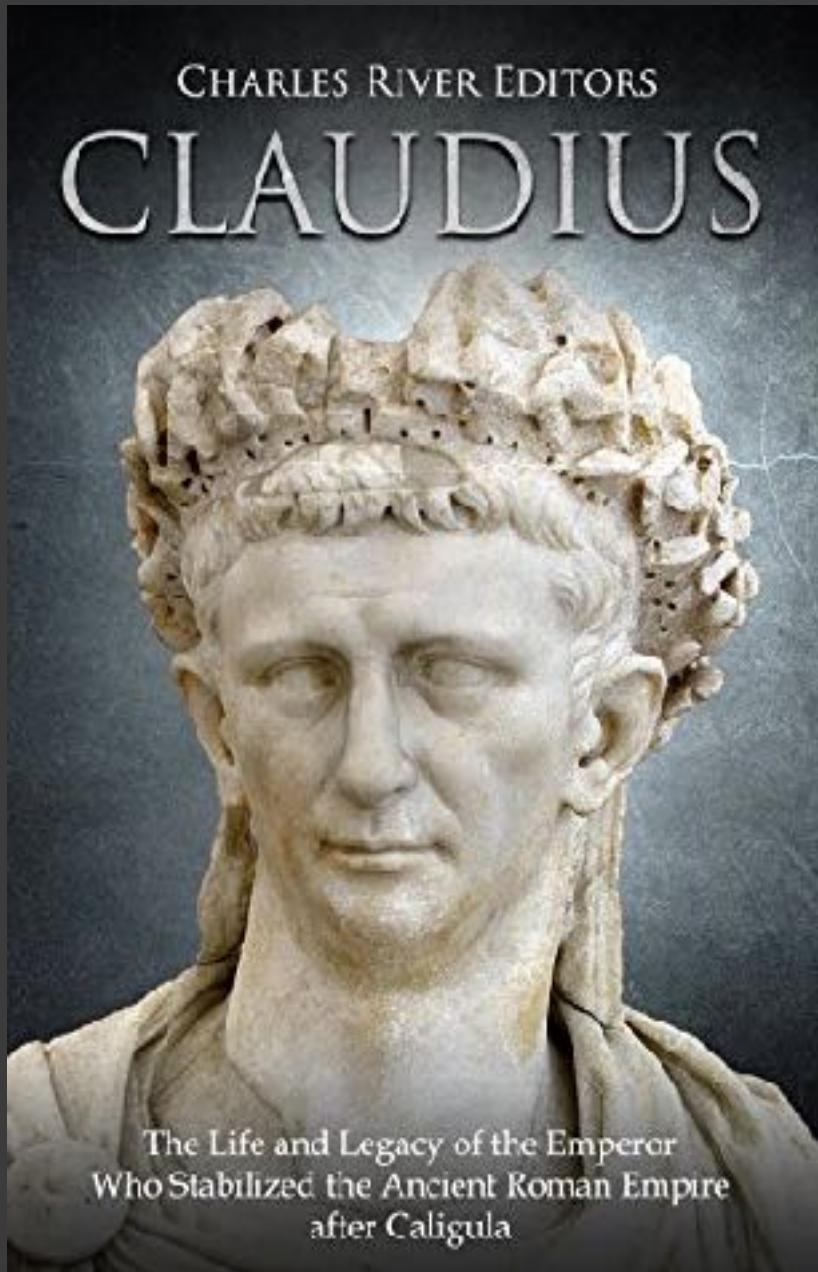
## We Learn From Acts 15:

- Gentiles are not required.  
(Circumcision)
- Gentiles are included.
- Gentiles have and can draw close to God through Jesus.
- Gentiles should respect and embrace God's word (OT) through Jesus.

Approximately 7 Years later...

THE CHURCH IN ROME

Its 55 AD



In 49 AD Claudius **expelled** all Jews from Rome. If you were a Jew you were gone or dead.

Romans was written by the Apostle Paul in or around 54 AD.

The church had become primarily Gentile.

The tide had quickly turned...Gentiles believers were looking down on Jewish people.

## Context of Romans 14:

- Jews expelled from Rome
- Gentiles majority in church in Rome
- Jews coming back to Rome
- Gentiles believe Jews have been replaced
- Paul tells them no, explains the gospel for all, and calls for unity as Jewish people return to Rome and to the church in Rome

# Romans 14

1 Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over **disputable matters**. 2 One person's faith allows them to **eat anything**, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only **vegetables**. 3 The one who eats everything **must not treat** with contempt the one who does not, and the **one who does not eat everything must not judge** the one who does, for God has accepted them. 4 Who are you to judge someone else's servant?

**15** If your brother or sister is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy someone for whom Christ died.

**19** Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. **20** Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a person to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble.

ACTS 10, ACTS 15, ROMANS 14 HELP US TO  
UNDERSTAND, THROUGH FOOD AND THE  
ILLUSTRATION OF FOOD, HOW THE BODY OF  
MESSIAH IS SUPPOSED TO OPERATE  
THROUGH UNITY, RESPECT, AND MUTUAL  
EDIFICATION

ANS SO WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

# JESUS AT HIS LAST MEAL...

