



## Putting the Puzzle Pieces Together

Second Series: “Top Edge” Old Testament: The Law  
Lesson #5: Leviticus

### I. Introduction

#### A. Title:

Hebrew: “And he called”

Latin: “That which pertains to the Levites”

Special Note: The book does not deal just with the Levites (members of the tribes of Levi) but with the specific priests who were a part of that tribe (Numbers 3)

#### B. Author:

There is strong evidence that Moses wrote Leviticus.

Internal evidence: 1:1, 4:1, 6:1, 24, 8:1 (a total of 56 times)

External evidence: And, Christ affirms Moses as author – see Matt. 8:2-4 and Luke 2:22.

#### C. Setting:

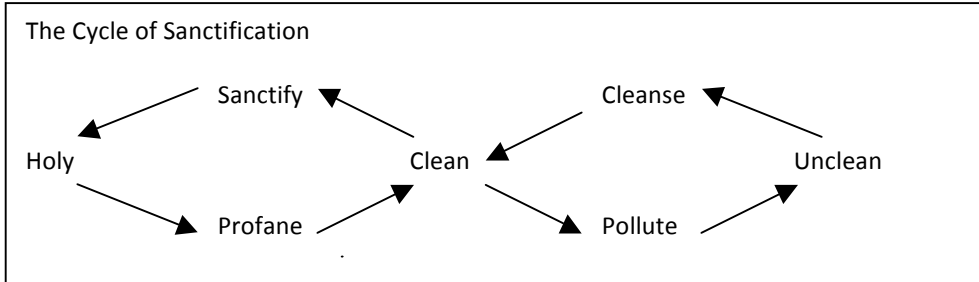
The children of Israel remain camped at the foot of Mt. Sinai. According to Ex. 40:17 the Tabernacle was completed one year after the Passover. This book documents the nature of worship within the Tabernacle and the requirements for the priests.

#### D. Theme:

Holiness (see 11:44-45 and 19:2). Separation from the mundane, a setting apart unto God. This book provides a guide for worship, a code of law and a handbook for the priests.

“It has been said that it took God only one night to get Israel out of Egypt, but it took forty years to get Egypt out of Israel. In Exodus, Israel is redeemed and established as a kingdom of priests and a holy nation; and in Leviticus, Israel is taught how to fulfill their priestly call. They have been led out from the land of bondage in Exodus and into the sanctuary of God in Leviticus. They move from redemption to service, from deliverance to dedication.” (Talk thru the Bible, p. 23)

1. There is a cycle of sanctification



(A Survey of the Old Testament, p. 106)

E. Narratives:

1. Sacrifice (1-17) – the laws of acceptable approach to God
2. Sanctification (18-27) – the laws of acceptable walk with God

Outline of material (Talk thru the Bible, p. 20)

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| Laws of Acceptable Approach to God             | 1:1 – 7:38   |
| Laws of the Priests                            | 8:1 – 10:20  |
| Laws of Israel Regarding Purity                | 11:1-15:33   |
| Laws of National Atonement                     | 16:1 – 17:16 |
| Laws of Sanctification for the People          | 18:1 – 20:27 |
| Laws of Sanctification for the Priesthood      | 21:1 – 22:33 |
| Laws of Sanctification in Worship              | 23:1 – 24:23 |
| Laws of Sanctification into the Land of Canaan | 25:1 – 26:46 |
| Laws of Sanctification through Vows            | 27:1 – 27:34 |

## II. The Sacrificial System

| The Sacrificial System   |               |   |  |  |                       |
|--|---------------|---|--|--|-----------------------|
| Name   | Portion Burnt | Other Portions                                  | Animals  | Occasion or Reason   | Reference             |
| Burnt Offering   | All           | None  | Male without blemish; animal according to wealth                                     | Propitiation for general sin, demonstrating dedication   | Lev. 1                |
| Meal offering or tribute offering  | Token portion | Eaten by priest                                 | Unleavened cakes or grains, must be salted   | General thankfulness for firstfruits   | Lev. 2                |
| Peace offering<br>a. Thank offering<br>b. Vow offering<br>c. Freewill offering | Fat portions  | Shared in fellowship meal by priest and offerer | Male or female without blemish according to wealth; freewill; slight blemish allowed | Fellowship<br>a. For an individual blessing<br>b. For deliverance when a vow was made on that condition<br>c. For general thankfulness | Lev. 3, Lev. 22:18-30 |
| Sin offering   | Fat portions  | Eaten by priest                                 | Priest or congregation: bull; king: he-goat; individual: she-goat                    | Applies basically to situation in which purification is needed   | Lev. 4                |
| Guilt offering   | Fat portions  | Eaten by priest                                 | Ram without blemish  | Applies to situation in which there has been desecration or desacrilization of something holy or there has been objective guilt        | Lev. 5:1-6:7          |

From John H. Walton, *Chronological and Background Charts of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994), 22.

## III. The Priesthood

Aaronic order of priests – Lev. 8:10

- A. Ministered at the Sanctuary
- B. Taught the people the Law
- C. Inquired for them the divine will of God

## IV. The Feasts (Festivals)