

# God's Route 66 in 2006

## *Leviticus*

### “Holy and Wholly”

1/15/06

#### Key Texts

*Leviticus 20:22-26 (22) Ye shall therefore keep all my statutes, and all my judgments, and do them: that the land, whither I bring you to dwell therein, spue you not out. (23) And ye shall not walk in the manners of the nation, which I cast out before you: for they committed all these things, and therefore I abhorred them. (24) But I have said unto you, Ye shall inherit their land, and I will give it unto you to possess it, a land that floweth with milk and honey: I am the LORD your God, which have separated you from other people. (25) Ye shall therefore put difference between clean beasts and unclean, and between unclean fowls and clean: and ye shall not make your souls abominable by beast, or by fowl, or by any manner of living thing that creepeth on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean. (26) And ye shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.*

#### Introduction

Often the Christian who determines to read through the entire Bible starts with enthusiasm in Genesis, loses steam in Exodus, and fizzles out completely in Leviticus. It is like visiting a huge factory without a tour guide, much activity with no apparent order. But with a guide the randomness is explained and becomes efficiency. Leviticus pertains to the Levites, and the machinations and mechanisms of the priesthood.

Holy means pure and without corruption and this is what we all desire. But sin and Satan leave us broken, needing sanctification.

#### Statistics

Author: Moses, Jesus said so in Matthew 8:4

Date: 1500 B.C.

Key Verses: 14:26-35

Key Words: holy or sanctify or hallow, from the Hebrew root "gadash," meaning pure or clean - 197 times  
sacrifice or offer - 300 times, clean or unclean - 200 times, Sabbath - 24 times, atonement - 43 times

27 chapters, 859 verses, 24546 words

## **I. The Offerings (Chapters 1-7)**

A. There are five offerings each relating to Jesus Christ. These offerings were supposed to cost the worshippers, and to be personal.

- 1) Burnt = Christ on Calvary's Cross under the fiery wrath of Almighty God.
- 2) Meal = Christ is our sustaining life, bread from heaven
- 3) Peace = Christ must be submitted to or there is no peace
- 4) Sin = Christ saved us but still we have sins that hinder our fellowship with God
- 5) Trespass = Christ said to love God with all your heart and to love your neighbor as yourself

## **II. The Priesthood (Chapters 8-10)**

A. The Levitical priests were to be washed, robed, set apart, and anointed with oil.

B. All New Testament believers are priests unto the Lord who can minister to one another.

C. There are times when well-meaning people get themselves in messes through sin, strife, and stress. A teaching priest can counsel, guide, and intercede in those times.

### III. The Difference (Chapters 11-15)

A. Clean vs. unclean. The laws of purification, clothing, diet, hygiene, and disease are given here.

B. These apply to various spiritual maladies as well as the obvious outward examples.

- We don't protect our clothing - testimony.
- We consume bad doctrine - diet.
- We don't stay separated - hygiene.
- We allow sins to fester - disease.

C. God's word will help us to tell the difference and avoid much heartache. Nadab and Abihu paid with their lives for their carelessness **Leviticus 10:1-2**.

### IV. The Atonement (Chapter 16)

A. Once a year the high priest entered the Holy of Holies to make atonement with the blood of the bullock, a sin offering for all the sins that had not been covered.

B. The process was repeated with the slain goat's blood sprinkled on the mercy seat. A live goat would then have the sins of the people imparted to it by the hands of the elders. It was then taken far into the wilderness by a fit man **Leviticus 16:21-22**. This is the "scape goat."

C. It is a particular atonement **Leviticus 16:33-34**. Christ did this for all believers once for all!

### V. The Holy Days (Chapter 17-27)

A. This is the second half of the book, describing the performance of God's holy people.

B. There are many laws and regulations. It is not legalism, but glorious liberty that is adhered to in four basic areas.

1) The basis for holy living. Because of the blood many say Christianity is a slaughterhouse or violent religion. But through the blood God is showing us the seriousness of sin and the strength of his grace.

2) The practice of love. It is not what we do in the Temple but what we do outside because we were in the Temple.

3) Enjoying the presence and power of God by celebrating His Holy Days: Sabbath, Passover, First Fruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Tabernacles, Sabbatical Year, and Jubilee.

4) Warning and Promise. God foretells Israel what to expect if they turn away and promises that He retains divine ownership.

In this fallen world, the only hope is redemption from God. He must redeem and sanctify us so that we may be Holy and Whole. Leviticus is a priestly primer, complete with pictures, pictures of Christ. God is saying to every believing sinner, you are mine, were mine, and shall always be mine **Leviticus 26:43-44**. Through the Atonement of Christ we can be Holy and Whole.