

## ***Access the Bible***

### Tualatin Presbyterian Church

#### **Leviticus Outline**

**Introduction:** Leviticus is the book where the rubber meets the road- where ethereal spiritual abstraction finds practical, concrete application. The story here is that while in the wilderness God summons Moses into the tent and lays out this intricate ethical and moral system of how the Hebrew people are to conduct themselves. Unfairly ridiculed by many because of what can appear to be tedious and arbitrary rituals and rules, it's more helpful to think of Leviticus more like a rental or sales agreement spelling out exactly who will be responsible for what. Or it's like a family dividing up lists and responsibilities before going on a camp out. Only here, not only are the people dividing up responsibilities among themselves, but they include their responsibilities to God here as well.

Like all lists and agreements, part of the significance of it is practical. When a people are in the wilderness it's potentially life threatening to forget certain practices or leave some things to chance. However, even more important than the practical is the ethical- the book of Leviticus more than anything else is concerned not only that the people survive in the wilderness, but that they survive justly, caring for God, one another, and for any strangers they encounter along the way.

#### **Section One:**

Chapter 1: Burnt offerings

Chapter 2: Grain offerings

Chapter 3: Sacrifice of well-being

Chapter 4: Sacrifice for unintentional sin

Chapter 5: Failing to witness

Chapter 6: Deceit; rituals for burnt offering; grain offering; anointing; sin offering

Chapter 7: Rituals for guilt offering; well being

Chapter 8: Dedicating the priests

Chapter 9: Moses making the offerings

Chapter 10: Nadab and Abihu being consumed and other mistakes

Chapter 11: Food laws

Chapter 12: Laws regarding birth

Chapter 13: Skin disease

Chapter 14: Rituals regarding skin disease

Chapter 15: Sexual cleanliness

Chapter 16: The day of atonement

Chapter 17: Laws regarding right places to make sacrifice; no eating blood

Chapter 18: Law about sexual relationships

Chapter 19: Laws about caring for strangers; minor laws

Chapter 20: Words against witchcraft; adultery; incest

Chapter 21: Care of the dead; physical perfection of priests

Chapter 22: Importance of priestly cleanliness

Chapter 23: Sabbath and festivals

Chapter 24: Care of tabernacle; stoning for blasphemy and murder

Chapter 25: Sabbatical and the Jubilee year

Chapter 26: God rewards the faithful; punishes the wicked

Chapter 27: Making vows and consecrations to God

Texts to know: The day of atonement (16:1-10; 29-34); Justice for all (19:9-17; 33-34); The Jubilee year (25:8-17)