

INTRODUCTION TO Leviticus

READ ALONG

- 01/13-01/15 Leviticus 1-4
- 01/18-01/22 Leviticus 5-10
- 01/24-01/29 Leviticus 11-18
- 02/01-02/05 Leviticus 19-25
- 02/08-02/09 Leviticus 26-27

MESSAGE

The modern reader often finds the book of Leviticus challenging to understand. Many of the practices are unique to the ancient time and setting in which it was written. However, concentrating on the main message will help uncover the meaning intended for every generation. The overarching message can be stated as follows. God's desires a distinctive people to worship through atonement and sacrifice. Accordingly, the reader can quickly see the book of Leviticus foreshadowing the New Testament Gospel. Indeed, *"For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."*

WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

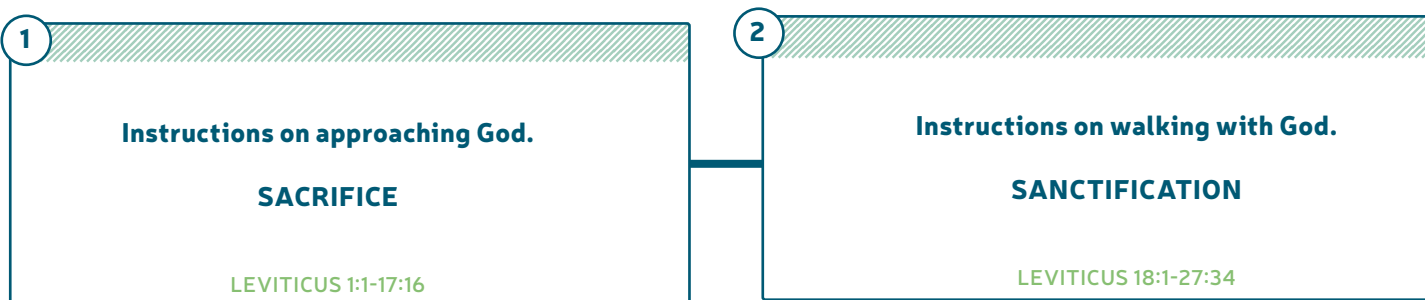
1. GENESIS
2. EXODUS
3. **LEVITICUS**
4. NUMBERS
5. DEUTERONOMY
6. JOSHUA
7. JUDGES

KEY THEMES

- **Holiness** – To be separate or distinctive from the world.
Leviticus 11:45, "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."
- **Worship** – To ascribe and declare value or worth to God
Leviticus 10:3, "...By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified..."
- **Sacrifice** – To surrender something of value as an avenue of worship
Leviticus 7:11,1 "This is the law of the sacrifice of peace offerings which he shall offer to the LORD."
- **Atonement** – To amend or restore a broken relationship by covering the offense
Leviticus 6:7, "So the priest shall make atonement for him before the LORD, and he shall be forgiven for any one of these things that he may have done in which he trespasses."

BASIC STRUCTURE

27 CHAPTERS



BOOK BASICS



DATE
Circa 1400 BC



TYPE
Law



AUTHOR
Moses

The book of Leviticus concludes by highlighting the recipient and location of these divine instructions. *"These are the commandments which the LORD commanded Moses for the children of Israel on Mount Sinai."* (27:34) Positioned as the third book of the Pentateuch, Leviticus was likely penned around 1400 BC toward the end of Moses' life and ministry.

The book of Leviticus was given to Israel shortly after their exodus from Egypt. God had previously provided for their every need in the wilderness travels. They needed food so God provided manna. They needed water so God quenched their thirst from a rock. They needed a place of worship, so God provided a tabernacle. Now they needed guidelines to worship so God provided instructions through the Levite priesthood and the Book of Leviticus.