

# Leviticus: The Book of Holiness and Worship



## What Does “Leviticus” Mean?

The word Leviticus comes from the tribe of Levi, the tribe chosen to help lead worship and serve as priests in Israel. This book teaches God’s people how to worship Him, how to live holy lives, and how sinful people can come near a holy God. Leviticus may seem difficult at first, but it is full of deep meaning and points strongly to Jesus.

## Who Wrote Leviticus?

The human author of Leviticus is traditionally believed to be Moses.

Moses likely wrote Leviticus around 1440 to 1400 BC while Israel was camped at Mount Sinai after leaving Egypt. God gave these instructions directly to Moses.

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## What Was Happening at the Time?

- Israel had just been rescued from slavery in Egypt.
- God had brought them out, but now He needed to teach them how to live as His people.
- They were no longer slaves in Egypt. They were a chosen nation belonging to God.
- The tabernacle had been built, and God's presence was among them.

***Now the question became:***

How can sinful people live near a holy God?  
Leviticus answers that question.

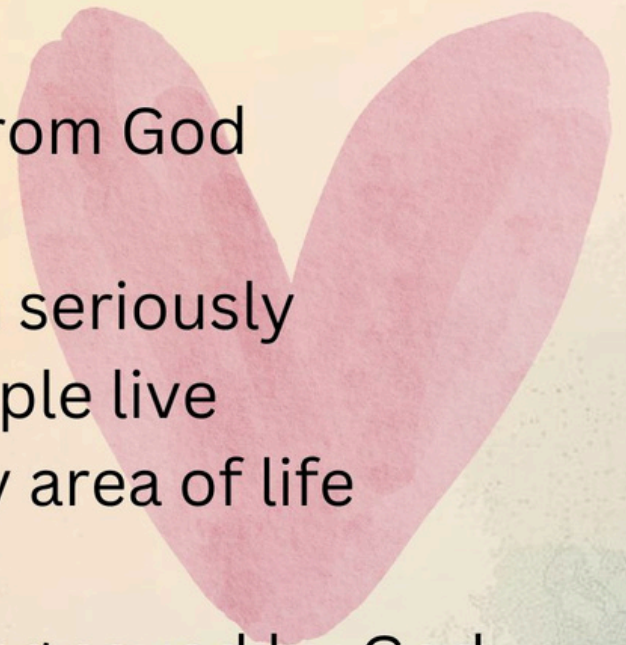
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## Main Theme of Leviticus

Leviticus shows that:

- God is holy
- Sin separates people from God
- Atonement is needed
- Worship must be taken seriously
- God cares how His people live
- Holiness touches every area of life



This book teaches that being saved by God should lead to living differently.

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## Simple Outline of Leviticus

### Chapters 1 to 7

- Offerings and sacrifices
- Burnt offerings
- Grain offerings
- Peace offerings
- Sin offerings
- Guilt offerings



### Chapters 8 to 10

- The priesthood begins
- Aaron and his sons are ordained
- Nadab and Abihu judged for disobedience

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## Simple Outline of Leviticus



### Chapters 11 to 15

- Clean and unclean laws
- Food laws
- Skin diseases
- Bodily cleanliness

### Chapter 16

- The Day of Atonement
- The high priest enters the Holy of Holies

### Chapters 17 to 27

- Holy living
- Moral laws
- Feasts
- Sabbaths
- Justice
- Blessings and warnings
- Vows



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## Key Stories in Leviticus



### 1. Sacrifices

Animals were offered on the altar as substitutes for sin. This taught that sin is serious and forgiveness costs something.

### 2. Priests

Priests represented the people before God and helped lead worship. They had to be consecrated and set apart.

### 3. Nadab and Abihu

Two sons of Aaron offered unauthorized fire before God and were judged. This showed that God is holy and worship is not casual.

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## Key Stories in Leviticus

### 4. Clean and Unclean

God gave laws about purity, health, and separation from pagan nations. These laws reminded Israel that they belonged to Him.

### 5. Day of Atonement

Once each year, the high priest entered the Most Holy Place with blood for the sins of the people. This was Israel's most sacred day.

### 6. Holy Living

Leviticus teaches honesty, kindness, sexual purity, justice, care for the poor, and loving neighbors.

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## How Leviticus Points to Jesus

*Leviticus may be full of laws and sacrifices, but it points clearly to Jesus Christ.*

### 1. Every Sacrifice Points to Jesus

Animals could only temporarily cover sin. Jesus became the perfect once-for-all sacrifice.

### 2. The High Priest Points to Jesus

The priest stood between God and people. Jesus is our great High Priest forever.

### 3. The Day of Atonement Points to Jesus

Blood was brought into the holy place for forgiveness. Jesus entered the heavenly holy place with His own blood.

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## How Leviticus Points to Jesus

### 4. The Scapegoat Points to Jesus

One goat symbolically carried away the sins of the people. Jesus bore our sins and removed them.

### 5. Cleanliness Points to Inner Cleansing

Leviticus taught outward purity. Jesus brings inward purity of heart.

### 6. Holiness Points to New Life

God called Israel to be holy. Jesus gives believers the Holy Spirit so they can truly live holy lives.

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## Important Lessons from Leviticus



### **God Is Holy**

He is pure, righteous, and unlike anyone else.

### **Sin Is Serious**

Sin damages relationship with God and brings death.

### **Worship Matters**

God cares about how He is approached.

### **Forgiveness Requires Atonement**

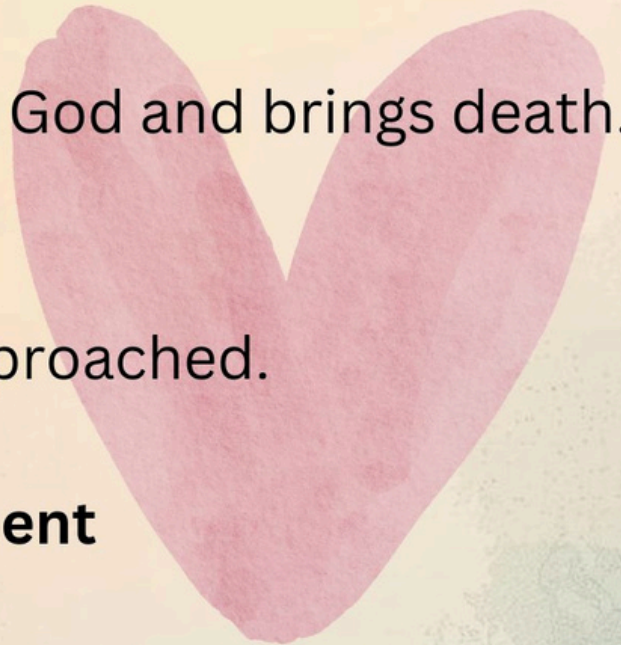
Sin cannot simply be ignored.

### **God Wants His People Different**

Saved people should not live like the world around them.

### **Holiness Includes Everyday Life**

How we treat others matters to God.



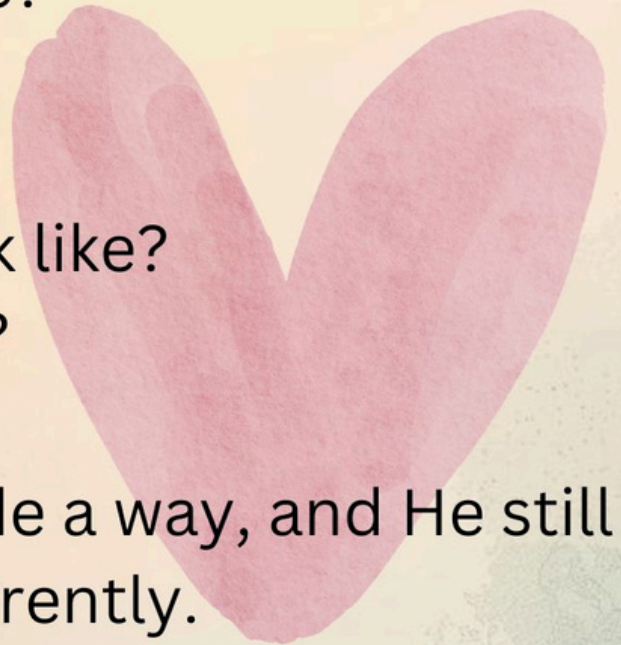
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## Why Leviticus Still Matters Today

Leviticus answers questions people still ask:

- Does God care how I live?
- Is sin really serious?
- Can I be forgiven?
- What does holiness look like?
- Can I draw near to God?



Leviticus says yes. God made a way, and He still calls His people to live differently.

### Key Verse

*“Be holy: for I the Lord your God am holy.”*

*Leviticus 19:2*

God’s people are called to reflect His character.

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## Insight in Simple Words



- Leviticus teaches that salvation is not just escape from judgment. It is entrance into relationship.
- Exodus shows God bringing people out of Egypt.
- Leviticus shows God shaping those people once they are out.
- God does not only rescue people. He transforms them.
- Leviticus also teaches that blood sacrifice was never the final answer. It was preparation for Christ.

### One Sentence Summary

Leviticus is the story of how a holy God taught sinful people to worship Him, live differently, and look forward to the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

BIBLE SUMMARY

*Radically Rooted Ministries*