

When Did the Donkey Starve to Death?

Nisraddin Hoca lived in Asia about 700 years ago, and he had a donkey with a big appetite. He wondered if by gradually reducing the animal's food every day it might be possible to condition the animal to get along without any food at all.



This experiment was continued for several weeks, but a few days after all the food had stopped the donkey died. He commented, "What a pity that he should die just when he was getting accustomed to hunger."

That sounds ridiculous, but it is not much different from what many Christians do. They discontinue regular Bible study. Wednesday prayer meeting and Sunday night worship service become just like any other time of the week, and it is used for recreation. The Bible hour is just too early on Sunday. Sunday is the only day of rest, after all.

Finally, they quit attending all together. Someone says, "What happened all of a sudden?" It was not a sudden thing with them. They have been cutting down on their spiritual food for some time. They died just when they were getting accustomed to the hunger.

- From the *Damascus Gospelizer (The Voice of Truth International)* -

A Christian Disposition

Someone wrote: The effect that Christ has on the lives of true Christians goes farther than just eliminating evil. The Lord's influence should extend even to changing our attitudes, personalities, and dispositions. Let's notice a few qualities that should permeate the Christian disposition . . .

1. **The Christian Disposition should be KIND.** Kindness is sympathy and love in action. (Col. 3:12-13).
2. **The Christian Disposition is FORGIVING.** Forgiveness is the scent flowers give off when they are trampled. The true Christian will learn to forgive and forget. (Matt. 6:12).
3. **The Christian Disposition is PEACEABLE.** Jesus said: "Blessed are the peacemakers ..." (Matt. 5:9).
4. **The Christian Disposition is APPRECIATIVE.** Ingratitude is a despicable trait. All of us should recognize the power of a simple "thank you." (Luke 17:12-19).
5. **The Christian Disposition is FAIR.** The golden rule demands that we treat everyone fairly. (Matt. 7:12).

May God grant us to be "Christian" in disposition as well as doctrine!

- Bobby Dockery (*Bulletin Digest*), adapted

God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.

News & Notes

COVERED DISH DINNER: Today at about noon at the Multipurpose Building. All are invited to come and enjoy the food and fellowship.

ELDERS TO SPEAK: This evening at 5:30 p.m. Plan to be here for this annual event and learn about the church's present situation and future plans.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Ladies are encouraged to participate to help make stuffed bears for kids.

MEN'S LEADERSHIP CLASSES: Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. All men are urged to attend this class.

STUDY ON REVELATION: Each Wednesday at the 7:00 p.m. Bible study hour.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS: Each Thursday at 11:00 a.m. at the Brown's home.

PIZZA PARTY: Friday, Feb. 10th, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for ages 2 through teen-age at the Multipurpose Building. Those attending are requested to take a package of signed valentines. For additional information see or call David or Becky McKittrick (304) 387-9796.

AREA WIDE MEN'S BREAKFAST: Next Saturday, Feb. 11th, 8:30 a.m. the Columbi-ana, OH Church of Christ.

PANTRY: Noodles.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Tasha Hall Beatty (member at Southern Hills): 1034 Pyramus Rd., Chester, WV 26034. Imogene Aebi, (radiation treatments): 2660 Layman Rd., Vincent, OH 45784. Irvin & Barbara Gainer in Texas (Jenny Rhodes' parents).

SICK & SHUT-IN: Tamara Sprout, Marilyn Sprout, Dean Spencer, Janet Malcomson, Lois Hissom, Eva Stefl, Shirley Beagle, Doris Dunham, Betty Henthorne, Jim Smith (preacher at Langeloth, PA). Ruth Wright (Sharon Williams' sister) 1211 Mound St., Salem, OH 44460. **CROSSROADS:** Jim Mick, **CALCUTTA HEALTH CARE:** Sarah Miller & Ella Beagle. **WORTHINGTON NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER,** Margie Logston, 2675 - 36th St., P.O. Box 4010, Parkersburg, WV 26104.

FOUR IMPORTANT FACTS ABOUT THE BIBLE

1. The Bible is the ONLY Book that came to us from the mind of God. All other books were produced merely by human beings. The Bible comes from God's mind and was revealed through human agents (apostles and prophets) by the guidance of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 2:6-13; Gal. 1:11-12; Eph. 3:1-5).
2. The Bible is the ONLY Book that came to us from the heart of God. In Romans 9:23-26, Paul notes that God has called out His people to make known "the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory." This great love is encapsulated in John 3:16.
3. The Bible is the ONLY Book that tells us ALL things we must know, believe and do to get to heaven (2 Pet. 1:3). It will make one a child of God and will make that child complete (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Nothing else is needed; nothing else is acceptable for our spiritual needs.
4. The Bible is the ONLY Book by which humans will be judged. The part of the Bible by which you and I shall be judged is the New Testament (John 12:48; Rom. 2:16). The basis of that judgment will be the deeds we do in the body while living. *No other book should command our interested attention like the Bible!*

- Author Unknown -