

Why Did God Create Such A Variety Of Animals?

Romans 1:18-20 [NIV] *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. **For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.**”*

God strongly points out in this inspired scripture that He wants all humanity to learn certain things about Him by studying what He has created in this world.

In this article I wish to show you how we can learn an important lesson from one animal that God has created.

John 15:8 [NIV] *“This is to my Father’s glory, that **you bear much fruit**, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”*

This animal will help us to fulfil this desire that God has for each of us, to bear much fruit.

Galatians 5:22-23 [NIV] *“**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.**”*

This is the kind of fruit that God is seeking to be produced in our lives.

These are eternal fruits, the **only** things we can take with us through physical death.

What animal are we going to study to help us accomplish this growing of eternal fruits in our lives?

The cow!

1. The cow consumes vast amounts of grass, you could call it the ultimate high fibre diet.

Spiritually we need to be doing the same thing.

What is our “*spiritual grass*”?

2 Timothy 3:16-17 [NIV] *“**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**”*

God’s inspired Word as found in the Christian Bible.

Paul was writing to Timothy who was a very good example of having a constant diet of “*spiritual grass*.”

2 Timothy 3:14-15 [NIV] *“**But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.**”*

Notice Timothy was weaned onto solid food at a young age.

Just as a young calf very soon in its life begins to eat grass, so all of us should be introduced to God's Word, our spiritual grass, at a young age.

Just like the grass consumed by the cow, our spiritual grass is of little use to us unless it is "*worked on*" after being imbibed.

2. The cow has two stomachs and having imbibed a large amount of grass into one stomach it sits down in a quiet place and "*chews the cud.*"

This "*chewing the cud*" is regurgitating in small amounts the grass from its first stomach to digest it once again to extract the maximum amount of goodness possible, and then transferring it to the second stomach.

The cow "*chews the cud*", we "*meditate.*"

We sit in a quiet place and meditate on what we have read in God's Word, the Christian Bible.

John 14:26 [NIV] "*But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*"

This meditation will allow the Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts, bringing other scriptures to mind.

This will then allow us to have a deeper understanding of God's Word, which is the expression of His character that He wants all of us to reflect.

3. We have in our mind two different parts.

One part is what is called our "*short memory.*"

This part allows us to perform in our body all the physical actions we need to live.

The second part of our mind is called our "*permanent memory*" that governs the way we live our life.

Job 32:8 [NIV] "*But it is the spirit in a man, the breath of the Almighty, that gives him understanding.*" [**Proverbs 20:27; 1 Corinthians 2:11**].

This "*spirit*" we all as human beings have is the permanent memory.

The physical brain that houses our "*short memory*" dies at the end of our physical life.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 [NIV] "*and the dust returns to the ground it came from, and the spirit returns to God who gave it.*"

The spirit, our "*permanent memory*", returns to God who gave it to us at conception.

This is all we can take with us through physical death.

Genesis 2:7 [NIV] "*the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.*"

Adam received this "*human spirit*" at his conception, the rest of Adam was physical dust.

We also receive this "*human spirit*" at our conception that makes us aware of our existence.

4. The end results of this "*chewing the cud*" and "*meditating*" are very similar, both processes produce "*fruits.*"

The cow produces nutritious milk, we can produce eternal character.

For us to produce these spiritual “*fruits*” through meditation, we as physical human beings need a spiritual agent, that is the Holy Spirit.

As we have already read [**Galatians 5:22-23**] these “*fruits*” are the result of the Holy Spirit working in our lives.

John 16:13 [NIV] “*But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.*”

The Holy Spirit will direct our human spirit to enable us to understand God’s Word, our “*spiritual grass*,” so we can produce “*fruits*” from digesting it.

Galatians 5:16 [King James] “*This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.*”

When we “*walk with*” or “*live by*” [NIV translation] the Holy Spirit some of His characteristics will “*rub off*” on us.

Just as we reflect the characteristics of our physical parents, whom we live and walk with. The same will happen when we walk with or live with the Holy Spirit in our lives.

John 14:17 [NIV] “*the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.*”

Notice two stages of this walking and living with the Holy Spirit.

Stage one living with us leading us into all truth.

Stage two comes into us to take over our life.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 [NIV] “*Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit lives in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him; for God’s temple is sacred, and you are that temple.*”

The temple depicted is the dwelling place of God, the Holy Spirit, and Jesus Christ, that is the triune God.

5. Three other conditions God has built into the lifestyle of the cow which are important examples for all of us human beings.

a) To produce milk the cow has to spend much time every day taking in grass and “*chewing the cud.*”

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 [NIV] “*Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*”

We as Christians have to renew our spiritual life every day, by giving priority to the unseen, spiritual world, rather than the temporary physical world.

b) If a cow is **not** milked every day it will dry up and no longer produce milk.

John 7:38-39 [NIV] “*Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.*” *By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.*”

The Holy Spirit in us must flow out from us daily in acts of love for other human beings.

If not we will “dry up” and the Holy Spirit will no longer be producing spiritual fruits in us.

Romans 5:5 [King James] “... *the love of God is shed abroad in* [a better translation is “*through*”] *our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given to us.*”

This is the “hope” we should have and God does have for our lives [see first part of this verse.]

The cow does sometimes “dry up”, but within its nature is a desire to start producing milk again.

When this happens the cow quickly comes “on heat” and seeks to become pregnant and when the calf is born the milk starts to flow again.

We are warned **not** to “dry up” spiritually.

Galatians 6:7-10 [NIV] “Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. **A man reaps what he sows.** The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; **the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.** Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.”

Never give up seeking to serve others by using the gifts that God has given us.

If we do “dry up” for some reason, get out of the habit of study and prayer and allowing the Holy Spirit to flow through us in acts of love, we need to ask for God to help us to get “fired up” [“on heat”] again for God’s way of life, the way of love to Him and to other human beings.

1 Thessalonians 5:19 [NIV] “Do not put out the Spirit’s fire;”

This is the best and the safest way of life, **never let the burning desire to serve, through love, our Creator God and our fellow human beings.**

Thank you God for creating the cow.