Devotional

It is God’s will that your good lives should silence those who foolishly condemn the Gospel without knowing what it can do for them, having never experienced its power. You are free from the law, but that doesn’t mean you are free to do wrong. Live as those who are free to do only God’s will at all times - 1 Peter 2:15-16 Living Bible (TLB)

Do the people around you know that you’re a Christian? Do they act differently around you? How do you reflect Christ in your life? Do you just try to keep out of trouble or avoid associating with certain people as the religious leaders did? Or do you live as Christ did when He was here? Did you live as the prophet Daniel did among the Babylonians? All through his exile Daniel lived an exemplary life. He remained faithful to God. He refused to
eat food that violated God’s diet and even after a decree was passed which declared that no man should petition any god or man for thirty days, except King Darius, he continued to worship God as he was accustomed to. He refused to compromise even if it meant imprisonment or death. What about you? If you were asked or pressured to do something that was contrary to God’s Word or affected your faith, would you do it for the sake of peace or unity? Just as Jesus and Daniel was each a light to those around them, setting an example of right living and upstanding conduct, so ought we to be. And just as they could find no fault in either Jesus or Daniel, they should find none in us. Let our conduct be such that men will see and glorify our heavenly Father. Let us live as those who will obey God rather than men and will delight to always do His will, no matter what. Let’s not give anyone anything to say anything against us. Let our good and right living silence them.

In the Spotlight

We don’t know much about Asenath, except that she was Egyptian and the daughter of Potipherah priest of On. On was a city in Lower Egypt, bordering land of Goshen. It was the centre of sun-worship.

Asenath was given to Joseph in marriage by Pharaoh himself. The name Asenath means, “belonging to the goddess Neith.” Neith was an ancient goddess of war and weaving.

According to apocryphal narrative Joseph and Asenath, she is a virgin who rejects several worthy suitors in favor of Joseph, but Joseph will not have a pagan for a wife. She locks herself in a tower and rejects her idolatry in favor of Joseph’s God, Yahweh, and receives a visit from an angel who accepts her conversion. A ritual involving a honeycomb follows. Bees cover her and sting her lips to remove the false prayers to the pagan gods of her past. Joseph now consents to marry her. She bore him two sons, Manasseh which means, “For God has made me forget all my toil and all my father’s house.” and Ephraim which means, “For God has caused me to be fruitful in the land of my affliction.”

Rabbinical literature, Asenath is believed to be the daughter of Jacob’s daughter Dinah and Shechem, the man who raped her. The story says that she was taken by angels to Egypt, where she was adopted. In some versions she is identified by a special plate which Jacob placed around her neck, bearing the name of God and/or the story of her conception.

It is clear from the Biblical view that God didn’t have a problem with Joseph marrying her. It is very likely that she embraced his faith or at least, unlike Solomon’s exotic wives, she didn’t lead Joseph into idolatry. I doubt that she would have succeeded even if she had tried.

Sources: Wikipedia; Blue Letter Bible

Health Watch

I can’t get my son to eat eggs. He doesn’t like them no matter how they are prepared-scrambled, boiled or fried. I haven’t tried poaching it but I know I will have the same result. How can I convince him that eggs are good for him? How can I make them appetizing for him?

First, I looked up what the benefits of eating eggs are so that I can share them with him.

The top ten benefits of eating eggs are:

1. Incredibly Nutritious
2. High in Cholesterol, but Don’t Adversely Affect Blood Cholesterol
3. Raise HDL (The "Good") Cholesterol
4. Contain Choline — an Important Nutrient That Most People Don’t Get Enough Of
5. Are Linked to a Reduced Risk of Heart Disease
6. Contain Lutein and Zeaxanthin — Antioxidants That Have Major Benefits for Eye Health
7. Omega-3 or Pastured Eggs Lower Triglycerides
8. High in Quality Protein, With All the Essential Amino Acids in the Right Ratios
9. Don’t Raise Your Risk of Heart Disease and May Reduce the Risk of Stroke
10. Are Filling and Tend to Make You Eat Fewer Calories, Helping You Lose Weight

Second, I have to find a way to prepare it to his liking. That’s going to be a big challenge but somewhere out there, is a recipe that just might do the trick. Here’s hoping!

Source: Health Line