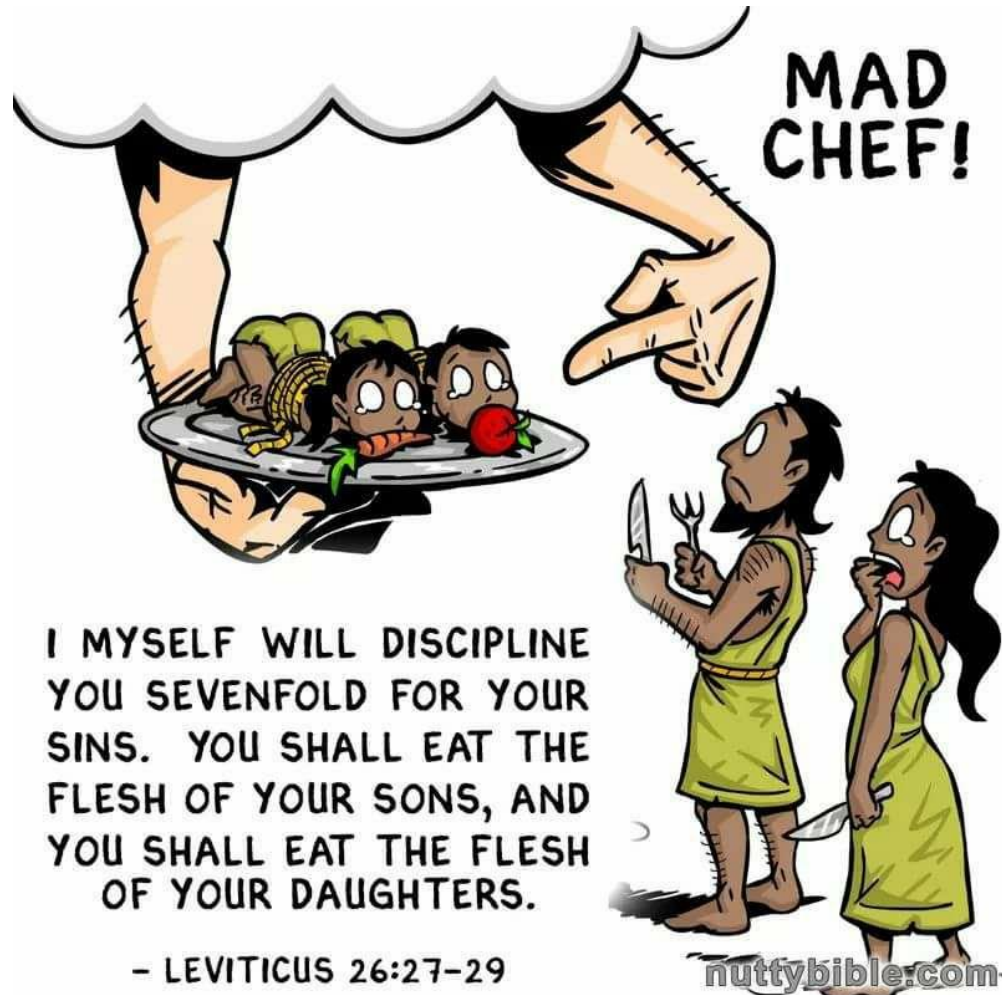


## Does God Make People Eat the Flesh of their Own Children?

By Troy J. Edwards



While going through my Facebook feed this morning I ran across this post from one of God's critics. It reminded me (as ignorant FB posts often do) why it is necessary to teach the truth concerning God's "Christ-like" character of love and kindness. Part of our vindication of God includes examining some of the very Scriptures used by atheists, agnostics, and "Christians" who paint a picture of a God that most of us truly do not like but are afraid to say so. While "Christians" are primarily at fault for ignoring proper principles of Bible interpretation, thus adding fuel to the fire of atheist propaganda, let's focus primarily on the atheist for right now.

The atheist is too often looking for evidence to use against God so he is unable to do an unbiased study of the Scriptures. If the atheist was not attempting to MANUFACTURE evidence to support his vendetta against the Almighty then he/she might actually see how they have misinterpreted Leviticus 26:27-29, which is the passage being quoted but misused in the meme.

God is NOT saying in this passage that HE will make the people eat their children. He is saying that if they continue to rebel then He will punish them, which is done by His abandonment (removal of His protection). First, let's read this from the King James Version:

Lev 26:27 And if ye will not for all this hearken unto me, but walk contrary unto me;

Lev 26:28 Then I will walk contrary unto you also **in fury**; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.

Lev 26:29 And ye shall eat the flesh of your sons, and the flesh of your daughters shall ye eat.

Now, let us go to another passage of Scripture to see how God expresses His "*fury*" or, rather, His "*anger*":

Deu 31:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Behold, thou shalt sleep with thy fathers; and this people will rise up, and go a whoring after the gods of the strangers of the land, whither they go to be among them, and will forsake me, and break my covenant which I have made with them.

Deu 31:17 Then **my anger** shall be kindled against them in that day, and **I will forsake them, and I will hide my face from them**, and they shall be devoured, and many evils and troubles shall befall them; so that they will say in that day, **Are not these evils come upon us, because our God is not among us?**

Deu 31:18 And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they shall have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods.

Another translation renders the former part of verse 17 as follows: "*When they do, I'll be furious with them and abandon them. I won't look on them when they pray. I won't protect them, and they'll be eaten alive.*" (The VOICE Translation).

Rebellion against God is pushing God away and telling Him that He is no longer needed. God, being the "gentleman" that He is, will, after much unheeded pleading and warning, finally allow us to have what we want: "*Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways*" (Job 21:14). God is left with no other choice but to remove His presence, thus His protection. It is when this happens that health turns into sickness, victory over enemies turns into being defeated by them, good weather turns into bad weather, and abundance turns into lack (often referred to in Scripture as "famine").

The VOICE Translation gives a clearer rendering of Leviticus 26:27-29:

27 If, after all this, you still do not listen to Me but continue to rebel against Me,  
28 I will move against you with the full heat of **My fury**. I will punish you Myself until  
you have paid seven times for your sins.  
29 **You will become so hungry that some of you will eat the flesh of your own sons  
and daughters.**

As we can see from Deut. 31:17 God's "anger" or "fury" is expressed by His "forsaking" or "abandonment" (See also Isa. 34:2; Jer. 33:5; Eze. 16:38-39). Most of us would not stay where we are not wanted so why would we launch a campaign of hatred against God for not forcing Himself and His protection on people? If people reject God's blessing then it will lead to things going horrible for them (lack of food being one of them). This in turn will lead to aberrant behavior (eating one's own children. See 2 Kings 6:26-30 for an example of this warning fulfilled).

While God will warn people that this will happen when they rebel, He is not at fault for it happening when it occurs.