

Making Promises

Part 3: The Wilderness

Review

- Mt. Sinai acts as a precursor to the tabernacle/temple in its three-part division, and it's another "Mountain of God," like the garden before it and Zion after it (**Ezek. 28:13-16; Ps. 99:9; Is. 27:13; Rev. 21:10**).
- Like Adam, Israel was created to rule, but its dominion was supposed to redefine authority for a world that had perverted it. Its rule, grounded in submission to God, was intended to create life and hope in the nations by mediating God's character and glory to them. Once again, God was establishing his kingdom among an identifiable people through a covenant.
- The purpose of the tabernacle is to be a place where God may dwell amongst his people (**Ex. 25:8**).
- The tabernacle becomes, effectively, a portable Garden of Eden where God again communes with his people.
- The gospel of John connects the imagery of the tabernacle/temple directly to the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus made it possible for his people to be the tabernacle or temple of God.

The Tent of Meeting

- At the end of the book of Exodus, the tabernacle is finished, but Moses discovers that he cannot **enter** into the tent of meeting because the cloud of **God's presence** prevents him (**Ex. 40:34-38**).
 - ◉ God making his presence known by a cloud is familiar to the reader of Exodus (**Ex. 24:15-16**). This furthers the idea that the tabernacle/tent of meeting is a **portable Sinai**.
 - ◉ Though Moses did enter into the presence of the Lord on Sinai, he never did so without invitation. At one point, he even waited **6 days** to be called into the Lord's presence (**Ex. 24:15-16**). The Lord is sovereignly in charge of his own front door. He makes what arrangements he chooses as the conditions of entrance (**Ex. 3:5**).
 - ◉ The whole book of Leviticus spells out the conditions for which the sinful Israelites may enter into the presence of a holy God without **experiencing his wrath** – through the shed blood of the innocent being, laid down in place of the guilty (**Lev. 1:1-4**).

Leviticus

- The book of Leviticus is written to help the children of Israel understand the **importance** of God's holiness.
 - ◉ To understand Leviticus, it's helpful to see how it's broken down:
 - ▶ Chapters 1–7 describe the various kinds of **sacrifices** the people must make.
 - ▶ Chapters 8–10 focus on the preparation of Moses' brother **Aaron as high priest**.
 - ▶ Chapters 11–16 outline the **purity laws**.
 - ▶ Chapters 17–27 enumerate various laws about **holiness**.
 - ◉ Perhaps the point of Leviticus is best seen in the story of Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu who violate the commands of the Lord in regards to offering **unauthorized fire** (**Lev. 10:1-6; 16:1**).
 - ▶ Levites, the priestly tribe of Israel, were to be especially **distinct** from among the other tribes.
 - They had to be **ceremonially clean**. They had to be physically whole (**Lev. 21:5, 16-23**). Like Christian elders, their children could not behave in a manner that would bring public shame (**Lev. 21:9**). They were to teach the people (**Lev. 10:10-11**).
 - Nadab and Abihu failed to fulfill their very **purpose** as priests—acting distinctly.
- There are five main types of sacrifices, or offerings, in the Old Testament. The **burnt offering** (**Lev. 1; 6:8-13; 8:18-21; 16:24**), the **grain offering** (**Lev. 2; 6:14-23**), the **peace offering** (**Lev. 3; 7:11-34**), the **sin offering** (**Lev. 4; 5:1-13; 6:24-30; 8:14-17; 16:3-22**), and the **guilt offering** (**Lev. 5:14-19; 6:1-7; 7:1-6**).
- Perhaps the best way to think about the Old Testament law is in three categories of statutes: the **civil law**, the **ceremonial law**, and the **moral law**.
 - ◉ The civil law governed how Israel was to **function as a nation**.
 - ◉ The ceremonial law governed how one could come to **worship the Lord**. It determined what would render an individual **clean** or **unclean** before the Lord.
 - ◉ The moral law reflected God's **assessment of good and evil**.

Part 3: The Wilderness

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| <p>Ex. 40:34 –38</p> | <p>34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. 35 And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. 36 Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. 37 But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. 38 For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.</p> |
| <p>Ex. 24:15 –16</p> | <p>15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16 The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.</p> |
| <p>Ex. 3:5</p> | <p>Then he said, “Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.”</p> |
| <p>Lev. 1:1–4</p> | <p>1 The Lord called Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying, 2 “Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When any one of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of livestock from the herd or from the flock. 3 “If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer a male without blemish. He shall bring it to the entrance of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the Lord. 4 He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, and it shall be accepted for him to make atonement for him.</p> |
| <p>Lev. 10:1– 6</p> | <p>1 Now Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it and laid incense on it and offered unauthorized fire before the Lord, which he had not commanded them. 2 And fire came out from before the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord. 3 Then Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the Lord has said: ‘Among those who are near me I will be sanctified, and before all the people I will be glorified.’” And Aaron held his peace. 4 And Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and said to them, “Come near; carry your brothers away from the front of the sanctuary and out of the camp.” 5 So they came near and carried them in their coats out of the camp, as Moses had said. 6 And Moses said to Aaron and to Eleazar and Ithamar his sons, “Do not let the hair of your heads hang loose, and do not tear your clothes, lest you die, and wrath come upon all the congregation; but let your brothers, the whole house of Israel, bewail the burning that the Lord has kindled.</p> |
| <p>Lev. 16:1</p> | <p>The Lord spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they drew near before the Lord and died,</p> |
| <p>Lev. 21:5</p> | <p>They shall not make bald patches on their heads, nor shave off the edges of their beards, nor make any cuts on their body.</p> |
| <p>Lev. 21:16 –23</p> | <p>16 And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 17 “Speak to Aaron, saying, None of your offspring throughout their generations who has a blemish may approach to offer the bread of his God. 18 For no one who has a blemish shall draw near, a man blind or lame, or one who has a mutilated face or a limb too long, 19 or a man who has an injured foot or an injured hand, 20 or a hunchback or a dwarf or a man with a defect in his sight or an itching disease or scabs or crushed testicles. 21 No man of the offspring of Aaron the priest who has a blemish shall come near to offer the Lord’s food offerings; since he has a blemish, he shall not come near to offer the bread of his God. 22 He may eat the bread of his God, both of the most holy and of the holy things, 23 but he shall not go through the veil or approach the altar, because he has a blemish, that he may not profane my sanctuaries, for I am the Lord who sanctifies them.”</p> |
| <p>Lev. 21:9</p> | <p>And the daughter of any priest, if she profanes herself by whoring, profanes her father; she shall be burned with fire.</p> |
| <p>Lev. 10:10 –11</p> | <p>10 You are to distinguish between the holy and the common, and between the unclean and the clean, 11 and you are to teach the people of Israel all the statutes that the Lord has spoken to them by Moses.”</p> |

| Offerings for the People | | | | Concecration of Aaron | | | Failure of the Priesthood |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| The Children of Israel | | The Priests | | Moses | Aaron | The People | Judgement |
| 1:1-1:9 | 4:13-4:21 | 6:8-6:13 | 7:35-7:36 | 8:1-8:5 | 8:31-8:36 | 9:15-9:17 | 10:1-10:3 |
| Preparing the burnt offering | Sin Offerings for Israel | Burn Offerings | Significance of Priestly Laws | Brought before the People | Eats flesh of Sacrifice | Sin sacrifice | Offering Strange Fire |
| 1:10-1:13 | 4:22-4:26 | 6:14-6:18 | 7:37-7:38 | 8:6-8:9 | 9:1-9:7 | 9:18-9:21 | 10:4-10:7 |
| Sheep or Goat Burnt Offering | Sin Offerings for Leaders | Grain Offerings | Conclusion | Moses Washes Aaron | Aaron ordered to Sacrifice | Peace offering | Burial of Sons |
| 1:14-1:17 | 4:27-4:31 | 6:19-6:23 | | 8:10-8:13 | 9:8-9:11 | 9:22-9:24 | 10:8-10:11 |
| Burnt offering of Birds | Sin offerings for commoners | Ordination | | Anointed with Oil | Performs sin offering | Blessing | The Lord Speaks to Aaron |
| 2:1-2:3 | 4:32-4:35 | 6:24-30 | | 8:14-8:17 | 9:12-9:14 | | 10:12-10:15 |
| Offering of Grain | Sin offerings for people | Sin Offerings | | Sin Offering | Performs burnt offering | | Aaron commanded to eat |
| 2:4-2:10 | 5:1-5:6 | 7:1-7:10 | | 8:18-8:21 | | | 10:16-10:20 |
| Offering of cooked grain | Guilt offering of Testimony | Guilt Offerings | | Burnt Offering | | | Aaron's Disobedience |
| 2:11-2:13 | 5:7-5:10 | 7:11-7:14 | | 8:22-8:29 | | | |
| No Leaven or Honey | Provisions for offerings | Peace Offerings | | Moses Ordains Aaron | | | |
| 2:14-2:16 | 5:11-5:13 | 7:15-7:18 | | 8:30 | | | |
| Early Ripened Things | More Provisions for Offering | Left over flesh | | Moses Consecrates Aaron | | | |
| 3:1-3:11 | 5:14-5:16 | 7:19-7:21 | | | | | |
| Offerings of Peace | Guilt of Infidelity | Again concerning left over flesh | | | | | |
| 3:12-3:17 | 5:17-5:19 | 7:22-7:27 | | | | | |
| Goat Peace Offering | Guilt of Disobedience | Prohibition of Fat | | | | | |
| 4:1-4:12 | 6:1-6:17 | 7:28-7:34 | | | | | |
| Sin Offerings for Priests | Guilt of Robbery | Logistics of the Peace Offering | | | | | |

Clean and Unclean

| Animals, Insects, and Fish | Child birth | Leprosy | Clothing | Cleansing | House | Discharge | Tabernacle |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 11:1-11:8 | 12:1-5 | 13:1-13:6 | 13:47-13:52 | 14:1-14:9 | 14:33 | 15:1-15:12 | 16:1-16:10 |
| Clean land animals | Unclean | Clean leprosy | Unclean Leprous clothing | Purification before the priest | Further leprosy instructions | Unclean Discharge | Aaron inside the holy place |
| 11:9-11:12 | 12:6-12:8 | 13:7-13:8 | 13:53-13:55 | 14:10-14:20 | 14:34-14:42 | 15:13-15:15 | 16:11-16:14 |
| Clean water animals | Offering of Purification | Unclean leper | Treatment of unclean clothing | Offering and oil | Leprous house | Atonement for discharge | Aaron making personal atonement |
| 11:13-11:19 | | 13:9-13:17 | 13:56-13:58 | 14:21-14:32 | 14:43-14:47 | 15:16-15:18 | 16:15-16:19 |
| Unclean birds | | Purification | Purifying clothing | Provisions of poverty | Spreading leprocy | Unclean seminal emission | Atonement for the people |
| 11:20-11:23 | | 13:18-13:23 | 13:59 | | 14:48-14:53 | 15:19-15:24 | 16:20-16:22 |
| Unclean insects | | Unclean boil | Conclusion | | Cleansing the house | Unclean menstration | Preparing the scapegoat |
| 11:24-11:28 | | 13:24-13:28 | | | 14:54-14:57 | 15:25-15:30 | 16:23-16:28 |
| Unclean Carcasses | | Unclean burn | | | Conclusion | Additional feminine discharge | Cleaning after offering |
| 11:29-11:38 | | 13:29-13:37 | | | | 15:31-15:33 | 16:29-16:34 |
| Unclean swarming things | | Unclean scale | | | | Conclusion | Annual atonement |
| 11:39-11:40 | | 13:38-13:39 | | | | | |
| Unclean contact with food | | Unclean Eczema | | | | | |
| 11:41-11:45 | | 13:40-13:44 | | | | | |
| Unclean swarming things | | Unclean infection/Bald head | | | | | |
| 11:46-11:47 | | | | | | | |
| Conclusion | | | | | | | |

Holiness

| Sacrifice and Food | Sexual behaviors | Humanitarian | Crimes | Priestly Regulations | Sundry Laws for Priests |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 17:1-17:7 | 18:1-18:5 | 19:1-19:4 | 20:1-5 | 21:1-9 | 22:1-9 |
| Sacrifices outside the Temple | Warning against assimilation | Prohibition against idols | Offspring to Molech | Defiling oneself | Concerning holy gifts |
| 17:8-17:9 | 18:6-18:18 | 19:5-19:8 | 20:6-8 | 21:10-15 | 22:10-16 |
| Excommunication of outside sacrifices | Prohibition against incest | Consumption of the sacrifice | Results of consulting mediums | Not to approach the dead | Exclusion of the laity |
| 17:10-17:13 | 18:19-18:23 | 19:9-19:10 | 20:09 | 21:16-24 | 22:17-25 |
| Consumption of blood | Prohibited sex | Reaping the harvest | Cursing of parents | Priest without defect | Perfect sacrifice |
| 17:14-17:16 | 18:24-18:30 | 19:11-19:12 | 20:10-16 | | 22:26-31 |
| Reasoning and Purification | Reason for destruction | Stealing and lying | Adultery and incest | | The age of sacrifice |
| | | 19:13-19:14 | 20:17-21 | | 22:32-33 |
| | | Robbing and deceiving | Fornication | | The name of God |
| | | 19:15-19:16 | 20:22-26 | | |
| | | Fairness | Keeping all the commandments | | |
| | | 19:17-19:18 | 20:27 | | |
| | | Hate | Punishment of Mediums | | |
| | | 19:19 | | | |
| | | Mixing | | | |
| | | 19:20-19:22 | | | |
| | | Lying with a slave | | | |
| | | 19:23-19:25 | | | |
| | | Fruit of the trees | | | |
| | | 19:26-28 | | | |
| | | Self affliction | | | |
| | | 19:29-19:30 | | | |
| | | Harlotry | | | |
| | | 19:31 | | | |
| | | Soothsaying | | | |
| | | 19:32 | | | |
| | | Age | | | |
| | | 19:33-34 | | | |
| | | Treatment of Strangers | | | |
| | | 19:35-19:37 | | | |
| | | Just measurements | | | |

Holiness (cont'd)

| Festivals | Rules for Tabernacle* | Blasphemy* | Jubilee | Blessing | Cursings | Valuation |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 23:1-2 | 24:1-4 | 24:10-12 | 25:1-7 | 26:1-13 | 26:14-20 | 27:1-8 |
| Holy Convocations | Burning lamps | Blasphemy of the Name | The year of Jubilee | Blessings | Cursings | Valuation of a man |
| 23:03 | 24:5-9 | 24:13-16 | 25:8-12 | | 26:21-22 | 27:9-13 |
| Sabaath | 12 cakes | Punishment for blasphemy | Seven Sabaaths | | Plagues | Trading Animals |
| 23:4-8 | | 24:17-23 | 25:13-17 | | 26:23-26 | 27:14-15 |
| passover | | Action for action | Trading justly in Jubilee | | Hostility | Consecration of a house |
| 23:9-14 | | | 25:18-22 | | 26:27-33 | 27:16-25 |
| Harvest of Firstfruits | | | Have faith | | Wrath | Consecration of a field |
| 23:15-21 | | | 25:23-24 | | 26:34-39 | 27:26-27 |
| Wave offering | | | The land is the Lord's | | Desolation | Consecration of firstborn animals |
| 23:22 | | | 25:25-28 | | 26:40-45 | 27:28-29 |
| Food for the needy | | | Selling land | | Faithfulness receives blessing | What is the Lords |
| 23:23-25 | | | 25:29-34 | | 26:46 | 27:30-33 |
| Rest | | | Selling houses | | Conclusion | The land is the Lord's |
| 23:26-32 | | | 25:35-38 | | | 27:34 |
| The day of Atonement | | | Care for the poor | | | Conclusion |
| 23:33-36 | | | 25:39-46 | | | |
| Feast of booths | | | Hiring the poor | | | |
| 23:37-38 | | | 25:47-55 | | | |
| Times of sacrifice | | | Redeeming a poor servant | | | |
| 23:39-44 | | | | | | |
| Feast of the Lord | | | | | | |