

connection with animals that are not to be eaten. Verse 14 that the kite, according to its kind, is not to be eaten. (Incidentally, this is not addressed to that famous species of kite-eating tree which plagues Charlie Brown; it is a prohibition to the children of Israel against the eating of the various kinds of long-tailed, long pointed-winged birds called kites!) Notice what this verse does *not* say. It does not say that the kite which has *come after* and is *similar to* its parents is not to be eaten. It simply says that the various kinds of birds known as kites are not to be eaten!

The same is true in Leviticus 11:15, 16, 19 and 29. The children of Israel are forbidden to eat various kinds of raven, various kinds of hawk, various kinds of heron, and various kinds of tortoise.

In Leviticus 11:22 we find that *min* is used four times in connection with animals which may be eaten. The children of Israel are permitted to eat various kinds of locust, various kinds of bald locust, various kinds of beetle and various kinds of grasshopper. In all of these cases, instead of translating *min* with its preposition by the phrase "after its kind," we should translate it by the phrase "according to its kind."

In the second giving of the Law, as recorded in Deuteronomy 14, there are four instances of *min*. They are found in verses 13, 14, 15 and 18, and they all concern animals which are not to be eaten by the children of Israel. In verse 13 they are forbidden to eat the vulture according to its kind. In verse 14 they are prohibited from eating the raven according to its kind. In verse 15 they are commanded not to eat the hawk according to its kinds. And in verse 18 they are told not to eat the heron according to its kind. All of these uses are quite transparent. They are simply not to eat any kind of vulture, raven, hawk, or heron. There is not the *slightest hint*, in the expression of *min* preceded by ך of the idea of animals being "after their kind," i.e., of animals which have come after and are similar to their parents. The entire thrust of the expression is the inclusion, within a given category of animals not to be eaten, of all the various kinds of that category. Thus we translate the expression in the Hebrew, "according to its kind," or "according to its kinds."

Ezekiel 47:10 provides the only usage of *min* outside the Pentateuch. It is also the only instance out of 31 uses in which the proposition is translated "according to" in the Authorized Version. The passage, speaking of the great river which flows from beneath the Millennial Temple, states: