DEATH BY THE TABLESPOON! DISEASE BY THE BOWL!

In Ecclesiastes 7:17, God makes an appeal to humanity: “Be not over much wicked, neither be foolish: why shouldest thou die before thy time?” And in Proverbs 10:27 we read, “The fear of the Lord prolongeth days, but the years of the wicked shall be shortened.” 3 John 1:2 shows us the kind of concern God has about us spiritually and physically. “Beloved, I wish above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.” In this text God wants us to grow and prosper spiritually, but evven as He desires that, He wants us to grow and prosper physically.

Ladies and gentlemen, disease and death are the common lot of humanity. They are a result of sin. And all share, in one way or another, these tragedies. Our families are touched by these things. Crippling diseases visited the homes of kings as well as paupers. Sickness will come to the door of a Christian as well as to the door of a sinner. And so many times we tend to blame God. If there is a God, why? What do you mean, if there is a God? It’s not a question of whether there is a God, it’s a question of whether there is a devil. The devil is responsible for having brought ruin, diseases and death upon this earth.

But it is a fact too, ladies and gentlemen, that we are personally responsible for much of the disorder which comes to our bodies and our nerves. And I believe that a Christian owes it to his Lord to do what he knows and can to remain in good health. There will be many diseases we can’t avoid. Virus is floating in the very air we breath. Sometimes no matter how careful you are, you’re gonna get it.

Ladies and gentlemen, we ought to do the best we can to preserve our bodies in good health. There’s why I believe this. 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17 says 16. “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?” 17. “If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.”

Now the Bible says you are the temple of God. You! Then the Bible says, if you defile and corrupt the body temple where God wants to dwell, then God will destroy you.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, because of these powerful texts, a Christian who loves the Lord and desires to please Him, has an obligation to represent God in his body and therefore to be careful about what he takes into his system.

Ladies and gentlemen, what we eat and what we drink will help determine the character we develop, it will determine whether we choose right or wrong. And what you wear affects your conduct too. You put somebody in a bunch of sloppy clothes and they’ll sit on the ground. You dress them up decently, and they’ll look for a chair.

What a privilege to to think that the God of heaven is willing to come inside of me. And we need Him inside of us. That is something within that holdeth the range, something within I cannot explain. We need God in us. It’s the only way to overcome habits. The only way to love your enemies. The only way to pray for somebody who’s just told a big lie on you. Instead of looking for a feeling, we ought to be looking for a

power that controls us, and makes us like Jesus. We need the Holy Spirit, there is no eternal life without Him.

1 Corinthians 10:31 says, “Whether therefore ye eat or drink, or whatever ye do, do all in the glory of God.”

Liqour.

Now, my friends, there are things a Christian should never bring to his lips. Now the Bible tells us that liquor, which covers whisky, gin, beer, wine, rum, scrap iron, smaky pete, Old Maude, the Bible forbids it. And the Bible says expressly, no drunkard will enter the kingdom of God.

A man may have a good job, but if that man is hooked on liquor, that man will never have anything. Liquor has taken food out of the mouth of babes. Liquor has taken oil out of the furnace. Liquor has taken clothes out of the closet. And liquor will smoke a bomb out of a gentleman about ten minutes. He will look like a fool and act like a fool and talk like a fool. In Proverbs 23:24, the Bible says, “Who hath woe? Who hath sorrow? Who hath contention? Who hath babbling? Who hath wounds without cause?”

A man was driving in a lot of traffic one day. And while he was stopped somebody run up to him and said, “Pardon me, buddy, May I ride with you?” And because he was drunk, he felt like he was eight feet tall and four feet wide and can beat ten men. And because he had been drinking, he hurled some foul language in the face of that fellow. And he drove on off a little piece, but the traffic was so heavy, that he couldn’t go very far and had to stop again. And he wasn’t expecting any problem, but that fellow didn’t like what he said. And he had a blade with him. And he ran up and reached into that car, and raked a razor, clean around underneath his chin. And a friend of mine saw this man, and after twenty years he’s got one of the ugliest scars you’ve ever saw, and he will have it until he dies. The Bible says, “Who hath wounds without cause?” If he had been sober, he could have said, “Sorry buddy, I’m full.” And he would have smooth skin.

Then the Bible asks, “Who hath redness of eyes?” Look here, if you ever doubted before, this is letting you know which group God is talking about: the grape juice drinkers or the strong drink drinkers. You don’t get red eyes drinking grape juice. The Bible answers the question now, 30 “They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine.” 31. “Look thou not upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his color in the cup, when it moveth itself aright.” If you’ve ever seen it fermenting. It bubbles and boils like there is a fire underneath it. It’s rotting and souring and chemically changing into alcohol. God says when it does that, don’t even look at it.

Verse 32 says, “At last it bitheth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.” Grape juice doesn’t burn going down.

Tobacco.

In Deuteronomy 29:18, God condemns the roots that beareth gall ans wormwood. And this includes tobacco, for tobacco has a drug in it called nicotine. It’s named after John Nicot, a Frenchman who came over here and discovered it. Nicoteen is a drug.

And one drop of it injected into your arm would kill you as dead as you'll ever be. We've been preaching this for years, and now the sergeant general has caught up with the church and they have a sign on all cigarette stating that cigarette smoking is dangerous to your health. 1 in every 20,000 Americans will die of lung cancer this year. Many famous people have died from it, or had their lungs taken out. Clark Gable, Humphrey Bogart, you name them. One by one, these cancerous coffin nails have claimed them. Arthur Godfrey got his lung out and quit. John Wayne got his lung out and quit.

God doesn't ask you to give up anything that's good for you. God says do not defile that temple. Let me give you a rule: anything that you use and can't stop using is wrong. The reason you can't stop is because the drug is playing on the motor nerves. Coca-cola, Pepsi and coffee have caffeine in them, they are drugs. You never heard of anybody who couldn't stop eating beans, or cabbage, or lettuce. A healthy food does not make you an addict.

SWINE

Now here's something else. God forbids the use of swine's flesh. That's pork. Our Black Moslem brothers finally found this out. And they don't serve it in their restaurants.

In Genesis 7:2, many years before there was ever a Jew, God is getting Noah into the ark. Were there any Jews in Noah's day? In Noah's day there were clean and unclean beasts. God told Noah to take clean beasts by seven and unclean beasts by two. When God told Noah this, this was the beginning of permission to eat flesh of any kind. Before that, nobody are meat at all. But now that the flood is coming, God is granting man permission to eat flesh. He forbids him to eat blood and unclean animals. God says if the animal is clean, take along a male and a female, so they can continue their kind through reproduction. But also take along five others, for food and sacrifice.

But God said if the animal is unclean, you don't need more than two. A male and a female. So if you take a cow, take a cow and a bull and five others. If you take a sheep, take a sheep and a ram and five others. But if you take a pig, take two. I don't want them for sacrifice, and you're not supposed to eat them. If you take a dog, take two. If you take a bear, take two.

Leviticus 11:7, 8; Deuteronomy 14:8; Isaiah 65:3, 4; Isaiah 66:17. In these texts, God says don't even touch the flesh of swine. If you do, you provoke the Lord and He will destroy you with fire along those who eat the mouse. God puts the mouse eaters and swine eaters together.

Ladies and gentlemen, there's an article out called, "The Meal that Can Kill." And it talks about Trickenosis, which is the disease in a pig. Trickenosis is caused by the Trickaina worm. This worm lives inside the tissue of pigs. And whenever you get it inside of you, you can't get rid of it. It attacks the body with spasms that seem like rheumatism. Many people bent over thinking they have rheumatism, they've got hog-matism. God never made the pig to be eaten. Well, what did he make him for? God made scavengers to clean up filth, and especially after death entered God's

universe. Death came as a result of sin. So, if a thing dies in water, God's got lobsters and crabs and clams and oysters to eat it up. They are scavengers and they eat filth.

If God were not wise enough to provide them, the oceans, which cover two-thirds of the earth's surface would become a giant cesspool of death. And the stench would kill everybody on earth. So God put scavengers out there to clean up filth.

We got some fresh water scavengers, they're called catfish. They hang around sewer pipes. Now if the thing dies upon the mountain, God's got buzzards that can get up there and get them. If an elephant dies, God's gotta have a big scavenger. So He's got jackals and hyenas to take care of him. And if the thing dies under the ground, God's got an animal with a shovel on the end of his nose. He's called a pig. And he will root and dig and clean out the earth. He is God's janitor and he's not supposed to be eaten. If you ever visited where they live, I think you'd lose your appetite. They eat from the garbage. And the garbage is best from the polio hospitals, from the cancer clinics. The pigs eat that. They are made to live on filth.

Ladies and gentlemen, my mother used to eat pork. Didn't I tell you we never preach to embarrass anybody. Many of you have had to give up smoking and drinking and pork. And you loved it. What you talkin' 'bout! And one thing you eat everything on; feet, tail, ears, brain, chidline.

If it's in the sea, it's gotta have scales and fins. Now if you must eat meat, there's enough clean meat to keep you fat forever. Perch and bass, salmon and tuna. All these have scales and fins. But catfish and eels and all these ugly lobsters and things were not made for human consumption. Amen. If it's in the air, you're not supposed to eat birds of prey; buzzards and hawks and eagles. And the Bible says don't eat anything that has a paw. A paw is what a dog has, and a bear and a squirrel and a rabbit and a possum and a coon. God says it must have a hoof. And it must be a cloven hoof. That's your cow and your deer and your sheep and your goat.

Ladies and gentlemen, as a young person, I wonder why so many of us young people feel they must smoke and drink and use drugs. As a young person, I want you to know I get a kick out of standing up and being different. I find it thrilling to be different. I don't wanna be like everybody else, I wanna be like Jesus.

Ladies and gentlemen, you wouldn't put the wrong kind of fuel in an airplane and get in it. You go out and spend $6,000 to $10,000 on a car, you don't put the wrong oil in the gas tank, or sugar. You have a driver's manual. And if it says change the oil every 3,000 miles, you try to do it, don't you? The people who made that car know how to treat it, don't they? Well, God made us!

FLY - FROG - SNAKE - PIG - MAN

"This little pig went to the market, this little pig stayed home. This little pig had what? See even a pig wouldn't eat pig."

In closing, what you eat and what you drink will determine your character to a large extent! Make sure that no matter what you do, Christ can be with you. God never sends the truth to embarrass, but to enlighten. He says, "Look, my child, you've been

following me the best you knew. Now I'm gonna tell you all that I want you to do. Don't get angry, but just keep following me and trusting me," Jesus says.

Ladies and gentlemen, the gospel makes you clean. And the gospel makes you clean up your house. The gospel will brush your teeth, comb your hair, give you a bath. Cleanliness is godliness.

Jesus says take up your cross and follow me. You're not gonna get to heaven cheap, you gotta give up something. You gotta give up some of that life you're used to. Some people are caught in a round of pleasure. God's calling us to be saved. He can save to the innermost, but it's up to you to decide. But your body must become my temple. And if I can't have your body, I can't have any of you. The Holy Spirit has gotta live in you. You've gotta decide folks! God tells you and the Devil allures you, buy you've gotta decide. I have decided, and I thank God that I have decided.

It's hard without Christ, but with Christ, all things are possible. Jesus is our example, study Him. But if you must look at people, don't look at the hypocrites! Ladies ad gentlemen, there are some saints in Zion. Follow Jesus, don't look at people.

Ladies and gentlemen, whatever God wants me to do, I wanna do it. Do you appreciate God's message? If you do say Amen. Now I want you to stand and let's pray.

Health prayer.

Lord, you have spoken to us tonight, and how wonderful it is to know that the Holy Spirit can live in us. Thank you Lord for loving us and caring for us. When we look at ourselves we wonder how we can ever be saved. But when we look back at Jesus, we wonder how we can ever be lost. Bless everyone here under the sound of my voice. I beg it in Jesus' name.

There is hope for you, who serve the King of Kings.

There is hope for you, who shun defiling things.

There is hope for you, you'll mount up on eagle's wings.

There is hope for you, from filthy habits flee.

There is hope, I say, His strength is offered thee.

There is hope, I say, your God He always be.

There is hope in Christ for you.