



## Monday Matters

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### Does Blue Honey Go with Your Peanut Butter?

The honey bee hive is an interesting living structure. In the hive different honey bees have different jobs. Some bees are forager bees, which collect nectar (sugary substance) from flowering plants. The foragers drink the nectar, and store it in their honey stomach. The forager bee then takes the nectar back to the hive, regurgitating the nectar directly into the crop of a "processor" bee at or near the entrance to the hive.

In France the beekeepers have a problem. The bees are making green and blue honey. In search for a sugary source the bees found it in the waste of an M&M plant nearby. They are apparently picking up vibrantly colored sugary waste from the M&M plant and bringing the sugary substance back to the hive. The honey then became tainted because something was brought into the system that didn't belong there.

The green and blue honey honestly looks like sludge. This type of product was not marketable and was unusable. A solution was developed and the M&M plant has since changed its method of storing this waste and is now not available for bees.



How easy is it in life to have things we want and may even need so available that we often choose things that taint the quality of who we are and what we are meant to be?

The Israelites were warned not to marry those who served pagan gods. God knew that bringing ideas of pagan worship into the camp would eventually be irresistible and would blemish their love and devotion to the true God. And it did.

There are many examples in the Bible where wrong choices were made. Those choices so contaminated a life that it ruined many opportunities to live a full life - a life of service to God. But God in mercy, grace and deep love was interested in redemption, even though those tainting mistakes seemed to end the chance to be used by God.

Producing blue and green honey is an interesting phenomenon. It's a demonstration of what can happen when a wrong choice is made. Lining up our life and life choices to biblical precepts can help us produce a life that is not stained by the appeal of the world. In God's strength we can use the benefits He makes available for us to serve Him.



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