## The Need for a Standard

## Ray Stedman

- I. Introduction.
  - A. Text: Leviticus 11.
  - B. Humans need a standard to distinguish between what is right and wrong.
- II. God regulated their diet.
  - A. Many animals were prohibited because of what they symbolized.
  - B. Spheres of food: from the earth, the sea, the heavens and those creeping on the ground.
  - C. Things eaten from the earth—there are clean and unclean areas of knowledge that we need to distinguish today.
    - 1. The normal mode of feeding for the believer should be the Word of God.
    - 2. Chewing cud pictures meditation. God has made the Scripture that meditation on it will reveal its deeper truth.
    - 3. The dividing of the hoof pictures the need to distinguish that which is below from that which is above. One cannot just quote the Bible for anything—he must be able to distinguish things in it appropriately.
  - D. Things eaten from the sea—the sea pictures the whole body of humanity.
    - 1. Fins give a fish an ability to progress while scales give it protection.
    - 2. Truth is to be carried to the heart for the Christian.
  - E. Things of the sky picturing the realm of the spirit. Believers are to reject spirits relating to the flesh and those eclectic spirits blending religions.
  - D. Crawling things upon the earth picturing the curse.
    - 1. We are to reject the ideas of the earth since they are cursed.
    - 2. Man is to be holy because God is holy.
    - 3. Man was originally designed to belong to God—he is to be the vehicle for the expression of His life.

## **Application questions:**

1. Which set of principles coming from clean and unclean animals stand out to	you? Why?
2. Why is mixed religion dangerous? Explain.	
3. How have you committed to meditating on God's Word? What steps can you in this area?	take to improve