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# Discovery

*Scripture & Science for Kids*



# FOOD THAT HELPS US REMEMBER

KYLE BUTT

Food is wonderful. It gives our bodies energy to run, jump, and play. It gives our minds the necessary vitamins and minerals to think. Some food tastes so good that people will spend hundreds of dollars on a tiny portion of it—the most expensive caviar in the world is about \$650 per ounce! But besides all these things, food does something else very important. Food helps us to remember.

Many years ago, the Israelites were slaves in the land of Egypt. On the night that God delivered them from Egypt, He told them to eat a special meal. They were supposed to eat a lamb, bitter herbs, and bread that did not have time to rise (unleavened). After that night in Egypt, they were supposed to eat this special meal, called the Passover, every year (read Exodus 12:1-8). The purpose of the meal was to remind them that they had been slaves in Egypt and God had delivered them from slavery. Every year the bitter herbs reminded

them of the bitter slavery they endured.

The lamb reminded them that God had not killed their firstborn. The unleavened bread reminded them

that they had left Egypt in such a hurry their bread did not have time to rise. For hundreds of years, the Passover feast reminded the Jews of their ancestors' exodus from Egypt.

Even Jesus ate the Passover and remembered Egypt. But near the end of His life, Jesus started a different meal to help His followers remember Him. During the Passover feast before He was crucified, Jesus took unleavened bread and gave it to His apostles. He said this bread was to help them remember His body that would hang on the cross (read Matthew 26:26-28). He also passed out grape juice to His apostles and told them that it represented the blood that He would shed on the cross.

In the New Testament, the early Christians ate this new meal, the Lord's Supper, on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7), the day that Jesus rose from the grave. It was not a yearly meal, but one eaten every week to remember Jesus' death and resurrection. Today, we still eat the Lord's Supper on the first day of each week to remember Jesus' sacrifice (read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

Isn't it amazing that God has chosen to use simple foods—unleavened bread and grape juice—to help us remember the most wonderful sacrifice ever?



# DON'T EAT THAT!

KYLE BUTT

Some mushrooms taste great—at least to some people. People eat grilled mushrooms on steaks, fried mushrooms in special sauce, and raw mushrooms on salads. But not all mushrooms are good to eat. Some are poisonous and can kill you. Mushrooms are not the only poisonous food. Some types of fish are extremely



poisonous. Other foods such as pork, can be eaten, but need to be cooked well to kill parasites that might

live in the meat. In fact, it is very important for us to “watch what we eat” so that we don't eat things that may be poisonous or harmful.

In the Old Testament, God knew that the Israelites needed help determining which foods to eat and which ones to avoid. He gave them a list of animals they could eat called “clean animals” and ones they could not eat called “unclean animals” (read Leviticus 11). In this list, God helped the Israelites avoid foods that might make them sick. For instance, God told the Israelites that they could not eat pigs. Pigs are scavengers. That means that they eat just about anything. Because they eat most anything, they often carry parasites that animals like cows or

sheep (clean animals) do not carry. People who eat undercooked pork can become infested by the parasites in the pig meat. Since the Israelites likely would not have been able to prepare pork safely, it was best that they simply did not eat it at all.

Also, God told the Jews that all fish with scales and fins were clean and edible. But He warned them not to eat any fish that did not have scales or fins. After studying fish, scientists have discovered that poisonous fish do not have scales and fins. God was protecting the Israelites from eating poisonous fish.

Even though the rules about clean and unclean animals do not apply today (Acts 10:15), they are still very interesting to study. They show us that

God inspired the Old Testament. His laws helped the Jewish nation to avoid things that would harm them. God's laws in the Old Testament show us that God always looks out for His people. And His ways are the ways that lead to life (Matthew 7:13-14).



# ✓ APPROVED FOOD FROM CREATION TO THE FLOOD

ERIC LYONS

Have you ever thought about what kind of food Adam ate for the 930 years he lived? Perhaps you have pictured him eating leg of lamb or roasted chicken that Eve prepared over a hot fire. Maybe you thought Eve frequently cooked beef, venison, or fish for all of her children and grandchildren. You might be surprised to find out that we never read of humans eating meat until long after Creation—in fact, not until after the Flood.

After the creation of man and land animals, God instructed Adam saying, “I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food” (Genesis 1:29). There is no record of God telling Adam and Eve that they could butcher cows or smoke chickens, but He did authorize them to eat the seeds and fruits of plants and trees.

In the very next chapter of Genesis, God told Adam that he could eat “of every tree of the garden” (except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil—2:16-17). Notice that nothing was said about animals—only plant life. Then again, in Genesis 3, when God sentenced Adam and Eve to life outside of the Garden of Eden, He said: “And you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground” (3:18-19).

Three times in the first three chapters of the Bible, God instructed man regarding his diet. Each time, the Bible records that God allowed man to eat vegetation (some of which could be made into bread—3:19). The Bible nowhere mentions man receiving permission from God to eat any kind of animal until **after** the Flood. It was then that God said:

*Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth. And the fear of you and the dread of you shall be on every beast of the earth, on every bird of the air, on all that move on the earth, and on all the fish of the sea. They are given into your hand. Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs (Genesis 9:1-3).*

Just as God had approved mankind to eat “green herbs” hundreds of years earlier, **after** the

Flood, God gave His permission for mankind to eat “all things”—including all animals that move on the Earth and swim in the sea.

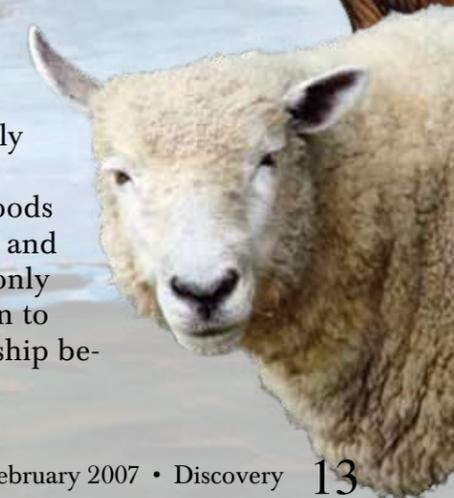
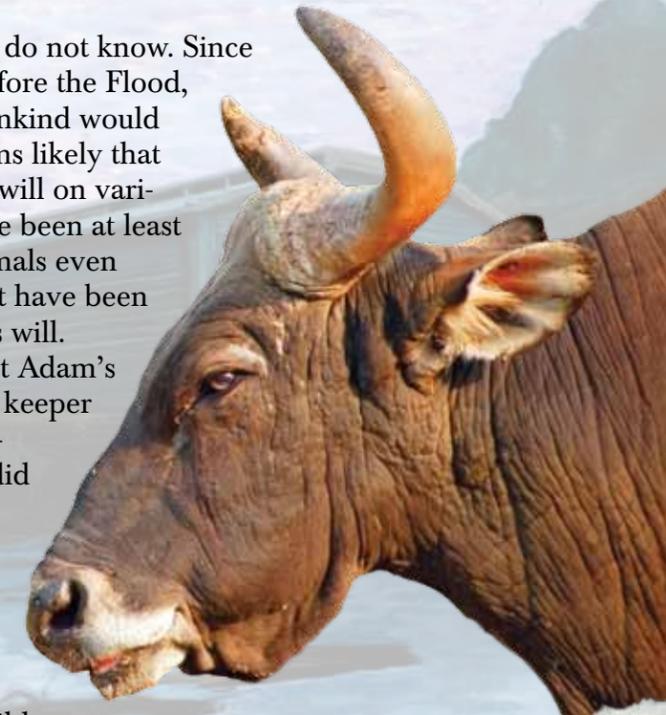
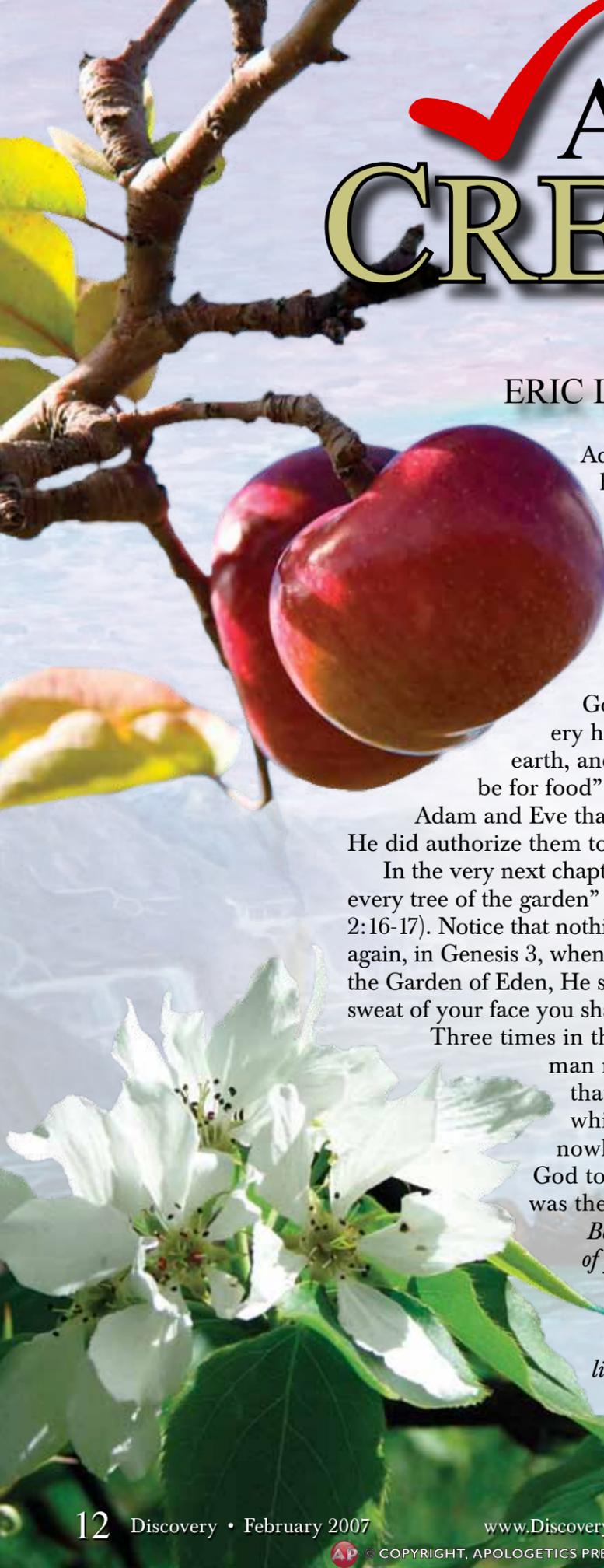
Prior to the Flood, God also had not put “the fear” and “the dread” of man on the animals. Adam lived in harmony with them, and even gave them names as God brought them to him (Genesis 2:19-20). Noah and his family lived peaceably with them on the ark for about a year. After the Flood, however, things changed. God gave mankind approval to eat animals, while at the same time changing their relationship so that (generally speaking) animals became fearful of humans.

So did men ever eat animals before this time? We simply do not know. Since God apparently did not authorize men to eat animal flesh before the Flood, it might have been sinful. But that does not mean that all mankind would have avoided eating animals. It seems likely that (just as people today reject God’s will on various matters) there would have been at least some people who ate animals even though it might have been against God’s will.

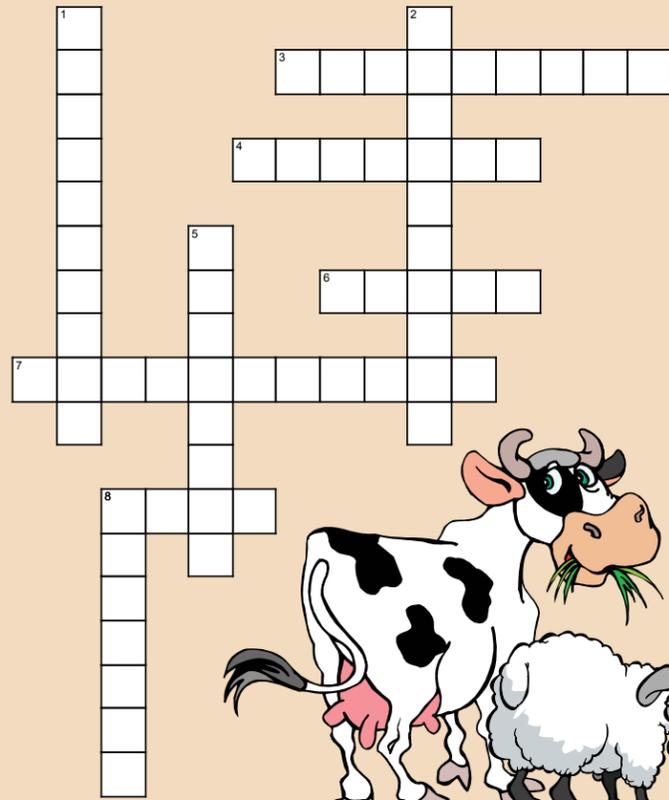
But wasn’t Adam’s son, Abel, “a keeper of sheep” (Genesis 4:2)? Why did he (and likely many others after him) tend sheep if they were not supposed to eat them? Although the Bible

does not say exactly why Abel herded sheep, most likely it was because, by raising sheep, he could provide clothing for himself and others, as well as supply animals to sacrifice to God.

From Creation to the Flood, the only approved foods for mankind that the Bible mentions were fruits, nuts, and vegetables and what could be made from such. It was only after the Flood that the Bible tells us God permitted man to eat animals. It was at that point in time that the relationship between animals and man changed forever.



## CROSSWORD CHALLENGE



### ACROSS

- An iron oxide known as lodestone
- Animals that the Israelites could not eat
- Animals the Israelites could eat
- Christians eat this meal on the first day of the week
- Son of Adam who kept sheep

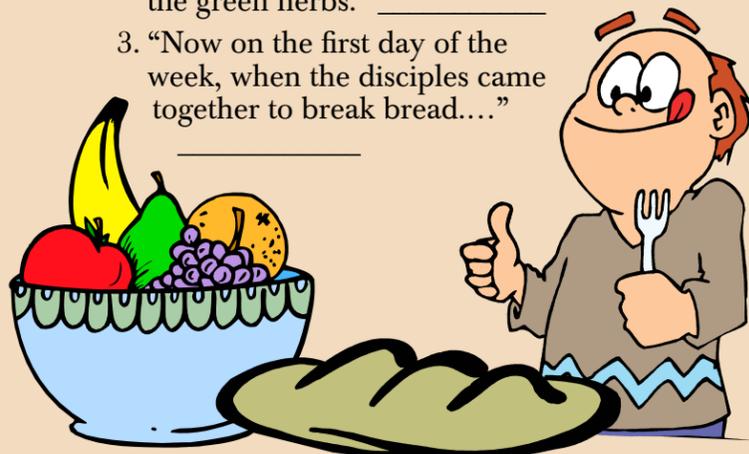
### DOWN

- What the Bible says Adam and Eve were approved to eat
- The kind of bread used in the Pass-over
- This meal was to remind the Israelites that they had been slaves in Egypt and God had delivered them from slavery
- What God told Noah he could eat after the Flood

## KNOW YOUR BIBLE

[Give the correct reference at the end of each verse.]

- “I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food.” \_\_\_\_\_
- “Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you. I have given you all things, even as the green herbs.” \_\_\_\_\_
- “Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread....” \_\_\_\_\_



## FILL IN THE BLANKS

- God told the Jews that all fish with \_\_\_\_\_ and fins were clean and edible.
- Scientists have discovered that \_\_\_\_\_ fish do not have scales and fins.
- \_\_\_\_\_ come from a naturally occurring mineral called magnetite.
- During the Passover feast (just before He was crucified), Jesus took unleavened \_\_\_\_\_ and grape juice and gave it to His apostles.
- God created plants on day \_\_\_\_\_ of Creation.



**Dear Digger Doug,**  
Who invented magnets?  
—Nicholas, West Virginia



Dear Nicholas,

I am happy to answer your fine question. Humans didn't really “invent” magnets at all. God did! Magnets come from a naturally occurring mineral called **magnetite** (also known as lodestone, an iron oxide). Tradition suggests that the ancient Greeks were the first to discover magnetite (Greek philosophers described it). They noticed that these stones had the power to attract iron. There's even a story about a shepherd named Magnes whose shoe nails stuck to a rock containing magnetite.

The Chinese probably were the first to use magnetic energy to develop a compass. And with a large supply of magnetite in Scandinavia, the Vikings also used the compass in their travels to colonize and wage war. Magnetic compasses allowed the Vikings to cross oceans and invade countries even in the fog.

Until 1821, the only known magnetism was the one produced by iron magnetite. Then a Danish scientist, Hans Christian Oersted, noticed that the electric current in a wire caused a nearby compass needle to move. André-Marie Ampere studied this phenomenon in France and concluded that magnetism was different from what people generally believed. It is a force between electric currents. This understanding allows us to use magnets in many ways today.

James Clerk Maxwell, a brilliant scientist who believed in God and Creation, made important discoveries in the area of magnetism (you can read about him at [www.apologeticspress.org](http://www.apologeticspress.org)). In creating our wonderful world, God provided us with many tools that help us (Genesis 4:21-22; James 1:17). Magnetism is one such tool.

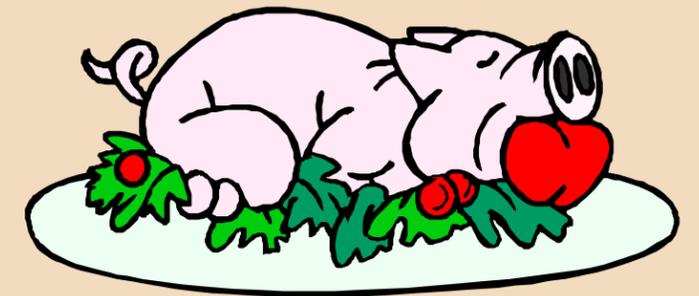


## TRUE OR FALSE

- \_\_\_ The Israelites were commanded to eat pork every Sabbath.
- \_\_\_ God is the ultimate provider of all things.
- \_\_\_ Food gives our bodies energy.
- \_\_\_ God, not man, “invented” the mineral that makes up magnets.
- \_\_\_ God has chosen to use simple foods, unleavened bread and grape juice, to help us remember the most wonderful sacrifice ever.
- \_\_\_ Fried crickets and jellyfish are actual foods enjoyed by certain people.
- \_\_\_ People in Bible times depended on certain plants to live.
- \_\_\_ People who eat undercooked pork can become infested by parasites in the pig meat.

## ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

- Write down why you think God forbade the Israelites to eat pork and fish with no scales and fins.
- What foods were the Israelites to use in the Pass-over meal?





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# WHO EATS THAT?

TOMMY HATFIELD

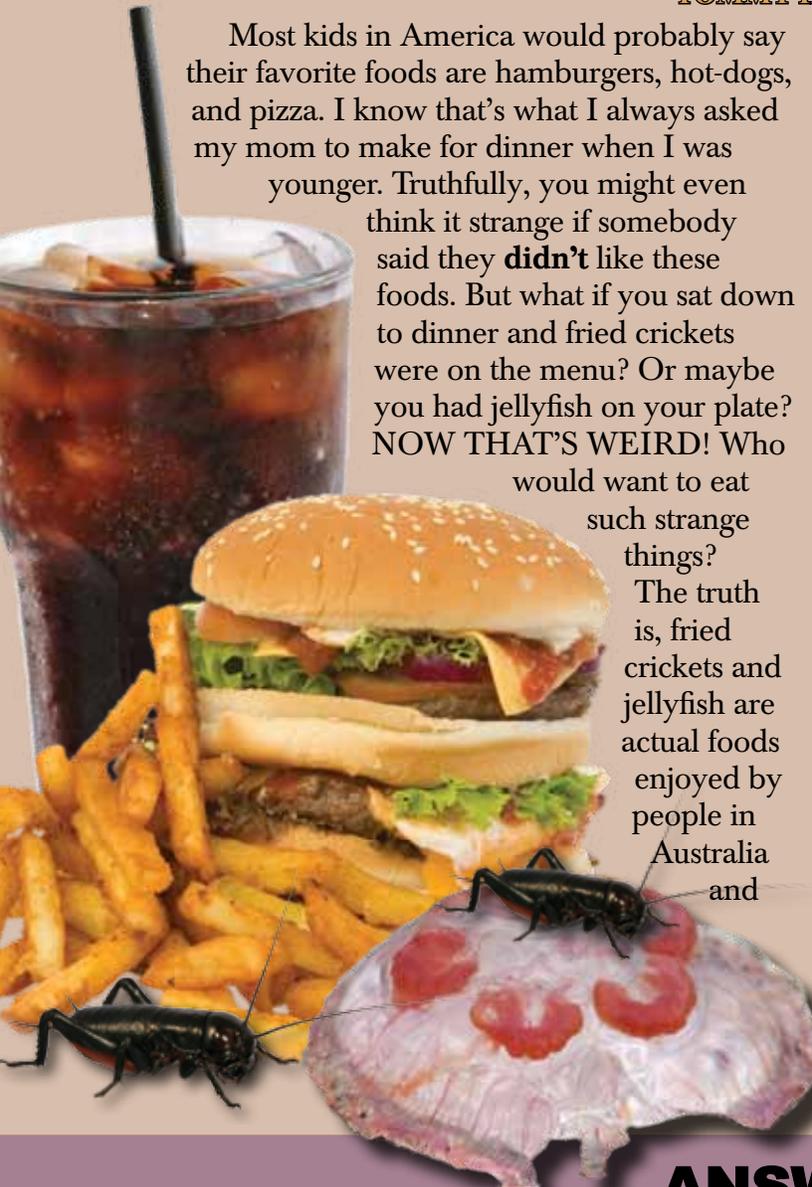
Most kids in America would probably say their favorite foods are hamburgers, hot-dogs, and pizza. I know that's what I always asked my mom to make for dinner when I was younger. Truthfully, you might even think it strange if somebody said they **didn't** like these foods. But what if you sat down to dinner and fried crickets were on the menu? Or maybe you had jellyfish on your plate? **NOW THAT'S WEIRD!** Who

would want to eat such strange things?

The truth is, fried crickets and jellyfish are actual foods enjoyed by people in Australia and

Japan. They seem strange to you and me because we don't live in the countries where they are commonly served as food. If you were to move to a foreign country where they ate these "strange" things, over time you would become accustomed to the native foods of that region, and soon they would not seem as unusual as they once did. Many families who travel overseas get to experience many interesting foods because they are exposed to new and different cultures.

There are many other differences between people of two countries, especially those separated by great distances. For instance, it is interesting that most countries serve their meals at a table and sit in chairs, but there are some cultures where the table is very low to the ground. Instead of sitting in chairs they simply sit on the floor. Even though two groups of people from opposite sides of the Earth enjoy very different foods and eat in different ways, they have one important thing in common. No matter what a person eats, we must recognize God is the ultimate provider of all things. Genesis 1:29 tells us that on the sixth day of creation God told humans they could eat fruits and herbs. The reason we are able to enjoy the wonderful things we eat is because God has blessed us richly. Next time you have a dish of your favorite food, take time to thank God for His marvelous blessings.



## ANSWERS

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE: Across—3. magnetite; 4. unclean; 6. clean; 7. Lord's Supper; 8. Abel; Down—1. vegetation; 2. unleavened; 5. Passover; 8. animals. KNOW YOUR BIBLE: (1) Genesis 1:29; (2) Genesis 9:3; (3) Acts 20:7. FILL IN THE BLANKS: 1. scales; 2. poisonous; 3. Magnets; 4. bread; 5. three. TRUE OR FALSE: 1. F; 2. T; 3. T; 4. T; 5. T; 6. T; 7. T; 8. T.

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