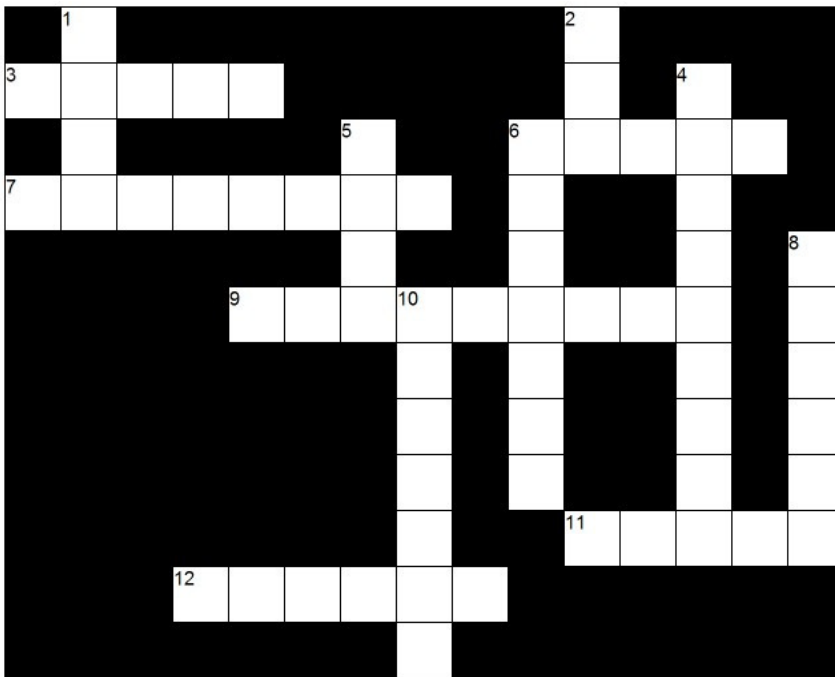


A Bible Crossword on Genesis, Part 13

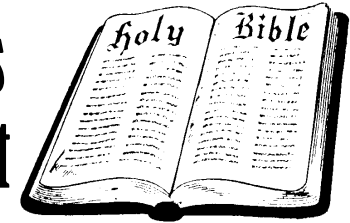


Across: 3. Joseph seated his brothers in order of this. 6. What Joseph accused his brothers of being. 7. The brother who did not go on the first trip to Egypt. 9. There were an abomination to the Egyptians. 11. What Jacob sent his sons to buy in Egypt. 12. Joseph kept this brother when the others returned to Canaan.

Down: 1. God sent Joseph to Egypt to preserve this. 2. This item, belonging to Joseph, was planted in Benjamin's sack. 4. Place where Jacob offered sacrifices before the trip to Egypt. 6. The number of persons in Jacob's house who went to Egypt. 8. The area in Egypt where the family of Joseph would settle. 10. He sent carts to help with Jacob's move.

-All answers found in Genesis 42-46, NKJV

Chapman Acres Church of Christ



2137 Penhall Drive NE / Huntsville, AL 35811
256-536-5296 / www.chapmanacreschurch.com

ABHOR WHAT IS EVIL; CLING TO WHAT IS GOOD

Do not spoil your dinner! That is what my mother always said. We were not allowed to throw sugary treats in our mouth an hour before dinner. Dessert was not allowed until after dinner. The reason was simple: if you eat sweets first, you will not be hungry for the good food. Jesus said, "the cares of the world, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the Word" (Mk. 4:19). See the point? We choke out an appetite for God and for His Word when our lives are filled with all these other things. We must limit the cares of this world. We must rid ourselves of the love for wealth. We must stringently limit our desire for "other things." These things will choke out God and we will not be hungry for Him.

"A satisfied soul loathes the honeycomb, but to a hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet" (Prov. 27:7). An empty stomach will eat nearly anything. I often wondered what I would do if I was homeless and hungry. I have imagined entering a McDonald's and waiting for a family to leave a half-eaten burger and fries. I would eat it and not think twice...children's germs, slobber, trans-fats, and all. Would I eat that if I had good, fresh, untainted food available? No way. You and I have good spiritual food available, but many are eating out of trashcans instead. Every time your eyes glitter over the worldly things of this life, every time your passions are raging, just remember, you are eating out of a trashcan!

We need to understand Satan's deceit. Caving in to sin will not fulfill us; it only whets the appetite for more. Lay's Potato Chips had a commercial that said, "Bet you can't eat just one!" Indeed, that is the very nature of sin. Instead of satisfying us, we want more of it. It is addicting, and even when we begin to realize that the sin is disappointing, Satan tells us we are simply not committing the sin enough. Therefore, it is important to learn the necessity of denying ourselves the taste of sin, and instead tasting that which is good and satisfying. The real key to abhorring evil is "clinging to what is good." God through Isaiah sums it up: "Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight in abundance (Isa. 55:1,2).

"Have you found honey? Eat only as much as you need, lest you be filled with it and vomit" (Prov. 15:16). Even things that are not sinful of themselves are still dangerous to our spiritual welfare. More sports and recreational activities are wholesome until we fall in love with them. Again, a little "dessert" is fine until we are eating it instead of our dinner. The problem with our leisure activities is that they are replacing time that needs to be spent with God and His Word. Rom. 12:2 tells us that transformation takes place by "renewing our mind." Our minds are bombarded daily with earthly thinking which trains our thoughts in a worldly direction. Only the disciple who is praying and studying daily will renew his thinking so that he comes to detest all that is contrary to God.

Therefore, to abhor evil, a disciple must practice the following steps:

1. Consider What It Will Do To You: It is eating out of a trash-can. It is spoiled, rotten food.
2. Consider The Emptiness It Will Give You: It will not fill you. It will crush your spirit and destroy any pride and integ-

rity that you had in yourself.

3. Consider That It Will Make You Dirty: In the Lord, you are clean. In sin, you are dirty. You have returned to wallowing in the mire.
4. Consider The Separation From God: You cannot love evil or participate in evil and be one with God. You cannot pray. You cannot go to sleep at night with a clean conscience.
5. Consider The Hunger That It Will Create Without Any Semblance Of Satisfaction: If you are struggling with your fleshly passions, recognize that fulfilling those passions even a little will make the passions worse, not better. The last thing you need is for the passions to get worse.
6. "Eat" Good Things: Replace evil thoughts with thoughts of heaven. God, and all the good blessings He has given you (Phil. 4:8). The only way to abhor evil is to fill your life with what is good. Only by learning to love the good will we come to abhor the evil.

-Berry Kercheville in Focus Magazine, No. 103, Feb. 2009.

Prayer List

Keith Copeland	Herman McKenzie	Faye Seiler
Dennis Depew	Louise Moore	Sarah Howard
David Depew	Sara Nance	James Howard

Gospel Meetings

6/8-11 College View Lectures various speakers
 6/14-17 at Brookhill with Johnny Felker for a singing school
 6/21-26 at Midway in Florence with Bill Hall
 7/12-17 at Jones Road with Lowell Sallee