Rameses

Egypt

Leviticus, The Introduction

March 05, 2015

Sinai Peninsula

hilderness of Ked Sea

Saudi Arabia

Aqaba

Etham

Midian

Jebel el Lawz

Elath

Week 06





Key Teachings

God is holy.

- God expects his people to be holy
 - God desires to live among his people but has high standards that must be maintained God is serious about holiness

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Key Concepts

- Ritual impurity is not the same as sin, but either can restrict access to God's presence.
- Holíness dístinguíshes God from people and dístinguíshes God's people from other people.
 - Sacred space must be defined and preserved (the job of priests) Sacrifice is a mechanism to allow people to pray to God, thank God, preserve sacred space for God, and be in relationship with God.

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Key Terms: Holiness Sacrifice Sacred Space





Leviticus - Worship (1-16)

A.Worship (1-16) 1. The Sacrifices (1-7) 2. The Consecration of the priests (8-10) 3. Clean & Unclean (11-15) 4. Day of Attonment (16)

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Leviticus - Holiness (17-27)

B. Holiness (17-27) 1. Blood & Worship (17) 2. Regulations for people (18-20) 3. Regulations for priests (21-22) 4. Religious calendar (23) Midian 5. Further regulations for priests & people (24) 6. Regulations for the land (25) udi Arabia 7. Blessings and curses (26) 8. Regulations for tithes and vows (27)

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Holiness

 "there is no greater danger for sinful humans than getting close to the divine being and the glory of his holiness."

""Regardless of intentions or efforts, "everyone and anyone at any time" was liable for ritual pollution""

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 In Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers God's Glory took up residence with the Israelite mobile neighborhood.

The degrees of holiness was literal and physical because the Glory of God's presence was there.

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 In the later Deuteronomy and most later Biblical narratives the tabernacle and temple were places where "the name" of Yahweh dwelt.

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 Leviticus as a whole is the story of God's instruction concerning his Holy demands for srael.

 In nearly every chapter we see the opening: "Yahweh said to Moses ... " Midian

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of

Jebel el Lawz • Leviticus (and Deuteronomy are largely comprised of teaching (especially legal instruction) even while both books contain a few short narratives.

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The Mountain and the Tent of the Meeting as a Locus of God's instruction.

• The Cloud covered (ksh) Mount Sinai (Ex 24:16)

"And he called to Moses" (Ex 24:16b)

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• The Cloud covered (ksh) the tent of Meeting $(E \times 40.34-35)$

Wilderness of Red Sea

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"And he called to Moses (Lev 1:1)



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Leviticus made up of two halves

• The first half (1-16) focuses on purity for the dwelling within the community. Specifically the purity of the encampment was sustained by the prescribed worship – sacrifice, priesthood, ritual cleanness and the Day of Atonement. Midian Gulf The second half (17-27) is oriented towards holiness of the persons within the community. But, note it is for individuals as a part of the chosen people of God.

Should Leviticus be a book?

• It is situated in a scroll, - Preceded by the Exodus wilderness experience. - And followed by the Numbers wilderness experience. Jebel el Lawz The effect of this bracketing is to push the Holy instruction of Leviticus to the foreground.



The Wilderness series (Exodus - Leviticus - Numbers)

Follow the backward looking book of Genesis and

Proceed the forward looking book of Deuteronomy

We see Levítícus emerge

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as the central panel of the Torah.

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Major Framing Effects (1-16)

Sacrifice (1-7) Consecration for the priests (8-10) Death of Nabod and Abihu (10:1-2) Clean and (Inclean (11-15) Death of Nabod and Abihu (16:1) Day of Atonement (16) $\{B \mid ood(17)\}$ Saudi Arabia



Major Framing Effects (1-16)

Sacrifice (1-7)

Consecration for the priests (8-10) Death of Nabod and Abihu (10:1-2) Clean and (Inclean (11-15) Death of Nabod and Abihu (16:1) Day of Atonement (16) [Blood (17)]

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Major Framing Effects (17-27)

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Worship Regulations -Blood (17) Regulations concerning the people (18-20) Forbidden Relationships / Molech (18) Be Holy (19) Molech / Forbidden Relationships (20) Regulations for Priests (21-22) The Holy Calendar Midian Misc Regulations (Priestly Regulations and case law for people (24) Sabbath Year & Jubilee Year (25) Blessings and Curses (26) Worship Regulations -Vows and Tithes (Jubilee 16-25) (27)

Major Framing Effects (17-27)

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Genesis - Inside Leviticus

God created lights to govern time God created Sacred times to govern time Animals were made according to their kind God distinguished animals as clean & unclean God made man to govern the garden God was to function as landlord in the land God in the first 4 days separated space for life Priests to make distinctions and reinforce Holiness



Genesis - Inside Leviticus

The Garden was guarded by Angels The "ARK" was guarded by Angels on the Veil Sin separated man from the Garden, Sin separates man from the "Ark"

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 Leviticus is the Story of God's word to the Israelite rebels.

 The Genesis shaped story functions as warning and as an invitation to those who wish to approach the almighty Creator.

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