

“If Any Man Hunger”

1 Cor. 11:34

Introduction:

- A. I have never been real hungry, but stay kind of hungry.
- B. The sight of real hunger tears at the heart string.
 - 1. Will open the pocketbook as fast as anything.
 - 2. Sometimes shamefully used by religious charlatans to raise money.
- C. The feeling mild hunger can affect the moods of people.
- D. Some principles the Bible says about anyone who is hungry:

Discussion:

- I. If He Can, Let Him Go to Work (2 Thess. 3:10).**
 - A. Rather than steal (Eph. 4:28)
 - B. Rather than free-load (2 Thess. 3:8-12).
 - C. To supply his and his families needs (1 Tim. 5:8).
 - D. To supply the needs of the needy (Eph. 4:28)
 - E. Go to work, but not become workaholic – neglect church, family, etc. for self imposed lifestyle.
- II. If He Cannot Work, Let Him Be Fed (Matt. 25:40-46).**
 - A. First, by his own labors (2 Thess. 3:8)
 - B. By individuals (Eph. 4:28; 1 Tim. 5:16).
 - C. By the church.
 - 1. Only Christians by the church (Acts 6:1-6; Acts 11:29-30; 2 Cor. 8:9; 1 Cor. 16:2).
 - 2. Note the order of obligation (1) Family (2) congregation (3) other congregations.
- III. Let Him Eat at Home (1 Cor. 11:34).**
 - A. There are two suppers considered in the text (1 Cor. 11:20-34)
 - 1. The Lord’s supper.
 - 2. One’s own supper.
 - 3. The place for each.
 - B. There is no authority, generic or specific, for church sponsored common meals.
 - 1. There is no specific mention of such meals.
 - 2. There is no general authority to include such meals.
 - C. There is a difference in some incidental eating and “fellowship dinners.”
 - 1. Preacher brings sandwich to study, baby’s bottle and cookies, workmen on building eating.
 - 2. Even incidental matters should be handled so as to not leave the wrong impression.

Conclusion:

- A. If we would “hunger and thirst after righteousness,” we would have less problems with hunger.
- B. If a Christian puts kingdom first, he will be fed by the providence of God.