

# HOLINESS

(The Book of Leviticus: Lev 11:44-45 and 1 Peter 1:15-16)

(February 2, 2011)

“The Book of Leviticus was the first book studied by a Jewish child; yet is often among the last books of the Bible to be studied by a Christian. However, a book referred to about 40 times in the New Testament should be of great significance to every Christian” (BKC, page 163).

1. “Without holiness no man shall see the Lord” (Hebrew 12:15)
2. In Genesis, Israel was born  
In Exodus, Israel was redeemed  
In Leviticus, Israel is taught how to be holy and worship God
3. ***The Worship of a Holy God in Leviticus 1-17***  
***The Walk before a Holy God in Leviticus 18-27***
4. Israel is at Mount Sinai (25:1, 2). It has been one year since the Exodus and the Tabernacle has  
been just constructed (Exodus 12:2 and Exodus 40:17).

## 1. The Worship of a Holy God (Leviticus 1-17)

**A. By Consecration (Leviticus 1-7) The whole sacrificial system declared to Israel**  
“The

**wages of sin in death”**

1. The Burnt Offering in chapter 1 (*Self-dedication*)
2. The Meal Offering in chapter 2 (*Dedication of one’s material blessings*)
3. The Peace Offering in chapter 3 (*Fellowship or peace with God*)
4. The Sin Offering in chapter 4 (*Restoration for sinning against God*)
5. The Trespass Offering in chapter 5 and 6 (*Restitution for sinning against man and God*)
6. These sacrifices could not take away sin (Hebrews 10:4). “Nevertheless the benefits experienced by the Old testament believers were just as real as the clothing which is worn by a 20<sup>th</sup>-century credit-card purchaser whose account has not yet been paid in full” (BKC, page 166).

## B. By Mediation (Leviticus 8-10)

1. Priestly Mediation Ordained (*Leviticus 8*)
2. Priestly Mediation in the Tabernacle (*Leviticus 9*)
3. Priestly Mediation Corrupted in Disobedience (*Leviticus 10*)

## **C. By Separation (Leviticus 11-17)**

### **1. Instructions concerning the clean and unclean (Leviticus 11-15)**

- a. Laws concerning diet (*Leviticus 11*)
- b. Laws concerning reproduction (*Leviticus 12 and 15*)
- c. Laws concerning skin diseases (*Leviticus 13, 14*)

### **2. Reasons for the distinctions between clean and unclean (Some are more valid than others)**

- a. Symbolic of sin (*Sin is as ugly as a camel in Leviticus 11:4*)
- b. Cultic (*Some animals such as pigs were used in pagan worship. But so were bulls*)
- c. Hygienic (*Swine carried several parasitic organisms*)
- d. Arbitrary (*To test their obedience as in 11:1-6*)
- e. Spiritual and moral reasons in the reproduction laws (*Children are sinners from conception*)
- f. To show God's choice of Israel from other nations (*Leviticus 20:24-26*)

### **3. Sin Offering for the unclean Israelite (Leviticus 16)**

## **2. The Walk Before a Holy God (Leviticus 18-27)**