

FARMING IS NOT BIBLICAL
Satirical Foolishness

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Not enough reserve.

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Chapter 1

Don't Farm "God's" Way

1.1 The Devil is in the Details

Satan masquerades as an angel of light.¹ By that, I mean that he tries to get people to farm by telling them it's "God's" way when in reality it's his own convention.

Satan plants fear of starvation and worry in man's heart to get him caught up in works. Satan has deceived man into thinking that works (particularly works of agriculture) will save him.

1.2 Farming is Part of the Curse

Originally man was tasked with keeping the garden that God had already planted and organized.² It was easy work. But man sinned and thereby brought the curse upon all creation.

God told unregenerate man that with toil [he would] eat of [the ground] all the days of [his] life.³ But "Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us. For it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree,'" (GALATIANS 3:13)

God originally intended man to be simply tending the garden. The contradistinction between toil and tending is clear: If you're farming, that means you're struggling under the curse rather than working with nature. Instead of toiling, we should be eating *every* green plant bearing seed as God commanded⁴. But man has grown so fickle and myopic that he labors endlessly, wasting his life, because he prefers potatoes over "every word that comes from the mouth of God⁵." The redeemed man is free from such worries and even eats poisonous plants with no concern because Jesus in MARK 16:18 tells him so.

1.3 Farming is Sin

"[Jesus] said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, don't be anxious for your life, what you will eat, nor yet for your body, what you will wear. Life is more than food, and the body is more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they don't sow, they don't reap, they have no warehouse or barn, and God feeds them. How much more valuable are you than birds!'" (LUKE 12:22-24)

They neither sow nor reap, yet God feeds them. So we as Christians don't need to either. If we're doing those things we're in a state of worrying and not trusting God that he'll provide like he said he would in his word.

"[Elisha] returned from following him, and took the yoke of oxen, and killed them, and boiled their flesh with the instruments of the oxen, and gave to the people, and they ate. Then he arose, and went after Elijah,⁶ and served him."(1 KINGS 19:21)

Elisha was called out of farming because farming is evil, (it comes from a place of doubt) into being a man of God. He left his life of sin and cooked his oxen and fed a lot of people.

¹2 CORINTHIANS 11:14

²GENESIS 2:15

³GENESIS 3:17

⁴GENESIS 1:29

⁵MATTHEW 4:4

⁶Or *Elias* if you're a KJV reader.

You will say, “but God sets rules for farming up in the Old Testament.” And I’ll respond with, “Yes, just like God set rules for divorce in the Old Testament. Does that make divorce good? No! And likewise neither is farming.”

Did God tell Elijah to farm when he was hungry? No, God straight up sent him bread via ravens. And then later God sent Elijah to a widow who miraculously fed him from some never-ending flour and oil.

1.4 Planting is Sin

Onan spilled his seed on the ground and God killed him. Don’t plant seeds, God hates it. ⁷

1.5 Fishing is Sin

Jesus calls Peter and others out of fishing for fish and instead into “fishing for men” which isn’t really fishing. ⁸ From this it’s clear that fishing is a distraction from the call to evangelize.

1.6 Weeding is Sin

“The servants of the householder came and said to him, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where did this darnel come from?’ ‘He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’” The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and gather them up?’ ‘But he said, “No, lest perhaps while you gather up the darnel weeds, you root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and in the harvest time I will tell the reapers, ‘First, gather up the darnel weeds, and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn.’”⁹(MATTHEW 13:27-30)

The man in the parable knew in his wisdom that pulling weeds was wrong. Pulling weeds is dangerous for the good plants. Jesus wouldn’t give something as a parable if it wasn’t true in both the literal and the allegorical sense. So therefore we know that his parable is true even in regards to sense knowledge.

In the parable of the sower, the farmer throws seeds everywhere. A quarter of the seeds grow up among weeds and the weeds choke them. ¹⁰ At no point does Jesus imply that the farmer should have plucked the weeds (because that would lead to erosion, which is worse than an unfruitful crop).

1.7 Thinning is Sin

“Which of you men, if you had one hundred sheep, and lost one of them, wouldn’t leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one that was lost, until he found it? When he has found it, he carries it on his shoulders, rejoicing.”(LUKE 15:4-5)

Likewise, with plants, the good plants will be fine, focus your energy on the sickly ones until they are reconciled to you. Don’t pluck out a plant because it’s sickly or too close to another. “The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some count slowness; but is patient with us, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”(2 PETER 3:9)

If God shows that much love towards us, (of which some will never bear fruit) how much more should we show that same love towards the plants that God has given us to keep?

⁷GENESIS 38:9-10

⁸MARK 1:16-18

⁹I lost track of the quotation marks, please forgive me.

¹⁰Luke 8:7

1.8 Eating Meat is Sin

The shepherd has unconditional love for the sheep, so he would never ever eat one, let alone let anyone else do so.

“Every moving thing that lives will be food for you. As the green herb, I have given everything to you.”(GENESIS 9:3) Sure, God gave meat to man, but to unregenerate man. To Adam and Eve he only gave the *green herb*, so if we’ve been redeemed back to man’s original perfection, we likewise shouldn’t eat meat.

“The wolf will live with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat; The calf, the young lion, and the fattened calf together; and a little child will lead them.”(ISAIAH 11:6)

Some tigers and lions are herbivores, because they’re redeemed and saved, just like the ones in Isaiah, where the lion will lay down with the lamb. If we’re saved the fruit of that will be veganism, because there is no meat of the spirit.

1.9 Pesticides are Sin

“To every animal of the earth, and to every bird of the sky, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food;’ and it was so.”(GENESIS 1:30)

Everything that eats green herbs has life in it according to this passage. Pesticides are evil because it’s the shedding of innocent life. We’re supposed to take care of what we’ve been given, not abuse it and throw off the entire ecosystem.

However, since the air disturbance of butterflies flapping their wings causes hurricanes, we would be justified in killing all of them. The lepidopterist might argue they’re a vital part of the ecosystem, and I’d agree. But since butterflies cause hurricanes I think that since people are worth more than many sparrows that we’re justified in ridding the world of butterflies to save ourselves and the world.

1.10 Goats are Sin

“Before him all the nations will be gathered, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.”(MATTHEW 25:32)

Jesus doesn’t like goats because he made them to be goats specifically so he could hate them for doing what he pre-ordained them to do. Although there’s been various research that postulates that sheep and goat are from the same baramin¹¹ I don’t think anyone has ever hybridized them. Irregardless, a sheep cannot turn into a goat and vice versa.

The sheep in Matthew 25 are commended, but the goats are condemned. God clearly picks his favorites, and goats are not among them. “Haven’t you asked wayfaring men? Don’t you know their evidences, that the evil man is reserved to the day of calamity, That they are led forth to the day of wrath?”(JOB 21:29-30) Since the wicked man is considered in such a way, (reserved for destruction) I’d imagine that goats too are also doomed for destruction.

1.11 Abundance is Sin

Consider LUKE 16:19-31 where the rich man is condemned and the poor man Lazarus is comforted. “But Abraham said, ‘Son, remember that you, in your lifetime, received your good things, and Lazarus, in the same way, bad things. But now here he is comforted and you are in anguish.’”(LUKE 16:25)

We can see all throughout the bible where wealthy people are shown to be evil and poverty is a divine blessing.

“Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye, than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God.”(MATTHEW 19:24)

¹¹Hebrew for *created kind*. It’s a taxonomical system based in biblical science rather than evolutionary fantasy.

1.12 Not Going to Parties is Sin

“Again he sent out other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, ‘Behold, I have prepared my dinner. My cattle and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready. Come to the marriage feast!’” But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his own farm, another to his merchandise, and the rest grabbed his servants, and treated them shamefully, and killed them. When the king heard that, he was angry, and sent his armies, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ‘Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready, but those who were invited weren’t worthy.’”” (MATTHEW 22:4-8)

Jesus takes people who don’t go to parties very seriously and the consequences are dire.

1.13 Recycling is Sin

“No one puts new wine into old wineskins, or else the new wine will burst the skins, and the wine pours out, and the skins will be destroyed; but they put new wine into fresh wineskins.” (MARK 2:22)

I know that this earthly analogy is meant to illustrate a heavenly truth, but in order for that, it must also be true in earthly ways. Putting new wine into old wineskins is foolish. It may seem good, but in practice recycling is actually more wasteful than good. Take the new man for example, he’s not a recycled old man; the old man is done away with and the new man is from God. If something was unclean in the old testament it wasn’t recycled, it was discarded.

Or consider EXODUS 32:20 where Moses makes sure that the gold from the calf cannot be regathered or reused but instead makes the people drink the dust mixed with water.

1.14 Food Preservation is Sin

“Notwithstanding they didn’t listen to Moses, but some of them left of it until the morning, and it bred worms, and became foul: and Moses was angry with them.” (EXODUS 16:20)

“If anything of the flesh of the consecration, or of the bread, remains to the morning, then you shall burn the remainder with fire: it shall not be eaten, because it is holy.” (EXODUS 29:34) If God doesn’t allow holy food to be preserved which is good, why would God allow less than holy food to be kept?

Sure, God told the Israelites to keep a pot of manna in the ark as a testimony, but that wasn’t for eating. So it’s not really food preservation but rather mummification.

1.15 Yeast is Sin

“Jesus said to them, ‘Take heed and beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees.’” (MATTHEW 16:6)

“Unleavened bread shall be eaten throughout the seven days; and no leavened bread shall be seen with you, neither shall yeast be seen with you, in all your borders.” (EXODUS 13:7)

1.16 God is a Bird

In EXODUS 32 when Aaron makes a golden calf and makes a feast to God, and all the people say that the calf brought them out of Egypt. But God is not a cow, so he gets upset about that.

“[Aaron] received what they handed him, and fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made it a molten calf; and they said, ‘These are your gods, Israel, which brought you up out of the land of Egypt.’ When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made a proclamation, and said, ‘Tomorrow shall be a feast to Yahweh.’” (EXODUS 32:4-5)

Ok, so if God’s not a cow, what is he?

“...How often I would have gathered your children together, even as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you would not!” (MATTHEW 23:37B)

Ok, but that's just a one time thing, it's probably just a metaphor.

"He will cover you with his feathers.

Under his wings you will take refuge.

His faithfulness is your shield and rampart." (PSALM 91:4)

Oh, alright, so God actually does have feathers and wings, I guess God actually is a bird. Wow, such revelation knowledge.

"But to you who fear my name shall the sun of righteousness arise with healing in its wings. You will go out, and leap like calves of the stall." (MALACHI 4:2) See, we're calves, so when we liken God to that it offends him because we're making God in our likeness.

1.17 Canibalism is God's Will

"He¹² said to them, 'You yourselves know how it is an unlawful thing for a man who is a Jew to join himself or come to one of another nation, but God has shown me that I shouldn't call any man unholy or unclean.'" (ACTS 10:28)

"Jesus therefore said to them, 'Most certainly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you don't have life in yourselves.'" (JOHN 6:53)

So we can see that man isn't considered unclean and that Jesus himself commands us to eat his flesh. It makes sense though, man has exactly the nutrients and vitamins we need for life in exactly the right quantities.

1.18 Living Like a Wild Animal is God's Will

In DANIEL 4, God makes Nebuchadnezzar live like an animal in the wilderness. From this we see that that's what God wants from us. For those of you that say, "Oh that's Old Testament," take a look at John the Baptist. He lived like a wild animal out in the desert and ate bugs and honey and he was one of the holiest men who ever lived.

Jesus himself confessed that he had nowhere to lay his head. We all ought to follow Jesus' example. Wild animals don't farm, and Jesus beyond even them didn't even have a home.

1.19 Coffee is God's Wrath Poured Out On Man

"When he has made her drink the water, then it shall happen, if she is defiled, and has committed a trespass against her husband, that the water that causes the curse will enter into her and become bitter, and her body will swell, and her thigh will fall away: and the woman will be a curse among her people." (NUMBERS 5:27)

In the past people recognized that drinking bitter drinks was inviting a curse upon themselves.

"When they came to Marah, they couldn't drink from the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore its name was called Marah. The people murmured against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" (EXODUS 15:23-24) The Israelites would rather die than suffer the penalty of drinking bitter water.

And what water is more bitter than coffee?

1.20 Not Sinning Means You Hate God

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?" (ROMANS 6:1) Yes. Because as Jesus explains in the verse below: "Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." (LUKE 7:47) If you haven't committed a

¹²The apostle Peter.

lot of sins that means you've been forgiven little and therefore you don't love God very much. If that's the case, you should do some large-scale farming until you learn to love God.

Doing the Father's will is meat¹³, and meat is sin, so from that we know that doing the Father's will is also wrong. Then again, if God is sovereign, that means everything is deterministic which means that no matter what that you're doing the Lord's will.

¹³JOHN 4:34

Chapter 2

The Truth

Alright, I confess for that trip into nonsense that we just went through. I think I overdosed on sarcasm and it's time to take responsibility for that. I hope it was clear that the previous ten pages, (more or less) were nonsense. But it was a fun thought experiment into how easy it is to twist scripture and make a convincing argument.

“Farming God’s Way” is actually a very effective and biblical program for doing agriculture that isn’t expensive, isn’t wasteful, and isn’t nonsense.

2.1 How I Used to Farm

I would plant seeds in the ground in rows and water them until I saw the plants come up, I never mulched them and eventually the rabbits and deer demolished them. So I stopped weeding that way the animals would have a harder time finding the plants that I cared about, but then I lost the plants in the forest.

So I started growing perennial invasive species like mints, chives, oregano, raspberries, etc. I also let annual edible weeds like *lamb’s quarters*, *wild prickly lettuce*, *purslane*, *pineapple weed*, and such grow.

It was like I bypassed the curse by growing weeds instead.

I even managed to grow tomatoes by merely weeding everything that wasn’t a tomato that sprouted from the previous year’s garden. But not until I got to Africa did I realize that there was a better way.

2.2 Other Follies I’ve Observed

In the United States, someone introduced *multi floral roses* to fight erosion. Well, they do that fantastically. Unfortunately, they form impenetrable thickets and make growing other things a laborious chore.

I’ve also seen that *garlic mustard*¹ is an invasive bitter alleopathic pest that suppresses other plants.

And in New England, (I believe, my internet connection is rare and slow, so I work off of memory) they introduced hardy kiwifruit² vines which have taken over and destroyed forests. The vines germinate in darkness, climb the trees, then when it snows the vines hold it all and the trees break. They’re hard to grow for me though because you need male and female vines.

2.2.1 The Promises of God Regarding the Land

“If my people, who are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”(2 CHRONICLES 7:14)

God³ told unregenerate man that with toil [he would] eat of [the ground] all the days of [his] life.⁴ But “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us. For it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree,’” (GALATIANS 3:13) Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil,⁵ we can trust that God will bless our farming.

“Blessed is the man who doesn’t walk in the counsel of the wicked, nor stand in the way of sinners, nor sit in the seat of scoffers;

¹Also introduced by some well-meaning idiot, I’d imagine

²I can’t call them Kiwi otherwise New Zealanders and birdwatchers get confused and they make me suffer for it.

³The first half of this paragraph is a rerun actually.

⁴GENESIS 3:17

⁵1 JOHN 3:8

but his delight is in Yahweh's law. On his law he meditates day and night.

He will be like a tree planted by the streams of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also does not wither. Whatever he does shall prosper.”(PSALM 1:1-3)

God promises that those who delight in God's law will prosper in every way; we can depend on that, whether it's farming, building aqueducts, or writing essays.

“Remember this: he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly. He who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.” (1 CORINTHIANS 9:6)

“Now may he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food, supply and multiply your seed for sowing, and increase the fruits of your righteousness; you being enriched in everything to all liberality, which works through us thanksgiving to God.” (1 CORINTHIANS 9:10-11)

“I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate, and the animals of the field multiply against you. Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and inherit the land.” (EXODUS 23:29-30) That's incredible, God cares so much about the land and how well it's taken care of that he's using the Israelites enemies to tend it and take care of it until they little by little replace them and take the fruit of their labor. Hallelujah. That means it's more work to tame the land than it is to drive out the enemy, that's crazy. God even uses the enemy to bless the land for those in covenant with him.

2.3 Regenerative/Restorative Agriculture

In “Farming God's Way” nearly everything is recycled. Weeds and garbage and feces is mulched and used as fertilizer.

Urine can also be diluted and used as fertilizer as well since it's sterile and contains lots of minerals necessary for a plant's cellular growth.

A toilet (or long drop) can be converted into a biogas generator which can power stoves for cooking meals. They take quite a bit of engineering though, so it's not practical for everyone.

Grass is used as “God's Blanket” to limit weed growth and retain moisture and topsoil. If you do nothing else God's way except mulching that is 75% of it.⁶ Mulching is so important. The mulch breaks down and contributes to the soil forming fertile land where the once never was.

I still think that the responsible foraging of wild plants could be a good part of one's diet since it disturbs the land very minimally and utilizes resources that otherwise would go to waste.

Because there's no tilling in *Restorative Agriculture*, erosion is minimized. And the reuse of planting stations softens the ground where the planting happens, but leaves the rest hard and intact.

If your soil is too acidic some wood ash will raise the pH⁷ and enrich the soil. If you need to lower the pH, you may need to add vinegar or pine needles. You can tell if you have acidic soil by trying to grow blueberries, if they prosper, your soil is acidic. Or if perhaps you notice a lot of moss growing on it. Some people have devised ways of testing soil acidity with baking soda; and testing alkalinity with vinegar, but I don't believe that it's been very conclusive.

Pruning may at first seem like a cruel practice, but it actually helps the plants grow stronger, produce better fruit and fights disease. (Just be sure you prune when it's dry since fungal spores spread when it's moist.) When the dead branches are still attached to the tree it can't seal the wound and grow bark back over it; that's why we need to make straight cuts when pruning so that the surface area is minimized for infection and so that the bark can heal over it with minimal effort.

⁶Some conversation I overheard at Rapid 14.

⁷Potential for Hydrogen.