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## God Requires Holy Living

Leviticus 19:1-37  
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Our God is a Holy God, and there is none like Him. He is merciful and compassionate. That is a big blessing. He promises a peaceful, eternal life with Him forever and ever if we obeyed Him. However, Adam and Eve disobeyed God. "And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die." (Genesis 2:16-17) . Because of their disobedience, we now live in a world of sin and death. God requires a holy living. The Israelites knew that they needed to follow God's commandments, but they chose not to. And because of that, they lived in sin and separation from God.

The Israelites were commanded by God to be set apart from the world. In Leviticus 19:1-37, I can find how God expects His people to live. God requires them to be holy, and the reason for this is very simple. God tells them to be holy because, "the Lord your God is holy". God clearly stated how they should live. "You shall keep my Sabbaths: I am the Lord

your God. Do not turn to idols or make for yourselves any gods of cast metal: I am the Lord your God". God requires holy living because He is the Lord. The Lord is my God and I am to follow and keep His statutes and commandments.

Sin first began in the garden of Eden. Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command by eating the fruit that God told them not to. Even though the Israelites were commanded by God to lead a holy life, they could not. Neither can I. Sin was the problem. It had to be dealt with first. God required a holy, perfect, and permanent sacrifice. That is why Christ Jesus came into the world. He lived a perfect and holy life, died for my sin and the world, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of God in heaven. And because I put my trust in Christ, I can lead a holy life just like Christ Jesus.

Holy means sacred or set apart. But being holy also means not to sin, and obey God's commandments. His most important commandments are, love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind and love your neighbor as yourself. That means I am not holy unless I am set apart from the world. I must not be like the world. I must do everything opposite of the world. All my actions must be guided by the Word of God which is the bible. I must learn the bible well so that my view of the world will not be mistaken. It should be memorized so I can defend myself from the fiery

darts of the devil. With the knowledge of it, I won't have to worry about the worldly traditions, because God is guiding me in that. The only thing I should focus on is my walk with God. Even though God is in control of how I act, I must still do what's right. I can reach out to people and share the gospel, invite them to church. That is what glorifies God. God expects me to be perfect, but I cannot achieve that apart from Christ. He is the one who gives me strength to be Holy and obey God.

This passage affected me a lot. I noticed some changes within me. I started to avoid the sin as much as possible. God is still working on me, and I am praying to do better. He strengthens me to do what's right. I started paying more attention to sermons and prayers. I try to remember to be holy throughout the day. I know that I cannot do that apart from Christ, for He is my rock, my salvation, and my shield. And He is the one who upholds me, and gives me strength to do His will for the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

This is changing me, and I know that God will complete His work in me, and that whatever He has planned for me will give glory to Him.