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Palm Springs Church of Christ

Palm Springs, CA

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## Leviticus 19:1-2

**19 The Lord said to Moses, 2 "Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: 'Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.**

I am reading through the book of Leviticus in my daily Bible Reading. Yea, I know, boring. It is the book that has so many laws and priestly duties. A student once told a professor that he didn't know it was possible to fall asleep on a treadmill, until he did so reading Leviticus.

Leviticus uses the word "Holy" more than any other book in the Bible. There is a reason we have Leviticus in our Bible and it is not just for priestly duties. It is to show us the holiness of God.

The admonition of God to be holy because God is holy, reminds me of a New Testament verse which has caused me fits to understand; Matthew 5:48

**Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.**

I think that this verse in the middle of the Beatitudes is a reflection of Leviticus 19:2. Both are a call to be like God. Leviticus 19 gives a long list of things we should do and not do. It is interesting to note that there is no distinction between what we might call "religious" and "secular". Holiness involves everything we do in life from the trivial to the issues of life and death.

But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written:  
"Be holy, because I am holy." (I Peter 1:15-16)

We have a commitment, empowered by the Holy Spirit,  
To give glory to God  
To be unified in reaching others  
To be living witnesses for Christ