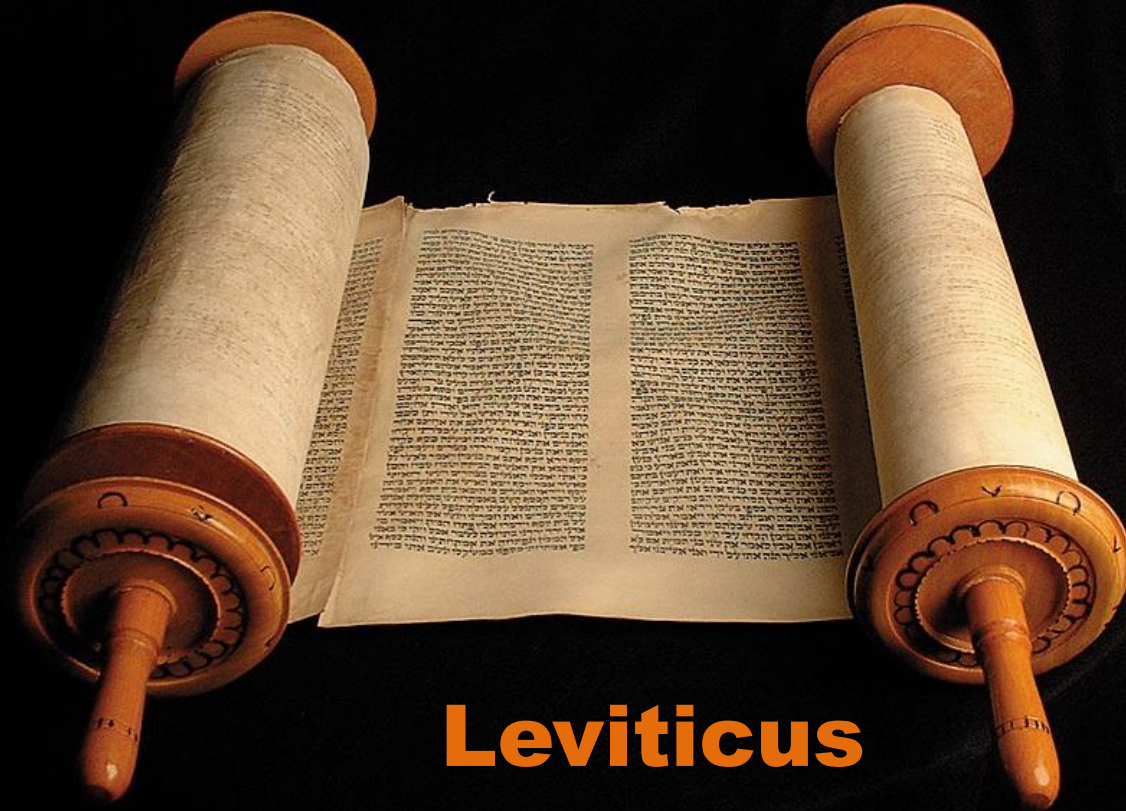


# Encountering the Old Testament



**Leviticus**

**“be holy, for I am holy.”**

**God's holiness**

**our holiness**

**God**



**Man**

**intrinsic**

**derived from him**

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)



### Leviticus 17-27

- ❖ The importance of blood (17).
- ❖ **The necessity of moral purity (18-20).**
- ❖ Regulations for the priests (21-22).
- ❖ The religious worship calendar (23).
- ❖ Oil, bread, and blasphemy (24).
- ❖ **The Sabbath Year & Jubilee (25).**
- ❖ Blessings & Cursing's (26).
- ❖ Vows & Tithes (27).

The word  
“Holy” and its  
derivatives  
occurs 85 Xs  
in these 11  
chapters

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)



Leviticus 17-27

- ❖ **The necessity of moral purity** (18-20).
  - ❖ Must be *different* than the Egyptians and the Canaanites (18:1-4). **WHY?**
    - ❖ “For I am Jehovah.” 40 times!
    - ❖ “I have separated you from the peoples” (20:24).
  - ❖ **Incest forbidden** (18: 6-18). *New provision.* How know?
  - ❖ **Adultery** forbidden (18:20). *Repeat of the 7<sup>th</sup>.*
  - ❖ **Child sacrifice forbidden** (18:21, 20:1-5).
  - ❖ **Homosexuality forbidden** (18:22). *A choice.*
  - ❖ **Bestiality forbidden** (18:23). *A choice. It is confusion/perversion.*

# 10 Nationalities Who Fornicate With Animals

[BY BRETT ERMILIO](#)

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Bestiality in many countries is illegal. But some would be surprised to learn that many nations, not only fail to police such activity, but they also actually condone it. There are groups who are dedicated toward protecting the rights of people to have sex with animals.

It's a practice that continues to this very day despite much of the world frowning upon it. It has only been within the last five years that countries such as Sweden, Denmark and a handful of the states in the US (that's right, the US!) finally outlawed the practice.

Studies have estimated that 4.9% of men and 1.9% women have engaged in bestiality.

The animals of choice? Dogs come in at number 1 followed by horses/donkeys and sheep.

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

### Leviticus 17-27



- ❖ **The necessity of moral purity** (18-20).
  - ❖ Told that they have been given the land because the Canaanites had **defiled** it (Gen 15:16). See Lev 18:24-30.
  - ❖ Warned that if they **repeat these abominations** they will be vomited out also (18: 27-29).
  - ❖ ***Significance of what happened during the days of Ahab and Jezebel (1 Kgs 21:26).***
  - ❖ ***Significance of what happened during the days of Manasseh in Judah (2 Kgs 21:9-11).***

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)



### Leviticus 17-27

- ❖ The necessity of moral purity (18-20).
  - ❖ Part of being moral and holy is showing *compassion for the poor* (19:9-10).
  - ❖ Forbidden to *steal or lie* (19:11).
  - ❖ *Misusing God's name (Profanity)* forbidden (19:12).
  - ❖ *Shall not oppress they neighbor or hold back the wages* of a hired servant (19:13).
  - ❖ *Shall not abuse the handicapped* (19:14).
  - ❖ *Shall not be a respecter of persons* (19:15).
  - ❖ *Tale bearing (gossip) is forbidden* (19:15).

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

### Leviticus 17-27



### ❖ The necessity of moral purity (18-20).

❖ One of the keys to morality: **how we treat one another.**

❖ “Thou shall **not hate** they brother in thy heart” (19:17).

❖ Must **care enough to confront** and rebuke if your brother is wrong (19:17b).

❖ Shall **not take vengeance, nor bear a grudge** (19:18).

❖ Thou shalt **love they neighbor as thyself** (19:18).  
See Jesus in Matt 7:12, 22:39.

❖ **2<sup>nd</sup> greatest commandment according to Jesus!**



# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)



“You shall keep my statutes” begins a new section beginning in 19:19 showing the importance of keeping God’s moral and physical order sacred. Don’t mix things that were separated in creation.

The Israelites were to abstain from all unnatural, idolatrous, and pagan conduct. (Lev 19: 19-22).

- ❖ The HS shifts into realms of nature (19:19).
  - ❖ “You must not sow your field with two different kinds of seed.”
  - ❖ “You must not wear clothing made from two different kinds of material mixed together.”

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

“The Israelites were to abstain from all unnatural, idolatrous, and pagan conduct. (Lev 19: 19-22).



- ❖ “You must not breed **two different kinds** of cattle.”
  - ❖ “Not permit the horse and the she-ass, nor the he-ass and the cow (as done in the East) to couple together.”
  - ❖ Something **unnatural**. This prohibition was designed to discourage unnatural and forbidden lusts previously condemned (Lev 18: 22-23).

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

“The Israelites were to abstain from all **unnatural, idolatrous, and pagan conduct.** (Lev 19: 19-22).”



- ❖ “You must not breed **two different kinds** of cattle.”
  - ❖ “Not permit the horse and the she-ass, nor the he-ass and the cow (as done in the East) to couple together.” (See Deut 22:10).
  - ❖ Something *unnatural*. This prohibition was designed to discourage unnatural and forbidden lusts previously condemned (Lev 18: 22-23).
- ❖ “You must not sow your field with **two different kinds** of seed.”
  - ❖ Sow oats and wheat together – the latter would be injured and the former ruined (Deut 22:9).
  - ❖ The turnip and carrot would not succeed conjointly.
  - ❖ Simply *prudential agricultural maxims*?

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

“The Israelites were to abstain from all unnatural, idolatrous, and pagan conduct. (Lev 19: 19-22).



- ❖ “You must not wear clothing made from **two different kinds** of material mixed together.”
- ❖ “Don’t wear clothes made of wool and linen woven together” (Deut 22:11).
  - ❖ A prohibition against **pride and vanity** using a patchwork of different colors for show?
  - ❖ An admonition towards **modesty**, not drawing undue attention to oneself?
  - ❖ Joseph’s **coat of many colors** (Gen 37:3)?

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

“You shall keep my statutes” begins a new section beginning in 19:19 showing the importance of keeping God’s moral and physical order sacred. Don’t mix things that were separated in creation.

The Israelites were to abstain from all unnatural, idolatrous, and pagan conduct. (Lev 19: 19-22).

- ❖ Deut 22:5 “A woman must not wear men’s clothes. And, a man must not wear women’s clothes. Anyone who does such things as this is doing a disgusting thing.” **IEB**
- ❖ Any attempt to obliterate the distinction of the sexes is unnatural and a violation of God’s order.
- ❖ God created the human species in His own image as male and female (Gen 1:27).



# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)



### Leviticus 17-27

- Protection for a **slave-girl** from the death penalty if involved in adultery (19:20-22).
- ❖ When planting trees for food, wait **three years** before eating, the **fourth year** it is to offered to Yahweh, the **fifth year you may eat**. (19: 23-25). In future years it will produce **more fruit** for you (19:25b)!
  - ❖ A repeat of the **prohibition of eating meat that has not been properly bled** (19:26a).
  - ❖ Warnings about **attempts to predict the future** through black magic (enhancements or augury). (Astrology, spells, divinations). (19:26b).

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

### Leviticus 17-27

#### ❖ The necessity of moral purity (18-20).

Abstain from pagan behavior.

❖ “You shall not cut the hair on the sides of your heads, nor cut the edges of your beard (mar its corners)”

❖ “You must not gash your body to show sadness for someone who has died. Do not put tattoo marks on yourselves.” (19:28)

❖ **Marginal note:** Devices of paganism (Isa 44:5, Rev 13:17, 14:1). *“Any self-imposed disfiguration of the body is an outrage to God. It is an insult to the One who originally designed the human body.”*



# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

### Leviticus 17-27

- ❖ **The necessity of moral purity** (18-20). Abstain from pagan behavior.
  - ❖ “You must not **cause your daughter to become a harlot** lest the land would become full of prostitution and lewdness.”
  - ❖ *Note: Pagan priests paid a high price to the parents who would sell their girls to become temple prostitutes.*
- ❖ *Obey the laws about my **Sabbaths**. You must respect by **sanctuary** (19:30).*
- ❖ *Another prohibition concerning **mediums or fortune tellers, witchcraft** (Lev 20:6, 27, 31).*





# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

### Leviticus 17-27



#### ❖ **The necessity of moral purity** (18-20).

Abstain from pagan behavior.

- ❖ **“Give respect to old men.** Stand up when they come into the room.” Lit. “Grey headed.” (19:32)
- ❖ **“Do not oppress foreigners** who live in your country...because you were once foreigners in the land of Egypt.” (19: 33)
- ❖ **Be fair when you judge people** and when you measure things. Do not use **dishonest standards** when measuring **length, weight, or volume.**
  - ❖ *No official bureau of weights and measures!*

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

Leviticus 17-27



### ❖ The Necessity of Moral Purity (18-20).

❖ Punishment for Disobeying God's Laws. ("The Old law was a Ministration of death").

❖ *A Jewish man or a foreigner who sacrifices their children to Molech must be executed.*  
*The common people should participate in the stoning (20:1-2).*

❖ *Must not **sympathize with an idolater (ignore that person) or refuse to participate in the execution.** If so, God will be against the sympathizer and his family" (Lev 20: 3-4).  
*Wow! (See Lev 5:1).**

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

Leviticus 17-27



### ❖ The Necessity of Moral Purity (18-20).

❖ Punishment for Disobeying God's Laws. ("The Old law was a Ministration of death").

❖ *"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men and women to stand by and do nothing."* Edmund Burke

❖ *Those who go to mediums or fortune tellers (claim to communicate with dead people) shall be cut off from his people (Lev 20: 6)!*

❖ *You must keep my rules and practice them for I am making you holy! (Lev 20: 8)!*

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

Leviticus 17-27



### ❖ The necessity of moral purity (18-20).

#### ❖ Punishment for Disobeying God's Laws.

❖ *"Anyone who  **curses his father and mother must be put to death.**" (Lk 20:9). A violation of "Honor your father and mother." How did they deal with rebels? Survive with no prisons? (See Deut 21:18-21).*

❖ ***Adultery was to be a capital crime** for both the man and the woman (Lev 20:10-11).*

❖ *Includes his father's wife (20:11). He has shamed his father! (See I Cor 5: 1-13)*

❖ *Includes his daughter-in-law (20:12). It is not natural. **A perversion!***

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

Leviticus 17-27



- ❖ The necessity of moral purity (18-20).
  - ❖ Punishment for Disobeying God's Laws.
    - ❖ Includes *homosexual behavior*. "A Terrible sin." "They have brought it upon themselves" (Lev 20:13).
    - ❖ Includes a man having sex with both a *woman and her mother*. This is evil. After stoning the people must burn the man and the two women in fire (20:14)!

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)



Leviticus 17-27

- ❖ The necessity of moral purity (18-20).
  - ❖ Punishment for Disobeying God's Laws.
    - ❖ *Bestiality* – both the person and the animal must be killed. (20:15-16)
    - ❖ *Unnatural and dangerous!* What is the origin of some venereal disease?

# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)

### Leviticus 17-27



### ❖ The necessity of moral purity (18-20).

#### ❖ Punishment for Disobeying God's Laws.

❖ *Incest is described in all of its different forms and listed as a capital crime. He who does so is "guilty of a major sin" (20:17).*

❖ *Some were forbidden but not a punishable offense by the community. The offspring however would have no hereditary privileges in Israel (20:20).*

❖ *Sex during a woman's period was forbidden because they have exposed the source of her blood (Lev 20:18).*

# Leviticus (1-27)

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## Lessons from Leviticus



What do we learn from this study that is relevant today?



# Leviticus (1-27)

## Contents of Leviticus: (Holiness Code)



### Leviticus 17-27

- ❖ The importance of blood (17).
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- ❖ Blessings & Cursings (26).
- ❖ Vows & Tithes (27).

Next  
week:  
Lev 21-23