

Galatians

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Galatians 5:16-26

Do you always find it easy to do the right thing? Is it even easy to know what the right thing to do is sometimes? The book of Leviticus, which is full of rules on how Gods people (the Israelites) should live. It tells them the right thing to do. There are lots of rules from how they should cook food and where they should go to the toilet. These rules were all so that God could be near the Israelites, if they didn't follow the rules then they were 'unclean' and couldn't fully participate in the community. The way to make themselves clean was to offer a sacrifice.

In the verses before the ones we read Paul talks about how Jesus offered himself as the perfect sacrifice for everyone so we can be friends of God. This means we are free from the law written in Leviticus but some people were still caught up in the rules.

The good thing is we don't need to know all the rules now, we are free to do as we please but that doesn't mean we should do whatever we want. Because of Jesus sacrifice we can have god with us individually in the person of the Holy spirit. When we ask God to send the Holy spirit to help us it's a bit like a seed is planted, and as we live and let God work in us we grow in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Can you imagine what the world would be like if people were more like the fruits that Paul describes? Do you think we would need the rules?

Take a look at Leviticus and the rest of Galatians 5 and think about how Jesus sacrifice changed things.