

How A Cow Can Help You Mature Spiritually

Romans 1:20 [NIV] *“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.”*

We are encouraged by the Creator God to look at His creation to understand His “invisible qualities,” that is, His character, in our seeking to become more like Him and thus mature spiritually.

One small part of God’s creation is the cow and by contemplating of the cow’s lifestyle we can learn more about how we should conduct our personal lives.

1) The cow takes in daily large amounts of grass, which is mostly cellulose, we might call it the “ultimate high fibre diet.”

Spiritually we need on a daily basis to spend time reading God’s Word, the Christian Bible.

But like the cow’s daily diet, cellulose is of little nutritional value unless it is “worked on,” that is digested for a period of time.

2) The cow has two stomachs, we have two parts to our mind, the short memory and the permanent memory, that directs our way of life.

3) The cow “chews the cud” that is after it has taken in a large amount of grass it sits in a quiet place and regurgitates in small amounts the grass from one stomach to the other. Thus it digests the grass to extract all the goodness that is available.

We can transfer what we read from our short memory to the permanent memory by meditating in a quiet place on what we have studied in God’s Word.

4) The end product of the cow’s “chewing the cud” is nourishing milk.

The end product of our meditating on God’s Word is spiritual fruits of the Holy Spirit as He works within our mind, gradually producing the very character of God within our permanent memory that will then direct the way we live, [**Galatians 5:22-23; John 16:13; John 14:26**].

John 15:16 [NIV] *“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.”*

“Lasting fruit” is referring to lasting character.

5) The cow has to be milked at least once daily or it will dry up and give no milk.

2 Corinthians 4:16 [King James] *“For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.”*

Our “inner man” needs to be renewed day by day, that is, we need daily prayer, study and good works.

6) The cow has a natural desire to continue to give milk, if it becomes dried up it quickly comes “on heat” ready to produce a calf which will stimulate the production of milk.

If we get out of the habit of daily prayer, study and meditation, perhaps due to extreme circumstances, we need to get “*fired up*” about God’s way of life again so we can once more be producing “*fruits*” in our life.

2 Timothy 1:6-7 [King James] *“Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands. For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.”*

Stir up the active work of the Holy Spirit in our lives through repentance of the sin of neglect.

Psalms 51:6-12 [NIV] *“Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach me wisdom in the inmost place. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.”*

This was David’s burning desire when he was shown his sin by Nathan the prophet.

This should be our attitude of mind after any neglect of our producing spiritual fruits in our lives.

Psalms 51:13-17 [NIV] *“Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you. Save me from bloodguilt, O God, the God who saves me, and my tongue will sing of your righteousness. O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.”*

The result of this renewal of David’s mind was a deep desire to tell others of the greatness of our Creator God.

Next time we see a cow in a field or pick up a pint of milk remember what the Creator God is teaching us.

Romans 1:20 [Amplified Bible] *“For ever since the creation of the world His invisible nature and attributes, that is, His eternal power and divinity, have been made intelligible and clearly discernible in and through the things that have been made, His handiworks, so men are without excuse, altogether without any defence or justification.”* [**Psalms 19:1-3**]