

The Covenant Cure

A variant of the play by Linden Qualls

[Scene 1]

A room with Person A sitting and eating a meat sandwich.

Person B (Enters the room)
Hi there! What are you eating?

Person A
Oh, hi! I'm just having a meat sandwich.

Person B (Surprised)
Meat? You know, eating meat isn't in keeping with the Baha'i teachings on kindness to animals.

Person A (Defensive)
Well, I don't think you have to be a vegetarian to be a Baha'i.

Person B (Firmly)
I disagree. Being kind to animals means not eating them.

Person A (Assertive)
People can interpret the teachings differently. I believe it's okay to eat meat.

Person B (Determined)
Fine, then. I'm going to start a new Baha'i group that doesn't eat meat.

Person A (Angry)
And I'll have my own group of meat-eating Baha'is!

Both cross their arms and turn away from each other.

[Scene 2]

Person C enters the room holding a book with Abdu'l-Baha's writings.

Person C (Alarmed)
What's going on here? Why are you two arguing?

Person A (Self-righteously)
I believe it's okay to eat meat as a Baha'i.

Person B (Self-righteously)
And I believe we should be vegetarians to be kind to animals.

Person C (Patiently)
Listen, Baha'u'llah does not like disunity. He rejoices when we are unified. To protect our unity, Baha'u'llah appointed His Son, Abdu'l-Baha, to guide us and explain His teachings after He left this world. Baha'u'llah said that whatever Abdu'l-Baha said would be the will of God.

Person C (Reading a quote)
"... eating meat is not forbidden or unlawful" ~ Abdu'l-Baha

Person C (Reading another quote)
"The time will come when meat will no longer be eaten. Medical science is only in its infancy, yet it has shown that our natural diet is that which grows out of the ground. The people will gradually develop up to the condition of this natural food." ~ Abdu'l-Baha

Person B
You're right. We should focus on unity rather than our differences.

Person A (Acknowledging)
I see that your view has truth in it.

Person B (Acknowledging)
And I see that your view has truth in it too.

Person A
We should be friends and be more accepting of each other's differences.

They shake hands.

Person C (Smiling)
Let's plan a Baha'i Feast together.

Person A
Sure! Who's going to do the refreshments?

Person B (Joking)
Maybe we can have a mix of vegetarian and meat dishes!

[END]