

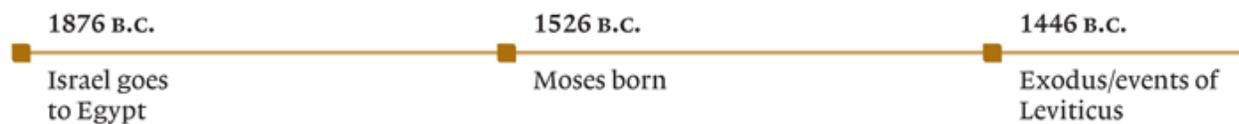
# TRANSFORMATION

2020 → Year of Transformation

## Leviticus

### Introduction to Leviticus

### Timeline



### Theme and Purpose

The book of Leviticus goes into deeper detail about the divine-human relationship put in place on Mount Sinai. Leviticus assumes that Israel is sinful and impure, and it describes how to deal with sin and impurity so that the holy Lord can dwell among his people.

Leviticus focuses on the worship and walk of the nation of God. In Exodus, Israel was redeemed and established as a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. Leviticus shows how God's people are to fulfill their priestly calling.

Leviticus is God's guidebook for His newly redeemed people, showing them how to worship, serve, and obey a holy God. Fellowship with God through sacrifice and obedience show the awesome holiness of the God of Israel.

Leviticus focuses on the worship and walk of the nation of God. The clear theme of Leviticus is Holiness. It teaches that one must approach a holy God on the basis of sacrifice and priestly mediation, and that one can only walk with a holy God on the basis of sanctification and obedience.

### **Date & Setting**

No geographical movement takes place in Leviticus: the Israelites are still camped at the foot of Mount Sinai. Leviticus picks up the story on the first month of the second year. Numbers opens at the beginning of the second month. They have only been there a little over a month from settling after the Red Sea parting.

### **Outline**

- I. Five Major Offerings (1:1-6:7)
- II. Handling of the Offerings (6:8-7:38)
- III. The Establishment of the Priesthood (8:1-10:20)
- IV. The Laws on Cleanness and Uncleanness (11:1-15:33)
- V. The Day of Atonement Ritual (16:1-34)
- VI. The Handling and Meaning of Blood (17:1-16)
- VII. The Call to Holiness (18:1-22:33)
- VIII. Holy Times (23:1-25:55)
- IX. Blessings and Curses (26:1-46)
- X. Vows and Dedication (27:1-34)

### **Christ in Leviticus**

We can see Jesus all throughout the book of Leviticus. Aaron was the high priest for the people, but is Jesus our ultimate High Priest. He was the ultimate blameless or spotless lamb that was offered as a sacrifice and presented on our behalf. He was the scapegoat who took our sins away, and made us right with God. One of the greatest ways we see Jesus in Leviticus is from the sacrifices themselves. Jesus

is the **Burnt offering** representing total surrender to his Father's will. He is the **Grain/Meal offering**, representing our communion with God. Jesus is the bread of life (John 6:38) Jesus is the **Peace offering** which represents friendship and reconciliation. Jesus made peace between God and man. Not only does Jesus give us peace, He is our peace (Ephesians 2:14). He has broken down the wall of separation between man and God. Jesus is the **Sin offering** which was a mandatory substitute for the guilt of our sins. As the sin offering, Jesus was the spotless lamb and the scapegoat all in one. He paid a debt he did not owe, because we owed a debt we could not pay. It was only Jesus who could act as the sin offering for all of mankind. Once and for all, he took away our guilt, and paid sin's penalty, which was death (Romans 6:23). Jesus is represented in the **Trespass offering**, as the one who could heal the damage caused by sin. He is our healer and the one who has set us free from paying restitution to God.

Everything about the sacrificial system points to Jesus. The Levitical system was a picture of the coming Savior. By saying, "It is finished," Jesus was saying all the pictures of Him in the tabernacle furnishings, the priestly ministry, and the sacrificial system were completely fulfilled. He was the priest and the sacrifice at the same time.

# Week 6: “A Call to Holiness”

Leviticus 9, Psalm 24, Romans 12

*Teacher notes: This guide is meant to be used as a resource to help you go deeper in your small group discussion. While it is not exhaustive, it is a guide to help you. Think of it as a launching pad to help you facilitate discussion. Please feel free to go deeper, study on your own, pull in other scripture, share your personal story, or bring in other illustrations. It is just a resource to help you take your group on a journey with God.*

## Introduction:

One detail that is seldom mentioned is that in Washington, D.C. there can never be a building of greater height than the Washington Monument. Have you ever wondered why this is?

On the aluminum cap, atop the Washington Monument in Washington, D.C., are displayed two words: ***Laus Deo***.

These words have been there for many years; they are 555 feet, 5.125 inches high, perched atop the monument, facing skyward to the Father of our nation, overlooking the 69 square miles which comprise the District of Columbia, capital of the United States of America.

So, what do those two words, in Latin, composed of just four syllables and only seven letters, possibly mean? Very simply, they say 'Praise be to God!' These words were set as a reminder to help us understand that we were One Nation under God.

When the cornerstone of the Washington Monument was laid on July 4th, 1848, deposited within it were many items including the Holy Bible presented by the Bible Society. Praise be to God! Such was the discipline, the moral direction, and the spiritual mood given by the founder and first President of our unique democracy 'One Nation, Under God.' I think it is interesting the on top of the Washington monument, on the east panel of the aluminum cap, the words Laus Deo are there as a reminder

Just as on the Washington Monument, the book of Leviticus is God's reminder to the children of Israel that He is a holy God. The people of God must approach him with reverence and awe. The way the interact with each other should be a reflection of the of God our creator. God laid out for the children of Israel in Leviticus, the moral and spiritual laws for man, so that we may Laus Deo "Praise God". He gave them instruction on how to worship and offer sacrifices, how mankind was to treat each other, and restitution if someone had been wronged, all while pointing to the coming Messiah.

Today we will look at Leviticus 9, Psalm 24, and Romans 12. My prayer for you as you study through this book of Leviticus, that you will see your need for Jesus even more,

causing you to worship God out of a pure heart, filled with an understanding of grace and the mercy God bestows on us. We will look at God's call to holiness for his people.

**Scripture Reading : Leviticus 9 & 10, Psalm 24, & Romans 12**

## Discussion Questions

### Read Leviticus 9 & 10

**Question 1: What is the significance of the 8<sup>th</sup> day?**

- What else did God tell the children of Israel to do on the 8<sup>th</sup> day?

**Question 2: Why did God ask them for the 4 offerings Lev 9:1-6?**

- **What is the difference in each offering?**
- **How does this point to this point to Jesus? Explain.**

**(Leader Insight)** We can see Jesus all throughout the book of Leviticus. Aaron was the high priest for the people, but is Jesus our ultimate High Priest. He was the ultimate blameless or spotless lamb that was offered as a sacrifice and presented on our behalf. He was the scapegoat who took our sins away, and made us right with God. One of the greatest ways we see Jesus in Leviticus is from the sacrifices themselves. Jesus is the **Burnt offering** representing total surrender to his Father's will. He is the **Grain/Meal offering**, representing our communion with God. Jesus is the bread of life (John 6:38) Jesus is the **Peace offering** which represents friendship and reconciliation to God. Jesus is the **Sin offering** which was a mandatory substitute for the guilt of our sins. As the sin offering, Jesus was the spotless lamb and the scapegoat all in one. Jesus is represented in the **Trespass offering**, as the one who could heal the damage caused by sin. He is our healer, and the one who has set us free from paying restitution to God.

**Question 3: Why did God ask Aaron to offer a sin offering for himself? (Lev 9:2)**

- How are we supposed to present ourselves before God?
- In what ways do we present ourselves before God?
- Discuss how the American culture has lost its reverence to God!
- Does this phrase make you feel uncomfortable? "*God is my buddy*" or "*Jesus is my homeboy*". Why or Why Not?

**Question 4: What happened to Aaron's heart in verses 22-23?**

- How is this different from the Aaron we see in Genesis 32?
- Why do you think he changed? Discuss!

**Question 5: Why did Nadab and Abihu die in Lev 10:1-2?**

- What did they do wrong?
- What does sanctified mean? How does this relate to us?
- Is God a "mean" God? Explain!

Question 6: What does it mean in Lev 10:8-10 when he refers to the “clean” and “unclean” and the “holy” and the “common”?

- What is God referring too?

**Read: Psalm 24 & Romans 12:1-5**

Question 7 : What description does the Psalmist give for those that can ascend the Holy Hill?

- What is the result of approaching God properly?
- Is God asking for perfection?
- Discuss ways we try to justify our actions? Give examples!

Question 8: How do Psalm 24 & Romans 12:1-5 relate to each other?

- How do we present ourselves a living sacrifice?
- In what ways is this sacrifice related to all the sacrifices God required in the tabernacle?

Question 9: Discuss how we can live out what God calls us to do in Leviticus 19:2 which states, “You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God, am holy.”

- What does this look like?
  - What keeps us from living as a living sacrifice?
  - How can you guard against this? Discuss

## Next Steps:

1. Write down something you learned from this week’s study? (Beginner)
2. Write down steps do you need to take this week in your prayer life? (Beginner)
3. Reflect on what Christ has done for us by fulfilling all the sacrifices required. (Intermediate)
4. Write out a prayer thanking to God. (Intermediate)
5. Pray over your sin
6. Share with someone how you express “*Laus Deo*”- (Praise God) this week. (Next Level)
7. Confess a sin to another person and ask for prayer. (Next Level)

## Pray & Dismiss