

# Pork Consumption Prohibited by God.

God had prohibited all His prophets to eat pork. They include Prophet Abraham, Prophet Moses, Prophet Jesus, Prophet Muhammad and others (peace upon them all). Scriptures clearly guide us on this subject. This prohibition applies, naturally, to the Followers of the prophets as well.

Below are some verses from the scriptures about pork.

## Old Testament in the Bible

*“And swine, because it has divided hoofs but it is not a ruminant (does not chew the cud), it is unclean to you. You shall not eat any of their flesh nor touch their carcasses.”*

**Deut. 14:8 and Lev. 11: 7 -8**

*A people that provoketh Me to anger continually to My face; ... which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable thing is in their vessels.*

**Isaiah. 65:3/4;**

Condemning Pagan Mysteries: *“who eat the flesh of pigs, reptiles, rats: Their deeds and their thoughts shall end all at once- it is Yahweh who speaks.”*

**Isaiah 66: 17**

**See also Deut. 19: 19/21**

*“The pig must be held unclean, though it has a cloven foot, it is not a ruminant. You must not eat the meat of such animals, nor touch their dead bodies; you must hold them unclean.*

**Leviticus 11:8**

## New Testament

*“Now some distance away there was a large herd of pigs feeding, and the devils pleaded with Jesus, “If you cast us out, send us into the herds of pigs.” And he said to them, “Go then,” and they came out and made for the pigs; and at that, the whole herd charged down the cliff into the lake and perished in the water. The swineherds ran off and made for the town, where they told the whole story.”*

**Mathew 8: 28-33**

## The Qur'an on eating Pork

*“He (God) has only forbidden you what dies of itself , and blood, and flesh of swine, and that over which any other (name) than (of) God has been invoked ...”*

**2: 173**

*“... Or (eating) flesh of swine-for that surely is unclean ...”*  
**6: 145**

“Dictionary of Bible” edited by James Hastings 1963 on page 943 states, “Eating of swine’s flesh and offering the swine’s blood are closely regarded as lapse into paganism. The heathen tried to compel the Jews to eat the swine’s flesh and thus renounce their religion (2 Mac: 6, 7). In Talmudic writing pig appears as the emblem of uncleanness, and those who keep swine are regarded with aversion. In the parable of Prodigal Son where he is depicted as reaching the lowest depth of infamy in being sent to feed swine, and actually being reduced to covet their food (Luke 15: 15). It goes on to say that swine’s flesh is loathed by Jews and Moslems.

From above commandments in the scriptures, it appears that God Almighty attaches such importance to the prohibition of human consumption of pork that He uses strong language to show His extreme displeasure on the violators.

**Question.**

Does this prohibition apply to Prophet Moses and children of Israel only and not to Jesus and his followers?

**Answer:** Jesus (peace be upon him) lived and died as a Jew. He was bound by the Mosaic Law. He did not abrogate the older scriptures (Torah) but actually invited the people to follow it.

**Mat. 5:17-19**

**Question.**

Was the legislation prohibiting consumption of pork abrogated in later times as generally understood?

**Answer:** The wording of the prohibition is clear, precise, powerful and coming from God himself. It also clearly tells us the consequences of breaking the Law. If it were to be abrogated, the language must be equally specific and emphatic and from God (in first person) and should categorically nullify the Law, remove the displeasure and wrath of the Lord, making pork pure and wholesome.

To the best of my knowledge, Scriptures do not contain abrogation of Law against eating pork in this manner.

**Question.**

Did God make a mistake by prohibiting pork consumption? Did he act hastily or lacked certain knowledge? And when the realization came to him, then “corrected Himself” by abrogating the prohibition.

**Answer:** The response to above questions is an emphatic No. God has the knowledge of the past, the present and the future. He has the knowledge of the manifest and the hidden. He does not make mistakes, or experiments, or uses guess work, or regrets after taking an action. The Qur'an says: "There is no one mighty and powerful but God, the most Exalted, the High."

**Question.** Do the Laws of the Old Testament apply to the Christians?

**Answer.** Fulfillment of the Law.

*Jesus said, "Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish, but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, until heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law, until its purpose is achieved. Therefore, the man who infringes even the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same, will be considered the least in the kingdom of heaven; but the man who keeps them and teaches them, will be considered great in the kingdom of heaven"*

**Mathew: 17-19**

Saint Paul denounced this Law, saying that, *"If the world is only to be inherited by those who submit to the Law, then faith is pointless and the promise worth nothing. Law involves the possibility of punishment for breaking the Law- Only where there is no Law, can that be avoided That is why, what fulfills the promise depends upon faith, so it may be a free gift and be available to all Abraham's descendants ..."*

**Romans: 4:15, 16**

But if we accept this principle, then all civil, criminal laws, the legislature and court can be abolished, so there will be no laws broken and no criminals.

In fact, the Law was abrogated by St Paul by saying, "I know, and I am persuaded by Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him that esteemeth anything unclean, to him it is unclean."

The statement in Bible that is used to justify eating pork is this:

"The Law worketh wrath, for where no Law is, there is no transgression."

**Romans. 4:15**

However in Mathews 5:17-20 (See above) Jesus was bound by Mosaic Law, which strictly prohibits eating pork and Jesus actually condemns any one who breaks the smallest commandment.

*"He (Peter, who was hungry) fell in a trance, and saw heaven thrown open and something like a big sheet let down to earth by its four corners. It contained every possible sort of animal and bird, walking, crawling and flying ones. A voice then said to him, "Peter now kill and eat!" But Peter answered, "Certainly not, Lord; I*

*have never yet eaten any thing profane or unclean ...The voice spoke to him, "what God has made clean, you have no right to call profane..."*

**ACTS 10: 11-16**

*Church elders in Jerusalem decided not to overburden the pagans who became believers, thus instructed, "You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals, and from fornications. Avoid these, and you will do what is right."*

**ACTS 15: 29**

In Jerusalem, elders accused Paul of not following the Law. He was told:

*"We have four men here who are under a vow; "Take these men along and be purified with them, and pay all expenses connected with the shaving of their heads. This will let every one know, there is no truth in the reports they have heard about you, and that you still regularly observe the Law.*

*So, the next day Paul took the men along and was purified with them ..."*

**ACTS 21: 24-26**

Thus, the Law of God about prohibiting eating pork, brought by Jesus was not revoked or abrogated either by God or by Jesus.

Effects of eating pork on health.

The health hazards associated with eating pork and pork products are well documented. Besides pork being high in salt, fat, and cholesterol, it also carries parasitic disease like pork tapeworm, trichinosis, Balantidium coli organism. These cause disease in human beings. Cysts have been reported to lodge in brain and act as brain mass, giving rise to seizures, needing brain surgery. The diseases that may result from eating pork include; dysentery, trichinosis, tape worm, round worm, hookworm, jaundice, pneumonia, intestinal obstruction, high fever, and death.

This hazard still exists in advanced countries, including America, but more so in developing countries both in western hemisphere and eastern hemisphere.

**Ahmad H. Sakr**, a professor of biochemistry and nutrition writes that one of the triglyceride molecules in pig fat cannot be hydrolyzed, so it is deposited in humans as "pig fat." In animals like cattle, sheep, goat, etc. the animal fat is completely hydrolyzed and reconstituted as human fat.

**Rev. Joel Osteen** points out in sermon that pig intestine makes the food move very fast, so that there is not enough time to fully digest all that it eats. Thus, many toxins are absorbed and deposited in its flesh, which is then consumed by some humans. He strongly dissuades his congregation of eating pork and pork products.

Filthy habits of pig are well known. It wallows in its own excreta, eats filth and feces.

## Taking precaution.

There is a concept mentioned in the scriptures called “taking precaution.”

What it means here is that, if there is an issue in the practice of religion, in which there is doubt or concern that it may not possibly be the right thing to do, then it is better to avoid doing it. God is pleased with those who take precaution for the sake of His good pleasure.

It is my sincere hope that those who honor and follow Jesus, peace be upon him, give some thought to issues raised here, take due precaution in order to please God Almighty and Jesus Christ.

God Bless you.

(The End)

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- Ref: 1. The Jerusalem Bible**  
**2. The Qur’an, translated by M.H.Shakir**  
**3. Pork by Sayed Saeed A. Rizvi**  
**4. Pork. Possible reasons for its prohibition. By Ahmad H. Sakr**  
**5. [www.saif\\_w.tripod.com/interfaith/christianity/bible\\_quran\\_no\\_pork.htm](http://www.saif_w.tripod.com/interfaith/christianity/bible_quran_no_pork.htm)**  
**6. [www.youtube](http://www.youtube) Look for “eating pork by Joel Osteen”**

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