

Leviticus 18:1-5

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'I am the LORD your God. According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances. You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them: I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, which if a man does, he shall live by them: I am the LORD.'

Do you remember when you got saved and all the junk that was in your life, you just dropped right then and there?

- Maybe you used to go out and party, but when you got saved you stopped.
- Maybe you used to sleep around, but stopped that as well.
- It could be you were big time into yourself and life was all about you and what you could get, but that also stopped.
- Maybe it was constant lying and deception towards others, that has now stopped.
- Maybe it was a foul mouth that were more words of profanity than anything else, which has stopped.
- Maybe your job was your god and you put it before everyone, including your family, but that mindset has stopped.
- Maybe it was porn on your computer or phone or adulterous relationships that have stopped.
- Maybe it was...

Think about how you used to be and what things stopped right away. For me it was using foul language all the time, in fact it was so bad that it was every other word. But the Lord took it away from me immediately, and that's what came to mind when I was reading today's devotional verses. When we get saved we are leaving our old way of life behind and starting a new life with the Lord, and He says for us that are saved: ***"According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances."***

Simply don't take the things of this world and the old sinful ways into your relationships with the Lord (***you shall not do***). But rather: ***"You shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them: I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, which if a man does, he shall live by them"***.

In other words, no longer follow the old ways of the world, but rather follow the ways and direction of the Lord.

But not only are we to leave the old things behind, but we shouldn't go back after any of them either. The Lord says that this is what it's like when we do.

✠ **Prov 26:11** *As a dog returns to his own vomit, So a fool repeats his folly.*

That's an ugly image to think about, especially if you just had breakfast. But another way to look at it would be to open the refrigerator door and see that the milk expired a few weeks ago and has even started to curdle. So you throw it away, then go back a few weeks later and dig through the garbage to find it, and once you do, you then drink it, instead of going and getting new milk which is so much better to quench your thirst with.

I know it sounds disgusting and sick, but that is what it's like when we try and go back and bring our old sinful lifestyle back into our relationship with the Lord. It's like taking that old dog vomit and sour milk and mixing it in with a glass of freshly squeezed orange juice. The orange juice, no matter how healthy it is, is still polluted by the dog vomit and spoiled milk, so it's no good to you at all.

So be cautious what you expose yourself to and don't try to think that now that you are a Christian that it makes those old things that you used to do holy and ok to bring back into your walk with Jesus, because it doesn't.

✠ **Mark 2:21-22** *"No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins."*

✠ **1 Peter 1:13-16 (NLT2)** *So think clearly and exercise self-control. Look forward to the gracious salvation that will come to you when Jesus Christ is revealed to the world. So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."*