

Leviticus

God gives Israel instructions for how to worship Him. The constitution for a theocratic Israel.

Author: Most likely Moses

In Leviticus – Jesus is our High Priest

Leviticus 20:26 “You are to be holy to Me because I, the LORD, am holy, and I have set you apart from the nations to be My own.”

TEACHER:

Leviticus is 27 chapters long. It is very well organized and orderly. It is a manual for Priests on how to conduct the necessary functions of the Tabernacle.

The Tabernacle was “birthed” 9 months after it was conceived.

It was also called the “Tent of the Congregation,” and the “Tent of Meeting.”

The Jews served God in Tabernacle worship for 440 years before the 1st Temple was constructed by Solomon.

3 Tabernacles were built over the 440 years.

Temple Worship went on for another 1,000 Years.

2 Temples were built over the 1,000 years. Solomon’s Temple & Zerubbabel’s Temple. Herod’s Temple was an expansion and upgrade.

The children of Israel are at the foot of Mt. Sinai for 1 full year when Leviticus is 1st taught and practiced.

Outline of Leviticus

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|------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Sacrifices | Chapters 1-7. |
| 2. Aaron and the Priesthood. | Chapters 8-10. |
| 3. Cleanliness | Chapters 11-16 |
| 4. Rules for Daily Life | Chapters 17-25 |
| 5. Covenant Confirmation | Chapter 26 |
| 6. Vows | Chapter 27 |

Chapters 1-7 covers the types of sacrifices.

Chapter 1 includes 3 sacrifice types.

1. Herd (Large animals such as Bulls).
2. Flocks (smaller animals such as sheep and goats).
3. Birds.

CH. 1

STUDENT: The Herd.

Now the LORD called to Moses, and spoke to him from the tabernacle of meeting, saying, ²“Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘When any one of you brings an offering to the LORD, you shall bring your offering of the livestock—of the herd and of the flock.

³‘If his offering is a burnt sacrifice of the herd, let him offer a male without blemish; he shall offer it of his own free will at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD. ⁴Then he shall put his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it will be accepted on his behalf to make atonement for him. ⁵He shall kill the bull before the LORD; and the priests, Aaron’s sons, shall bring the blood and sprinkle the blood all around on the altar that is by the door of the tabernacle of meeting.

STUDENT:

⁶ And he shall skin the burnt offering and cut it into its pieces. ⁷ The sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar, and lay the wood in order on the fire. ⁸ Then the priests, Aaron's sons, shall lay the parts, the head, and the fat in order on the wood that is on the fire upon the altar; ⁹ but he shall wash its entrails and its legs with water. And the priest shall burn all on the altar as a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the LORD. (NKJV)

STUDENT: The Flock.

¹⁰ If you are offering one of your sheep or goats, it must be a male without any defects. ¹¹ You shall kill it on the north side of the altar, and the priests shall throw its blood on all four sides of the altar. ¹² After you cut it up, the officiating priest shall put on the fire all the parts, including the head and the fat. ¹³ You must wash the internal organs and the hind legs, and the priest will present the sacrifice to the LORD and burn all of it on the altar. The odor of this food offering is pleasing to the LORD. (GNT)

STUDENT: The Bird.

¹⁴ If you are offering a bird as a burnt offering, it must be a dove or a pigeon. ¹⁵ The priest shall present it at the altar, wring its neck, and burn its head on the altar. Its blood shall be drained out against the side of the altar. ¹⁶ He shall remove the crop and its contents and throw them away on the east side of the altar where the ashes are put. ¹⁷ He shall take hold of its wings and tear its body open, without tearing the wings off, and then burn it whole on the altar. The odor of this food offering is pleasing to the LORD. (GNT)

TEACHER:

God gives Moses instructions for Grain offerings and 1st fruits in chapter 2. They could bring it raw, or prepared as bread in an oven, fried in a skillet, or cooked in a pan. It could not be made with yeast (leaven). The priest would take a portion and burn it on the altar, and keep the rest to feed the Priests.

CH. 2

STUDENT: Raw

When any of you present an offering of grain to the LORD, you must first grind it into flour. You must put olive oil and incense on it ² and bring it to the Aaronite priests. The officiating priest shall take a handful of the flour and oil and all of the incense and burn it on the altar as a token that it has all been offered to the LORD. The odor of this food offering is pleasing to the LORD. ³ The rest of the grain offering belongs to the priests; it is very holy, since it is taken from the food offered to the LORD. (GNT)

STUDENT: Baked

⁴ If the offering is bread baked in an oven, it must be made without yeast. It may be thick loaves made of flour mixed with olive oil or thin cakes brushed with olive oil. (GNT)

STUDENT: Fried

⁵ If the offering is bread cooked on a griddle, it is to be made of flour mixed with olive oil but without yeast. ⁶ Crumble it up and pour the oil on it when you present it as an offering. (GNT)

STUDENT: Pan cooked

⁷ If the offering is bread cooked in a pan, it is to be made of flour and olive oil. ⁸ Bring it as an offering to the LORD and present it to the priest, who will take it to the altar. ⁹ The priest will take part of it as a token that it has all been offered to the LORD, and he will burn it on the altar. The odor of this food offering is pleasing to the LORD. ¹⁰ The rest of the offering belongs to the priests; it is very holy, since it is taken from the food offered to the LORD. (GNT)

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STUDENT: 1st Fruits. 1st fruits are the initial portion of a crop harvest. Grain, corn, etc.

¹¹ None of the grain offerings which you present to the LORD may be made with yeast; you must never use yeast or honey in food offered to the LORD. ¹² An offering of the first grain that you harvest each year shall be brought to the LORD, but it is not to be burned on the altar. ¹³ Put salt on every grain offering, because salt represents the covenant between you and God. (You must put salt on all your offerings.) ¹⁴ When you bring to the LORD an offering of the first grain harvested, offer roasted grain or ground meal. ¹⁵ Add olive oil and put incense on it. ¹⁶ The priest will burn that part of the meal and oil that is to serve as a token, and also all the incense, as a food offering to the LORD. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 3 reveals another type of offering. A Fellowship Offering. The 1st 2 chapters cover the tithes. Those went for the tabernacle and or the priests. The fellowship offering was for the tabernacle, the priests, and the family making the offering. These were customary offerings given as celebrations during the feast of tabernacles, and the feast of weeks. They were also given when someone completed a vow, new moons, and other national and local feasts. We will cover 1 of the types of meat here. Mainly because I prefer beef. Let's read some highlights.

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STUDENT:

CH. 3 When any of you offer one of your cattle as a fellowship offering, it is to be a bull or a cow without any defects. ² You shall put your hand on the head of the animal and kill it at the entrance of the Tent of the LORD's presence. The Aaronite priests shall throw the blood against all four sides of the altar ³ and present the following parts of the animal as a food offering to the LORD: all the fat on the internal organs, ⁴ the kidneys and the fat on them, and the best part of the liver. ⁵ The priests shall burn all this on the altar along with the burnt offerings. The odor of this food offering is pleasing to the LORD. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

CH. 4 Chapter 4 covers unintentional sins. Sins committed "innocently". Why? Because life happens. It seems that I, a New Covenant believer, should follow God's design with people in my life. I feel obligated to make a way for people who have made honest mistakes against me as well. It has different sacrifices for people of different positions as well. The High Priest pays the highest price. If it is the whole nation, next highest, A ruler lower yet, and an individual the least severe. Let's skip through them.

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STUDENT: High Priest.

The LORD commanded Moses ² to tell the people of Israel that anyone who sinned and broke any of the LORD's commands without intending to, would have to observe the following rules.

³ If it is the High Priest who sins and so brings guilt on the people, he shall present a young bull without any defects and sacrifice it to the LORD for his sin. (GNT)

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STUDENT: The Whole Country.

¹³ If it is the whole community of Israel that sins and becomes guilty of breaking one of the LORD's commands without intending to, ¹⁴ then as soon as the sin becomes known, the community shall bring a young bull as a sin offering. (GNT)

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STUDENT: The Ruler of a Country

²² If it is a ruler who sins and becomes guilty of breaking one of the LORD's commands without intending to, ²³ then as soon as the sin is called to his attention, he shall bring as his offering a male goat without any defects. (GNT)

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STUDENT: The Individual

²⁷ If any of you people sin and become guilty of breaking one of the LORD's commands without intending to, ²⁸ then as soon as the sin is called to your attention, you shall bring as your offering a female goat without any defects.

In this way the priest shall offer the sacrifice for your sin, and you will be forgiven. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 5 covers sin offerings. We will cover the main points edited to make it easier to digest.

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STUDENT:

CH. 5

Sin offerings are required in the following cases.

1. If you are officially summoned to give evidence in court and do not give information about something you have seen or heard, you must suffer the consequences.
 2. ² If you unintentionally touch anything ritually unclean, such as a dead animal, you are unclean and guilty as soon as you realize what you have done.
 3. ³ If you unintentionally touch anything of human origin that is unclean, whatever it may be, you are guilty as soon as you realize what you have done.
 4. ⁴ If you make a careless vow, no matter what it is about, you are guilty as soon as you realize what you have done.
 5. ⁵ When you are guilty, you must confess the sin, ⁶ and as the penalty for your sin you must bring to the LORD a female sheep or goat as an offering. The priest shall offer the sacrifice for your sin.
⁷ If you cannot afford a sheep or a goat, you shall bring to the LORD as the payment for your sin two doves or two pigeons. ¹¹ If you cannot afford two doves or two pigeons, you shall bring two pounds of flour as a sin offering. You shall not put any olive oil or any incense on it, because it is a sin offering, not a grain offering. (GNT edited into a list by the author)
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STUDENT:

Repayment Offerings

6. ¹⁵ If any of you sin unintentionally by failing to hand over the payments that are sacred to the LORD, you shall bring as your repayment offering to the LORD a male sheep or goat without any defects. Its value is to be determined according to the official standard.
¹⁶ You must make the payments you have failed to hand over and must pay an additional 20 percent. You shall give it to the priest, and the priest shall offer the animal as a sacrifice for your sin, and you will be forgiven.

7. ¹⁷ If any of you sin unintentionally by breaking any of the LORD's commands, you are guilty and must pay the penalty. ¹⁸ You must bring to the priest as a repayment offering a male sheep or goat without any defects. Its value is to be determined according to the official standard. (GNT edited into a list by the author)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 6 covers some additional regulations regarding business dealings.

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CH. 6

STUDENT:

The LORD gave the following regulations to Moses.

1. ² An offering is to be made if any of you sin against the LORD by refusing to return what another Israelite has left as a deposit.
2. or by stealing something from him
3. or by cheating him
4. ³ or by lying about something that has been lost and swearing that you did not find it.

On the day you are found guilty, you must repay the owner in full, plus an additional 20 percent.

⁶ You shall bring to the priest as your repayment offering to the LORD a male sheep or goat without any defects.

⁷ The priest shall offer the sacrifice for your sin, and you will be forgiven. (GNT edited into a list by the author)

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TEACHER:

The rest of chapter 6 handles the mechanics of how long to leave the sacrifices on the altars and removal of the offerings and sacrifices. This continues in chapter 7, then in verse 7 God shows provision for the priests.

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STUDENT:

CH. 7

⁷ There is one regulation that applies to both the sin offering and the repayment offering: the meat belongs to the priest who offers the sacrifice. ⁸ The skin of an animal offered as a burnt offering belongs to the priest who offers the sacrifice. ⁹ Every grain offering that has been baked in an oven or prepared in a pan or on a griddle belongs to the priest who has offered it to God. ¹⁰ But all uncooked grain offerings, whether mixed with oil or dry, belong to all the Aaronite priests and must be shared equally among them. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

How to handle the different kind of fellowship offerings is interesting. It is as if our Heavenly Father wants us to make "happy plates."

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STUDENT:

¹¹ The following are the regulations for the fellowship offerings presented to the LORD. ¹² If you make this offering as a thanksgiving offering to God, you shall present, together with the animal to be sacrificed, an offering of bread made without yeast: either thick loaves made of flour mixed with olive oil or thin cakes brushed with olive oil or cakes made of flour mixed with olive oil. ¹³ In addition, you shall offer loaves of bread baked with yeast. ¹⁴ You shall present one part of each kind of bread as a special contribution to the LORD; it belongs to the priest who takes the blood of the animal and throws it against the altar. ¹⁵ The flesh of the animal must be eaten on the day it is sacrificed; none of it may be left until the next morning. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 7 ends with a summation of those things covered in the 1st 7 chapters of Leviticus.

STUDENT:

³⁷ These, then, are the regulations for the burnt offerings, the grain offerings, the sin offerings, the repayment offerings, the ordination offerings, and the fellowship offerings. ³⁸ There on Mount Sinai in the desert, the LORD gave these commands to Moses on the day he told the people of Israel to make their offerings. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapters 8-10 deal with the Aaronic Priesthood. It starts with Moses preparing the garments for the priests, the anointing oil, a young bull for the sin offering, 2 rams, and unleavened bread. He then called all the people together. He has them take a ritual bath in front of the whole congregation. Almost sounds similar to a baptismal service. We will read the highlights here.

CH. 8

STUDENT:

⁴ Moses did as the LORD had commanded, and when the community had assembled, ⁵ he said to them, "What I am now about to do is what the LORD has commanded."

⁶ Moses brought Aaron and his sons forward and had them take a ritual bath. ⁷ He put the shirt and the robe on Aaron and the sash around his waist.

¹⁰ Then Moses took the anointing oil and put it on the Tent of the LORD's presence and everything that was in it, and in this way he dedicated it all to the LORD. ¹¹ He took some of the oil and sprinkled it seven times on the altar and its equipment and on the basin and its base, in order to dedicate them to the LORD.

¹² He ordained Aaron by pouring some of the anointing oil on his head. ¹³ Next, Moses brought the sons of Aaron forward and put shirts on them, put sashes around their waists, and tied caps on their heads, just as the LORD had commanded.

STUDENT:

³⁰ Moses took some of the anointing oil and some of the blood that was on the altar and sprinkled them on Aaron and his sons and on their clothes. In this way he consecrated them and their clothes to the LORD.

³¹ Moses said to Aaron and his sons, "Take the meat to the entrance of the Tent of the LORD's presence, boil it, and eat it there with the bread that is in the basket of ordination offerings, just as the LORD commanded. ³² Burn up any meat or bread that is left over. ³³ You shall not leave the entrance of the Tent for seven days, until your ordination rites are completed.

³⁴ The LORD commanded us to do what we have done today, in order to take away your sin. ³⁵ You must stay at the entrance of the Tent day and night for seven days, doing what the LORD has commanded. If you don't, you will die. (GNT)

TEACHER:

On day 2 of the 7 day ritual, Moses tells Aaron and his sons and the leaders of Israel to gather animals he listed for sin offerings for them and the people because God was going to reveal His glory to them today, as part of Him accepting them into the priesthood. So they do as instructed and finish the offerings. Then this happened.

STUDENT:

CH. 9

²² When Aaron had finished all the sacrifices, he raised his hands over the people and blessed them, and then stepped down. ²³ Moses and Aaron went into the Tent of the LORD's presence, and when they came out, they blessed the people, and the dazzling light of the LORD's presence appeared to all the people. ²⁴ Suddenly the LORD sent a fire, and it consumed the burnt offering and the fat parts on the altar. When the people saw it, they all shouted and bowed down with their faces to the ground. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

So far so good. But lacking humility, we soon find out God is serious about Ordination. And He is very clear about His instructions.

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CH. 10

STUDENT:

Aaron's sons, Nadab and Abihu, each took his fire pan, put live coals in it, added incense, and presented it to the LORD. But this fire was not holy, because the LORD had not commanded them to present it. ² Suddenly the LORD sent fire, and it burned them to death there in the presence of the LORD. ³ Then Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD was speaking about when he said, 'All who serve me must respect my holiness; I will reveal my glory to my people.'" But Aaron remained silent. ⁴ Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel, Aaron's uncle, and said to them, "Come here and carry your cousins' bodies away from the sacred Tent and put them outside the camp."

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STUDENT:

⁵ So they came and took hold of the clothing on the corpses and carried them outside the camp, just as Moses had commanded.

⁶ Then Moses said to Aaron and to his sons Eleazar and Ithamar, "Do not leave your hair uncombed or tear your clothes to show that you are in mourning. If you do, you will die, and the LORD will be angry with the whole community. But all other Israelites are allowed to mourn this death caused by the fire which the LORD sent. ⁷ Do not leave the entrance of the Tent or you will die, because you have been consecrated by the anointing oil of the LORD." So they did as Moses said. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

The Lord then instructs Aaron personally.

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STUDENT:

⁸ The LORD said to Aaron, ⁹ "You and your sons are not to enter the Tent of my presence after drinking wine or beer; if you do, you will die. This is a law to be kept by all your descendants. ¹⁰ You must distinguish between what belongs to God and what is for general use, between what is ritually clean and what is unclean. ¹¹ You must teach the people of Israel all the laws which I have given to you through Moses." (GNT)

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TEACHER:

When Moses realized the goat offering was not eaten after God punished the 2 sons of Aaron, he was very upset.

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STUDENT:

¹⁶ Moses asked about the goat for the sin offering and learned that it had already been burned. This made him angry at Eleazar and Ithamar, and he demanded, ¹⁷ “Why didn't you eat the sin offering in a sacred place? It is very holy, and the LORD has given it to you in order to take away the sin of the community. ¹⁸ Since its blood was not brought into the sacred Tent, you should have eaten the sacrifice there, as I commanded.”

¹⁹ Aaron answered, “If I had eaten the sin offering today, would the LORD have approved? The people presented their sin offering to the LORD today, and they brought their burnt offering, but still these terrible things have happened to me.” ²⁰ When Moses heard this, he was satisfied. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 11-16 covers clean and unclean animals. And ritual cleanliness. For brevity the animals are.....



STUDENT:

CH. 11 ⁴⁶ This, then, is the law about animals and birds, about everything that lives in the water, and everything that moves on the ground. ⁴⁷ You must be careful to distinguish between what is ritually clean and unclean, between animals that may be eaten and those that may not. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Please note, this is for a theocratic Israel. These laws are for an example to us under grace. Read of Peter in Acts chapter 10. Also note before Israel existed, in Genesis chapter 9. God said everything that is on land and the sea and flies is ours to eat.

STUDENT:

Genesis chapter 9: 1-3

Then God blessed Noah and his sons, saying to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth. ² The fear and dread of you will fall on all the beasts of the earth, and on all the birds in the sky, on every creature that moves along the ground, and on all the fish in the sea; they are given into your hands. ³ Everything that lives and moves about will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything. (NIV)

TEACHER:

Chapter 12 deals with childbirth purification.

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STUDENT:

CH. 12 The LORD gave Moses the following regulations ² for the people of Israel. For seven days after a woman gives birth to a son, she is ritually unclean, as she is during her monthly period. ³ On the eighth day, the child shall be circumcised. ⁴ Then it will be thirty-three more days until she is ritually clean from her loss of blood; she must not touch anything that is holy or enter the sacred Tent until the time of her purification is completed.

⁵ For fourteen days after a woman gives birth to a daughter, she is ritually unclean, as she is during her monthly period. Then it will be sixty-six more days until she is ritually clean from her loss of blood.

⁶ When the time of her purification is completed, whether for a son or daughter, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the Tent of the LORD's presence a one-year-old lamb for a burnt offering and a pigeon or a dove for a sin offering. ⁷ The priest shall present her offering to the LORD and perform the ritual to take away her impurity, and she will be ritually clean. This, then, is what a woman must do after giving birth.

⁸ If the woman cannot afford a lamb, she shall bring two doves or two pigeons, one for a burnt offering and the other for a sin offering, and the priest shall perform the ritual to take away her impurity, and she will be ritually clean. (GNT)

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CH. 13 TEACHER: Chapter 13 covers infectious diseases. Primary among them leprosy. I read many commentaries on this chapter from some very notable and respected authors. Almost every one of them assume, as do I, that the plague of Leprosy came from the stay in Egypt. Had they cried out to God earlier, instead of just accepting their lot as slaves, one has to wonder, would they have been so heavily plagued with this disease? I wonder how would we have prospered more so if we would just not let the world be so dear to us today as Christians. The chapter deals also with molds and mildew.

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TEACHER:

Chapter 14 is a long chapter dealing with people cured of leprosy. Odd that so much attention would be given to a ritual for a disease that was incurable. The 1st time these rules were followed, would be when Jesus walked on the Earth. No doubt, that this is what caught the scribes and the Pharisees attention.

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CH. 14 STUDENT: The LORD gave Moses ² the following regulations about the ritual purification of those of you cured of a dreaded skin disease. On the day you are to be pronounced clean, you shall be brought to the priest, ³ and the priest shall take you outside the camp and examine you. If the disease is healed, ⁴ the priest shall order that two ritually clean birds be brought, along with a piece of cedar wood, a red cord, and a sprig of hyssop. ⁵ Then the priest shall order that one of the birds be killed over a clay bowl containing fresh spring water. ⁶ He shall take the other bird and dip it, together with the cedar wood, the red cord, and the hyssop, in the blood of the bird that was killed. ⁷ He shall sprinkle the blood seven times on the one of you who is to be purified from your skin disease, and then he shall pronounce you clean. He shall let the live bird fly away over the open fields. ⁸ You shall wash your clothes, shave off all your hair, and take a bath; you will then be ritually clean. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

CH. 15 Chapter 15 deals with discharges of various types, both from disease and typical bodily functions.

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TEACHER:

Chapter 16 deals with the Day of Atonement. This feast today is called Yom Kippur today. An annual day of fasting and prayer among the Jews. It is called the Sabbath of Sabbaths. We will read some passages here.

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CH. 16

STUDENT:

The LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron who were killed when they offered unholy fire to the LORD. ² He said, "Tell your brother Aaron that only at the proper time is he to go behind the curtain into the Most Holy Place, because that is where I appear in a cloud above the lid on the Covenant Box. If he disobeys, he will be killed. ³ He may enter the Most Holy Place only after he has brought a young bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering."

⁴ Then the LORD gave the following instructions. Before Aaron goes into the Most Holy Place, he must take a bath and put on the priestly garments: the linen robe and shorts, the belt, and the turban. (GNT)

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STUDENT: The Scapegoat.

²⁰ When Aaron has finished performing the ritual to purify the Most Holy Place, the rest of the Tent of the LORD's presence, and the altar, he shall present to the LORD the live goat chosen for Azazel. ²¹ He shall put both of his hands on the goat's head and confess over it all the evils, sins, and rebellions of the people of Israel, and so transfer them to the goat's head. Then the goat is to be driven off into the desert by someone appointed to do it. ²² The goat will carry all their sins away with him into some uninhabited land. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

²⁹ The following regulations are to be observed for all time to come. On the tenth day of the seventh month the Israelites and the foreigners living among them must fast and must not do any work. ³⁰ On that day the ritual is to be performed to purify them from all their sins, so that they will be ritually clean. ³¹ That day is to be a very holy day, one on which they fast and do no work at all.

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STUDENT:

³⁴ These regulations are to be observed for all time to come. This ritual must be performed once a year to purify the people of Israel from all their sins. So Moses did as the LORD had commanded. (GNT)

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TEACHER: Chapters 17-25 deal with behavior in daily life.

Chapter 17 of Leviticus, teaches us the sacred place blood has in the Kingdom of God. An interesting observation here I use to support a personal opinion. Most people in the church I have met believe the law was in effect from Mt. Sinai when God handed the 10 Commandments to the Death of Christ on the Cross. I do not. I believe the Law stretched from Mt. Sinai when God handed the 10 Commandments to Moses until John started to baptize in the wilderness. Jesus presence on earth and His ministry having started, He is the Law. In the chapter we are going to look at, we see it is against the law to eat blood. Jesus said if we don't eat his blood we will not be saved.

In Luke 16 we read,

*The law and the prophets were until John:
since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.*

Don't throw tomatoes' at anyone over this, just my personal musings.

CH. 17

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STUDENT:

The LORD commanded Moses ² to give Aaron and his sons and all the people of Israel the following regulations. ³⁻
⁴ Any Israelites who kill a cow or a sheep or a goat as an offering to the LORD anywhere except at the entrance of the Tent of the LORD's presence have broken the Law. They have shed blood and shall no longer be considered God's people. ⁵ The meaning of this command is that the people of Israel shall now bring to the LORD the animals which they used to kill in the open country. They shall now bring them to the priest at the entrance of the Tent and kill them as fellowship offerings. ⁶ The priest shall throw the blood against the sides of the altar at the entrance of the Tent and burn the fat to produce an odor that is pleasing to the LORD. ⁷ The people of Israel must no longer be unfaithful to the LORD by killing their animals in the fields as sacrifices to the goat demons. The people of Israel must keep this regulation for all time to come. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

This scripture we have just read tells something about God in the congregational setting. How that God knew that some people would rather get in their boats and watch Joel Osteen on satellite T.V. on Sunday mornings and leave the church without their presence, worship and tithes. I love these T.V. ministers like Joel with all my heart. And for some who are elderly and infirm, they are serving the Lord's people in a wonderful way. But if you think this is the same thing as going and supporting the church and God's kingdom, chapter 17 of Leviticus should cure you of that ailment. The Lord says they shall.... "no longer be considered God's people." Chapter 18. The sex chapter. Try not to giggle. There is an intro, and then the list.

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CH. 18

STUDENT:

The LORD told Moses ² to say to the people of Israel, "I am the LORD your God. ³ Do not follow the practices of the people of Egypt, where you once lived, or of the people in the land of Canaan, where I am now taking you. ⁴ Obey my laws and do what I command. I am the LORD your God. ⁵ Follow the practices and the laws that I give you; you will save your life by doing so. I am the LORD." (GNT)

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STUDENT:

⁶ The LORD gave the following regulations.

1. Do not have sexual intercourse with any of your relatives.
 2. Do not disgrace your father by having intercourse with your mother. You must not disgrace your own mother. ⁸ Do not disgrace your father by having intercourse with any of his other wives.
 3. Do not have intercourse with your sister or your stepsister, whether or not she was brought up in the same house with you.
 4. Do not have intercourse with your granddaughter; that would be a disgrace to you.
 5. Do not have intercourse with a half-sister; she, too, is your sister.
 6. Do not have intercourse with an aunt, whether she is your father's sister or your mother's sister.
 7. Do not have intercourse with your uncle's wife; she, too, is your aunt.
 8. Do not have intercourse with your daughter-in-law or with your brother's wife.
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STUDENT:

9. Do not have intercourse with the daughter or granddaughter of a woman with whom you have had intercourse; they may be related to you, and that would be incest.
10. Do not take your wife's sister as one of your wives, as long as your wife is living.
11. Do not have intercourse with a woman during her monthly period, because she is ritually unclean.
12. Do not have intercourse with another man's wife; that would make you ritually unclean.
13. Do not hand over any of your children to be used in the worship of the god Molech, because that would bring disgrace on the name of God, the LORD.
14. No man is to have sexual relations with another man; God hates that.
15. No man or woman is to have sexual relations with an animal; that perversion makes you ritually unclean. (GNT edited into a list by the author)

TEACHER:

Whoever was in line, and had to read that list, you all should take them out for ice-cream after bible study tonight. You all owe that person. It is sad that it was necessary for God to even have to say that. But Egypt was a Godless nation, and they spent way too much time there. Then some closing remarks on the subject.

STUDENT:

²⁴ Do not make yourselves unclean by any of these acts, for that is how the pagans made themselves unclean, those pagans who lived in the land before you and whom the LORD is driving out so that you can go in. ²⁶⁻²⁷ They did all these disgusting things and made the land unclean, but you must not do them. All of you, whether Israelites or foreigners living with you, must keep the LORD's laws and commands, ²⁸ and then the land will not reject you, as it rejected the pagans who lived there before you. ²⁹ You know that whoever does any of these disgusting things will no longer be considered one of God's people. ³⁰ And the LORD said, "Obey the commands I give and do not follow the practices of the people who lived in the land before you, and do not make yourselves unclean by doing any of these things. I am the LORD your God." (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 19 deals with holiness.

STUDENT:

The LORD told Moses ² to say to the community of Israel, "Be holy, because I, the LORD your God, am holy. ³ Each of you must respect your mother and your father, and must keep the Sabbath, as I have commanded. I am the LORD your God.

⁴ "Do not abandon me and worship idols; do not make gods of metal and worship them. I am the LORD your God. (GNT)

TEACHER:

God continues in chapter 19 to remind them to be careful to sacrifice the animals they offer according to His commands. He also commands them to allow for gleaners. That they should not harvest the corners of their fields, and go back for a second pass after harvest. They were to leave that for the poor to gather. He says in verse 11 not to lie or cheat or make false promises. Not to be robbers or con men and to pay "day laborers" before the sun sets. He says to be honest, forgiving and kind. We will discuss after each of the next segments.

STUDENT:

¹⁵ “Be honest and just when you make decisions in legal cases; do not show favoritism to the poor or fear the rich.

¹⁶ Do not spread lies about anyone, and when someone is on trial for his life, speak out if your testimony can help him. I am the LORD.

¹⁷ “Do not bear a grudge against others, but settle your differences with them, so that you will not commit a sin because of them.

¹⁸ Do not take revenge on others or continue to hate them, but love your neighbors as you love yourself. I am the LORD. (GNT)

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STUDENT:

³¹ “Do not go for advice to people who consult the spirits of the dead. If you do, you will be ritually unclean. I am the LORD your God.

³² “Show respect for old people and honor them. Reverently obey me; I am the LORD. (GNT)

³³ “Do not mistreat foreigners who are living in your land.

³⁴ Treat them as you would an Israelite, and love them as you love yourselves. Remember that you were once foreigners in the land of Egypt. I am the LORD your God.

³⁵ “Do not cheat anyone by using false measures of length, weight, or quantity.

³⁶ Use honest scales, honest weights, and honest measures. I am the LORD your God, and I brought you out of Egypt.

³⁷ Obey all my laws and commands. I am the LORD.” (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 20 deals with penalties and punishments. The 1st is the most important and most severe. Death.

CH. 20

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STUDENT:

The LORD told Moses ² to say to the people of Israel, “Any of you or any foreigner living among you who gives any children to be used in the worship of the god Molech shall be stoned to death by the whole community.” (GNT)

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TEACHER:

We are responsible for our children. Period.

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“If God gives us children, He will expect them back. Period.” DH

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TEACHER:

Next He covers palm readers, horoscopes, etc. Seeking after dead spirits in whatever sense of the practice.

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STUDENT:

⁹ The LORD gave the following regulations. Any of you that curse your father or mother shall be put to death; you are responsible for your own death. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

1st He talked of our kids. Then ourselves and religious purity, then our parents. Next our sexual purity in verses 10-21. Again. And closes with spiritualists again.

STUDENT:

²⁷ “Any man or woman who consults the spirits of the dead shall be stoned to death; any of you that do this are responsible for your own death.” (GNT)

TEACHER:

CH. 21 Chapter 21 covers the holiness of the priesthood. Higher standards regarding appearance, grooming, marriage, and physical ability.

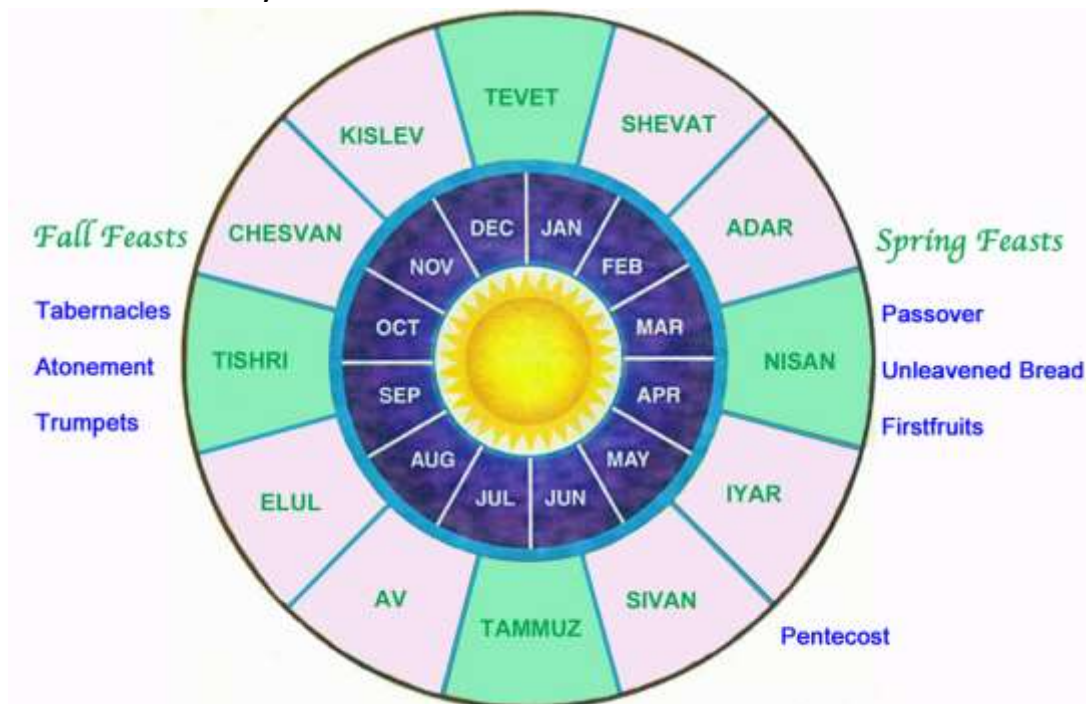
Chapter 22 covers holiness regarding the sacrificial system. It ends as such.

STUDENT:

CH. 22 ³¹ The LORD said, “Obey my commands; I am the LORD. ³² Do not bring disgrace on my holy name; all the people of Israel must acknowledge me to be holy. I am the LORD and I make you holy; ³³ and I brought you out of Egypt to become your God. I am the LORD.” (GNT)

Chapter 23 covers the feast days.

The 7 FEAST DAYS



TEACHER:

Chapter 24 covers the congregation’s part in providing goods such as olive oil and grain for the tabernacle. It continues with some examples of Justice. We will read just 1 here.

STUDENT:

CH. 24 ¹⁷ “Any who commit murder shall be put to death, ¹⁸ and any who kill an animal belonging to someone else must replace it. The principle is a life for a life. (GNT)

TEACHER:

Chapter 25 covers the 7th year. The Sabbath year so to speak, and the 49th year. The year of Restoration.

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STUDENT: The 7th year. The Sabbath Year.

The LORD spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai and commanded him ² to give the following regulations to the people of Israel. When you enter the land that the LORD is giving you, you shall honor the LORD by not cultivating the land every seventh year. ³ You shall plant your fields, prune your vineyards, and gather your crops for six years. ⁴ But the seventh year is to be a year of complete rest for the land, a year dedicated to the LORD. Do not plant your fields or prune your vineyards. ⁵ Do not even harvest the grain that grows by itself without being planted, and do not gather the grapes from your unpruned vines; it is a year of complete rest for the land. ⁶ Although the land has not been cultivated during that year, it will provide food for you, your slaves, your hired men, the foreigners living with you, ⁷ your domestic animals, and the wild animals in your fields. Everything that it produces may be eaten. (GNT)

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STUDENT: The year of Restoration. The 49th year.

⁸ Count seven times seven years, a total of forty-nine years. ⁹ Then, on the tenth day of the seventh month, the Day of Atonement, send someone to blow a trumpet throughout the whole land. ¹⁰ In this way you shall set the fiftieth year apart and proclaim freedom to all the inhabitants of the land. During this year all property that has been sold shall be restored to the original owner or the descendants, and any who have been sold as slaves shall return to their families. (GNT)

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STUDENT: Problem of food in the sabbatical years.

²⁰ But someone may ask what there will be to eat during the seventh year, when no fields are planted and no crops gathered. ²¹ The LORD will bless the land in the sixth year so that it will produce enough food for two years. ²² When you plant your fields in the eighth year, you will still be eating what you harvested during the sixth year, and you will have enough to eat until the crops you plant that year are harvested. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

It ends with freedom from indentured servitude.

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STUDENT:

³⁹ If any Israelites living near you become so poor that they sell themselves to you as a slave, you shall not make them do the work of a slave. ⁴⁰ They shall stay with you as hired workers and serve you until the next Year of Restoration. ⁴¹ At that time they and their children shall leave you and return to their family and to the property of their ancestors. ⁴² The people of Israel are the LORD's slaves, and he brought them out of Egypt; they must not be sold into slavery. ⁴³ Do not treat them harshly, but obey your God. (GNT)

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TEACHER:

Chapter 26 covers blessings, and punishments. It is known as The Confirmation of the Covenant.

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STUDENT: The Blessings.

1. If you live according to my laws and obey my commands, ⁴I will send you rain at the right time, so that the land will produce crops and the trees will bear fruit.
2. Your crops will be so plentiful that you will still be harvesting grain when it is time to pick grapes, and you will still be picking grapes when it is time to plant grain. You will have all that you want to eat, and you can live in safety in your land.
3. I will give you peace in your land, and you can sleep without being afraid of anyone.
4. I will get rid of the dangerous animals in the land,
5. There will be no more war there.
6. You will be victorious over your enemies;
7. Five of you will be able to defeat a hundred, and a hundred will be able to defeat ten thousand.
8. I will bless you and give you many children; I will keep my part of the covenant that I made with you. ¹⁰
9. Your harvests will be so plentiful that they will last for a year, and even then you will have to throw away what is left of the old harvest to make room for the new.
10. I will live among you in my sacred Tent, and I will never turn away from you. ¹²I will be with you; I will be your God, and you will be my people.
11. I, the LORD your God, brought you out of Egypt so that you would no longer be slaves. I broke the power that held you down and I let you walk with your head held high.” (GNT edited into a list by the Author)

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STUDENT: The Punishments.

¹⁴The LORD said, “If you will not obey my commands, you will be punished.

1. Incurable diseases and fevers that will make you blind and cause your life to waste away.
2. You will plant your crops, but it will do you no good, because your enemies will conquer you and eat what you have grown.
3. Those who hate you will rule over you; you will be so terrified that you will run when no one is chasing you.
4. I will increase your punishment seven times.
5. I will break your stubborn pride; there will be no rain, and your land will be dry and as hard as iron.
6. All your hard work will do you no good, because your land will not produce crops and the trees will not bear fruit.
7. I will again increase your punishment seven times.
8. I will send dangerous animals among you, and they will kill your children, destroy your livestock, and leave so few of you that your roads will be deserted. (GNT edited into a list by the Author)

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STUDENT:

²³“If after all of this punishment you still do not listen to me, but continue to defy me, ²⁴then I will turn on you and punish you seven times harder than before.

1. I will bring war on you to punish you for breaking our covenant
 2. I will send incurable diseases among you, and you will be forced to surrender to your enemies.
 3. I will cut off your food supply, so that ten women will need only one oven to bake all the bread they have. They will ration it out, and when you have eaten it all, you will still be hungry.
 4. Your hunger will be so great that you will eat your own children.
 5. I will destroy your places of worship on the hills, tear down your incense altars, and throw your dead bodies on your fallen idols. In utter disgust
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STUDENT:

6. I will turn your cities into ruins
7. Destroy your places of worship, and refuse to accept your sacrifices.
8. I will destroy your land so completely that the enemies who occupy it will be shocked at the destruction.
9. I will bring war on you and scatter you in foreign lands. Your land will be deserted, and your cities left in ruins.
10. Then the land will enjoy the years of complete rest that you would not give it; it will lie abandoned and get its rest while you are in exile in the land of your enemies.
11. I will make those of you who are in exile so terrified that the sound of a leaf blowing in the wind will make you run.
12. You will stumble over one another when no one is chasing you, and you will be unable to fight against any enemy.
13. You will die in exile, swallowed up by the land of your enemies.
14. The few of you who survive in the land of your enemies will waste away because of your own sin and the sin of your ancestors. (GNT edited into a list by the Author)

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TEACHER:

That's rough. But that is not the end. We know from history that all these things happened to Israel. Most notably after rejecting Jesus Christ our Savior. But God doesn't end on this note.

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STUDENT:

⁴⁰ "But your descendants will confess their sins and the sins of their ancestors, who resisted me and rebelled against me, ⁴¹ and caused me to turn against them and send them into exile in the land of their enemies. At last, when your descendants are humbled and they have paid the penalty for their sin and rebellion, ⁴² I will remember my covenant with Jacob and with Isaac and with Abraham, and I will renew my promise to give my people the land. ⁴³ First, however, the land must be rid of its people, so that it can enjoy its complete rest, and they must pay the full penalty for having rejected my laws and my commands. ⁴⁴ But even then, when they are still in the land of their enemies, I will not completely abandon them or destroy them. That would put an end to my covenant with them, and I am the LORD their God. ⁴⁵ I will renew the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I showed all the nations my power by bringing my people out of Egypt, in order that I, the LORD, might be their God." ⁴⁶ All these are the laws and commands that the LORD gave to Moses on Mount Sinai for the people of Israel.

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TEACHER:

The last chapter, 27, covers The Vows.

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CH. 27

STUDENT:

The LORD gave Moses ² the following regulations for the people of Israel. When any of you have been given to the LORD in fulfillment of a special vow, you may be set free by the payment of the following sums of money, ³⁻
⁷ according to the official standard:

- adult male, twenty to sixty years old: 50 pieces of silver
- adult female: 30 pieces of silver
- young male, five to twenty years old: 20 pieces of silver
- young female: 10 pieces of silver
- infant male under five: 5 pieces of silver
- infant female: 3 pieces of silver
- male above sixty years of age: 15 pieces of silver
- female above sixty: 10 pieces of silver (GNT edited into a list by the Author)

STUDENT:

⁸ If any of you make a vow and are too poor to pay the standard price, you shall bring the person to the priest, and the priest will set a lower price, according to your ability to pay. (GNT)

STUDENT:

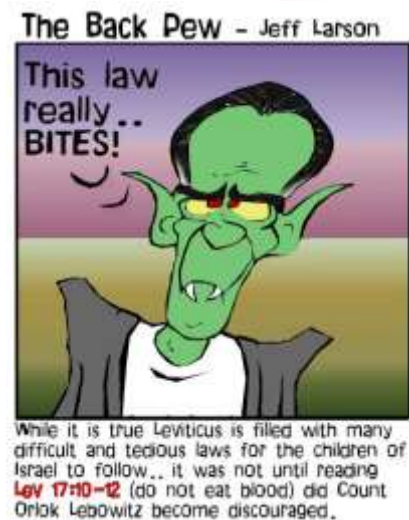
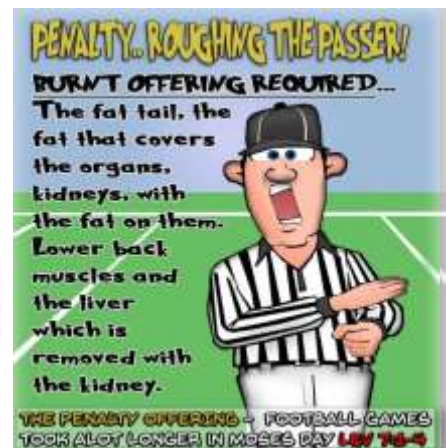
³⁰ One tenth of all the produce of the land, whether grain or fruit, belongs to the LORD. ³¹ If you wish to buy any of it back, you must pay the standard price plus an additional 20 percent. ³² One of every ten domestic animals belongs to the LORD. When the animals are counted, every tenth one belongs to the LORD. ³³ You may not arrange the animals so that the poor animals are chosen, and you may not make any substitutions. If you do substitute one animal for another, then both animals will belong to the LORD and may not be bought back.

³⁴ These are the commands that the LORD gave Moses on Mount Sinai for the people of Israel. (GNT)

NEXT LESSON NUMBERS

"Ye shall be holy, for I am holy."

Leviticus 11:44b



A Hidden Torah Secret

In some of our messages we have mentioned an unusual discovery concerning characteristics of the Hebrew text of the Torah, the first five books of the Old Testament. We have received many letters requesting clarification of this, so we've taken the liberty of including this brief review. I'm indebted to my dear friend, Gerry Schroeder, a nuclear physicist in Jerusalem, for this little jewel.

The first five books of the Bible (the Books of Moses) are known as the Torah, (Remember, Hebrew goes from right to left; in this article we'll transliterate these four letters as "TORH.")

A Hidden Structure

In the Hebrew of Genesis, if you take the first "T", then count 49 letters, the next letter (the 50th) is "O"; the next 50th is "R"; and then the next 50th is "H". In other words, after the first "T", in 50 letter increments, we find the letters spelling Torah (TORaH).

In the Book of Exodus, we also encounter a similar result. What a coincidence! (The rabbis insist that Coincidences is not a kosher word!)

It doesn't seem to work with the third Book of Moses, Leviticus. But stay tuned.

In the fourth book of the Torah, the Book of Numbers, we discover this 49-letter interval works with HROT," that is, TORH backwards. (See Figure 2.) A similar 49-letter interval also appears in the fifth book of the Torah, the Book of Deuteronomy.

However, in the middle book, the Book of Leviticus, it doesn't seem to work either way. But it does work for YHWH, the sacred name of God ("Yahweh or Jehovah," translated "Lord" in the King James Version), if you count in seven letter increments.

Here is the overview:

Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
TORH	TORH	YHWH	HROT	HROT
--->	--->		<---	<---

It appears that the Torah (TORH) always points toward the Name of God.

This may be just another hint that there is much more hidden in the structure of the text itself than we have ever dreamed. Clearly, there is much more to this than first meets the eye of the casual observer.

The Interval of 49

The use of seven with the name of God shouldn't surprise us, with sabbaths of days, weeks, months, and years, and the many other heptadic structures throughout the Bible. But why the intervals of 49?

The square of seven is 49. But is there more to it than this?

Leviticus 23:15 instructs us to count 49 days from Passover and then to celebrate the Feast of Weeks on the next, the 50th, day. The Feast of Weeks commemorates the giving of the Torah (the "law") on Mount Sinai.

Our inquiry is just beginning.

The Prophetic Feasts

We know that the Feasts of Moses are not only commemorative; they are also prophetic.

John the Baptist first introduced Jesus publicly as the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world." That's a very Jewish label! Jesus is, of course, "our Passover" Lamb. And it was on Passover that this feast was fulfilled when Jesus was crucified as an offering on our behalf.

On the morning after the Sabbath after Passover, is the Feast of First Fruits. It was on this very morning that the empty tomb was discovered. He, indeed, is the "first fruits" of "the harvest."

The Feast of Weeks

It is also widely recognized that the Feast of Weeks (also known as the Feast of Pentecost, "50") is predictive of the Church. It was during this feast that the "Church" was born.

The majority of the above is thanks to the genius of Gerry Schroeder. Gerry is an orthodox Jewish physicist, author, lecturer and teacher at the College of Jewish Studies Aish Ha Torah's Discovery Center, living and teaching in Jerusalem. Schroeder received his BSc in 1959, his MSc in 1961, and his PhD in nuclear physics and earth and planetary sciences in 1965, from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He worked seven years on the staff of the MIT physics department. He was a member of the United States Atomic Energy Commission. His published works include *Genesis and the Big Bang* (1990), *The Science of God: The Convergence of Scientific and Biblical Wisdom*, (1997), *The Hidden Face of God: Science Reveals the Ultimate Truth*, (2002), *God According to God: A Physicist Proves We've Been Wrong About God All Along*, (2009), .

