

LEVITICUS

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OVERVIEW OF LEVITICUS

You could sum up the book of Leviticus with God's repeated command: **"Be holy, as I am holy."**

The word **holy** appears 77 times.

“Be holy, as I am holy.”:

- **Leviticus 11:44 (NKJV)**

⁴⁴ For I *am* the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I *am* holy. Neither shall you defile yourselves with any creeping thing that creeps on the earth.

- This passage is giving dietary laws.

“Be holy, as I am holy.”:

- **Mark 7:17-19 (NIV)**

¹⁷ After he had left the crowd and entered the house, his disciples asked him about this parable.

¹⁸ "Are you so dull?" he asked. "Don't you see that nothing that enters a man from the outside can make him 'unclean'?

¹⁹ For it doesn't go into his heart but into his stomach, and then out of his body." (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods "clean.")

- **Leviticus 11:45 (NKJV)**

⁴⁵ For I *am* the LORD who brings you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I *am* holy.

- This passage is giving dietary laws.

- **Leviticus 19:2 (NKJV)**

² "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God *am* holy.

- This passage give various moral and sacrificial laws.

- **Leviticus 20:7 (NKJV)**

⁷ Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I *am* the LORD your God.

- This passage give various spiritual and moral laws.

- **Leviticus 20:26 (NKJV)**

²⁶ And you shall be holy to Me, for I the LORD *am* holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine.

- This passage combines ceremonial and moral laws.

- **Leviticus 21:8 (NKJV)**

⁸ Therefore you shall consecrate him, for he offers the bread of your God. He shall be holy to you, for I the LORD, who sanctify you, *am* holy.

- This passage gives moral laws for the priests.

PERSONAL AND DIVINE SANCTIFICATION

- **Leviticus 20:7-8 (NKJV)**

⁷ Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I *am* the LORD your God.

⁸ 'And you shall keep My statutes, and perform them: I *am* the LORD who sanctifies you.

- Consecrate = qadash
- Holy = qadosh
- Sanctifies = qadash
- It would be better to us the word **holify**.

THE NEW TESTAMENT INTERPRETATION.

- **1 Peter 1:13-16 (NKJV)**

¹³ Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest *your* hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

¹⁴ as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, *as* in your ignorance;

¹⁵ but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct,

¹⁶ because it is written, "*Be holy, for I am holy.*"

- We are sanctified by the blood.
- Hebrews 13:12 And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy through his own blood.
- We are sanctified by the Word.
- John 17:17. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.
- We are sanctified by the Spirit.
- 1 Corinthians 6:11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Quick outline of Leviticus

- How to give offerings (Leviticus 1–7)
- Aaron and sons ordained (Leviticus 8–10)
- Cleanliness laws for the congregation (Leviticus 11–15)
- Atonement for sin (Leviticus 16–17)
- How to be a holy culture (Leviticus 18–27)

HOW TO GIVE OFFERINGS (Lev.1-7)

- Manual for Sacrifice for All Israel (1:1-6:7)
- Manual for Sacrifice for the Priests (6:8-7:38)

AARON AND SONS ORDAINED (Lev.8-10)

- The execution of two of Aaron's sons (10:1-20)
- Nadab and Abihu's indiscretion (10:1)
- Nadab and Abihu's execution (10:2-5)
- Moses' Command to Aaron (10:6-15)
- Moses' anger with Aaron (10:16-20)

CLEANLINESS LAWS FOR THE CONGREGATION (Lev.11-15)

- Manual of the Cleanliness Code (11:1-15:33)
- Clean and Unclean Animals (11:1-47)
- Purification after Childbirth (12:1-8)
- Laws about Leprosy (13:1-59)
- Laws for cleansing Lepers (14:1-56)
- Laws about bodily discharges (15:1-33)

ATONEMENT FOR SIN (Lev.16-17)

- Manual for the Day of Atonement (16:1-34)
- Sacrifices must be brought to the Lord (17:1-9)
- Do not eat food with blood still in it (17:10-16)

HOW TO BE A HOLY CULTURE (Lev.18-27)