

“LIVER & ONIONS”

I do not like “liver & onions.” I do not like to smell liver and onions being prepared, or cooking. I do not like to see liver and onions. I do not like the feel of liver and onions in my mouth. I do not like the taste of liver and onions. The truth is: **“I do not like liver and onions.”**

There are things the Christian is not to like, in this life. *“Love not the world,”* I Jno. 2:15; is teaching me, I am not to love the things of the world. As I look through the Bible, I learn the things of the world are: fornication, lying, stealing, murder, anger, idolatry, revellings, lasciviousness, drunkenness, cursing (using the Lord’s name in vain) and stubbornness. When one obeys the Gospel all of these named things and all other things mentioned in the New Testament, which are sinful, should be avoided. There is an expression used in Gal. 5:21 **“and such like.”** This is saying that any and all things of like kind, should be avoided. All of these things are considered as being a part of the world, *“16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the vainglory of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world,”* I Jno. 2:16. Those who determine to be a part of the world, *“the love of the Father is not in him,”* I Jno. 2:15. A Christian cannot be of the world and at the same time have the love of God extended to him! I do not love the world and am determined to avoid all things that are sinful and ungodly. Well, I don’t like liver and onions either. I do everything I can to avoid them and am thinking I need to have the same attitude toward that which is sinful and ungodly.

There are things that I am to **love** and **rejoice** in: *“5 Yea, and for this very cause adding on your part all diligence, in your faith supply virtue; and in you virtue knowledge; 6 and in your knowledge self-control; and in your self-control patience; and in your patience godliness; 7 and in your godliness brotherly kindness; and in your brotherly-kindness love. 8 For if these things are yours and abound, they make you to be not idle nor unfruitful unto the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ,”* II Pet. 1:5-8. Also in Phil. 4:8-9, we find: *“8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. 9 The things which ye both learned and received and heard and saw in me, these things do: and the God of peace shall be with you.”* These are the qualities that are to be **sought after, desired and incorporated** within our lives. These are so important that God said: *“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind,”* Matt. 22:37. *All that pertains to God must come first.*

In I Pet. 1:15-16 Peter informs us, *“But like as he who called you is holly, be ye yourselves also holy in all manner of living; 16 because it is written, Ye shall be holy; for I am holy.”* The things of the world are to be left behind and we seek that which is **“HOLY.”**

Back to our starting point: **“I do not like liver and onions.”** I do not like sin and degradation. I do all that I can to keep my life clean – separate and apart from the sinful acts and deeds of this life. I am going to do everything possible to keep myself from sin.

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