

The Reason For God: Rules, Rules , Rules

1.Rules are meant to protect us from each other

Mk. 7.21-22 (NIV) For from within, out of men's hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, **22** greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly.

Ro. 13.1-2 (MSG) Be a good citizen. All governments are under God. Insofar as there is peace and order, it's God's order. So live responsibly as a citizen. **2** If you're irresponsible to the state, then you're irresponsible with God

2.Rules show us God's way to live

Ps. 119.1-4 (MSG) You're blessed when you stay on course, walking steadily on the road revealed by GOD. **2** You're blessed when you follow his directions, doing your best to find him. **3** That's right—you don't go off on your own; you walk straight along the road he set. **4** You, GOD, prescribed the right way to live; now you expect us to live it.

2 Cor. 3.17 (NLT) ...wherever the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

3.Rules point out our need for a Savior

Ro.3.19-22,28 (NLT) Obviously, the law applies to those to whom it was given, for its purpose is to keep people from having excuses, and to show that the entire world is guilty before God. For no one can ever be made right with God by doing what the law commands. The law simply shows us how sinful we are. But now God has shown us a way to be made right with him without keeping the requirements of the law, as was promised in the writings of Moses and the prophets long ago. We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are... So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law.

Gal. 3.19 (NCV) So what was the law for? It was given to show that the wrong things people do are against God's will... Does this mean that the law is against God's promises? Never! That would be true only if the law could make us right. But God did not give a law that can bring life. Instead, the Scriptures showed that the whole world is bound by sin. This was so the promise would be given through faith to people who believe in Jesus Christ. Before this faith came, we were all held prisoners by the law. We had no freedom until God showed us the way of faith that was coming. ²⁴ In other words, the law was our guardian leading us to Christ so that we could be made right with God through faith.

Jn. 1.17-18 (NLT) For the law was given through Moses, but God's unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ.**18** No one has ever seen God. But the one and only Son is himself God and is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us.