

# ASK THE RABBI



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B'nai Avraham-  
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## Dear Rabbi: Why do you teach that it is all right to mix meat and milk?

Shalom- That is a legitimate question. The rationale is that we at B'nai Avraham do not separate milk and meats as the traditional rabbis have set the *Halakah* for Yehudah. I believe this is based on a misinterpretation of **Ex.23: 19; Ex.34: 26; Deut.14: 21** in the Torah.

- "...Do not cook a young goat in its mother's milk." **Shemot 23:19b**
- "...Do not cook a young goat in its mother's milk." **Shemot 34:26b**
- "...Do not cook a young goat in its mother's milk." **D'varim 14:21**

Our Father Avraham kept all Yahweh's torot according to **Gen.26: 5**.

- "Because Avraham obeyed My Voice and guarded My Charge; My commands, My laws, and My torot."

However, in **Gen.18: 1-8** Avraham serves Yahweh (**vs.1, 3, 13, 14, 17**) and the Messengers meat of a calf and milk together in a meal.

- "And he took the curds (*chemah*) and MILK and the CALF which he had prepared, and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree as they ATE."

The Moshiach taught that Avraham will be in the Messianic Age to Come (**Matt.8: 11; Luke 13:28**). Therefore, we may interpret this command to mean something different than the traditional rabbinical interpretation.

- "It is also forbidden because eating meat cooked in milk was an idolatrous practice, especially on Festivals." (*Moreh Nevukkim 3:48*) **The Living Torah page 372**
- **The Wycliff Bible Encyclopedia Vol.1, pps.627-628**: was given to combat Canaanite Sacrificial rite practiced to ensure the fertility of a field by sprinkling the resultant broth upon the earth. Such a custom is mentioned in the Ugarit poem "Birth of the Gods".
- **Unger's Bible Dictionary pp.374**: The reason for this, according to the light from the Ras Shamra tablets, is that the Canaanites employed such a practice in one of their sacred rituals.
- **Encyclopedia Judaica Vol.6 pp.43**: Maimonides says, "I think that most probably it is also prohibited because it is somehow connected with idolatry. Perhaps it was part of the ritual of certain pagan festivals."

- **Encyclopedia Judaica Vol.6 pp.44**: “There was a custom among the ancient heathens, who when they had gathered the entire crop, used to boil a kid in its mother’s milk.”

We may conclude from our sources sited above that these verses in the Torah deal with an idolatrous practice of the Canaanites that was prohibited for Yisra’el to practice.

We as Yisra’el are not to participate in any idolatrous practices of the *goyim* **Ex.34: 12-15**. We are forbidden to eat with pagans at their celebrations of pagan feasts (this is food offered to idols **Acts 15; 2 Cor.6; 1 Cor.10; Rev.2:14**).

The rabbis may have misinterpreted a very simple command in the Torah by confusing the text. Does a chicken or turkey give milk?

Be Blessed- *Rabbi Edward L. Nydle*