

ONEXONE

LEVITICUS

Tonight we are going to study the book of Leviticus. As we study this book we'll focus on four things which are; **title and theme, author and date, outline and chapter summary and points to ponder.**

1. TITLE & THEME

The name Leviticus comes from the Latin Vulgate, which got its name from the Septuagint, which was the Greek translation of the Hebrew Scriptures. The name Leviticus means pertaining to the priests, this book would serve as a manual for the Levites. The name of this book in the Hebrew comes from the first word of the Hebrew text, which is translated in English; "and the LORD called." Leviticus is a continuation of the book of Exodus. In Exodus we have the redemption of the Nation and in Leviticus we have the sanctification of the nation. At the end of the book of Exodus we have the building of the Tabernacle and the glory of God filling the tabernacle, in Leviticus we have God speaking from the tabernacle giving Moses instructions on the nations worship and walk.

The theme of Leviticus can be summarized as the following; Leviticus is a continuation of the Law which was the basis of the Mosaic Covenant. In Exodus 19:6 God told Israel that if they followed His law they would be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. This book would serve as a manual for the priests so they could teach the people how to worship God who is holy (Lev 19:2). Also this book was an addition to the previous laws which God gave the children of Israel at Mount Sinai. Israel was to follow these laws and be set apart in their conduct so they could represent God's holiness to the nations of the world (Exod. 19:6). Also Israel was to follow these laws because under the conditional Mosaic Covenant which they made with God their obedience to these laws would bring blessings (Lev.26:1-13) and their disobedience would bring judgment (Lev.26:14-39).

2. AUTHOR & DATE

The author of the book of Leviticus is Moses. Dr. Norman Geisler counts some 56 times that the phrase, "God spoke unto Moses," is used. Also Jesus in Matthew 8:4 after He healed the leper told him, "Go and offer what Moses commanded in the law." The cleansing of the leper is recorded in chapter 14 of the book of Leviticus. If Jesus believed Moses wrote Leviticus then so should we!



Concerning the date of the writing of this book, this book covers a period of about a month, which was probably the first month in the second year after the Exodus, Number begins in the second month of the second year after the exodus (Num. 1:1). Moses either dictated or wrote this book while they were still at Mount Sinai or sometime before his death which came in 1405 B.C.

3. OUTLINE & CHAPTER SUMMARY

The book of Leviticus can be divided into two major sections which focus on the Holiness of God. First in chapters 1-10 you have instructions for worshipping a Holy God and second in chapters 11-27 you have instructions for walking with a holy God. These two sections can also be subdivided into two subsections.

- I. Instructions for worshipping a holy God (Chapters 1-10).
 - A. The sacrifice and offerings (Chapters 1-8).
 - B. The consecration of the Priests (Chapters 8-10).
- II. Instructions for walking with a holy God (Chapters 11-27).
 - A. Laws of cleanness and uncleanness (Chapters 11-16).
 - B. Guidelines for practical holiness (Chapters 17-27).

4. POINTS TO PONDER

A. Chapters 1-10

- The sacrifices are types which point to Jesus Christ.
- The sacrifices and the priesthood illustrate how a Christian is to worship a holy God.

B. Chapters 11-27

- Morality is based on the unchanging nature of God (Lev.19:2).
- The Feasts are illustrations of God's prophetic plan of redemption (Lev.23).