

Leviticus

Leviticus immediately follows Exodus in the Hebrew Bible, and continues the account of the Israelites in the Sinai wilderness. Most of Leviticus is devoted to ritual legislation and cultic rules. Its rabbinic name is *torat kohanim*, which means "instructions of priests." Since priests came from the tribe of Levi, the **Levites**, the book came to be called Leviticus.

Story Line

Leviticus is presented almost entirely as the speeches of Yahweh to Moses at the tent of meeting, a shrine used solely as the meeting place of Moses and God.

Outline of Leviticus

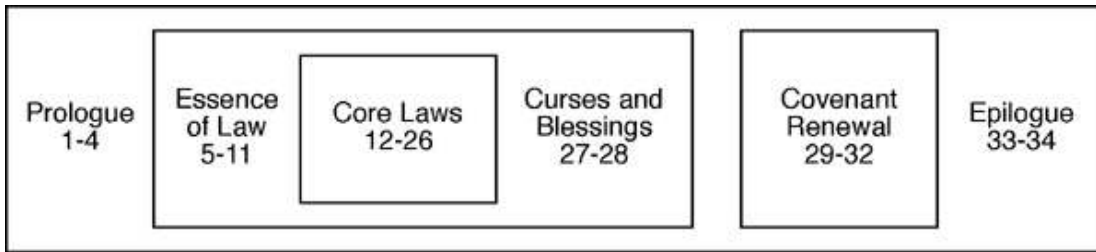
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Holiness Continuum					
	Very Holy	Holy	Clean	Unclean	Very Unclean
Places	holy of holies	holy place	court	camp	outside the camp
People	high priest	priest	Levites, clean Israelites	minor impurities	major impurities, the dead
Rituals	sacrifice (not eaten)	sacrifice (priests eat)	sacrifice (non-priests eat)	purification (1 day)	purification (7 days)
Times	Day of Atonement	festivals, Sabbath	common days		

Sacrifices					
Offering	Hebrew	Item	Purpose	Leviticus	
whole burnt	<i>'olah</i>	whole animal	gift to God	<u>1:3-17</u>	
grain	<i>minchah</i>	flour and oil	gift to God	<u>2:1-16</u>	
peace	<i>shelamim</i>	unblemished animal	fellowship	<u>3:1-17</u>	
purification	<i>chatta't</i>	bull, goat, lamb, doves, pigeons	purification after involuntary impurity	<u>4:1-5:13</u>	
reparation	<i>'asham</i>	ram	restitution for deliberate acts	<u>5:14-26</u>	

Feasts and Holy Times					
Sacred Time	Hebrew Name	Agricultural Occasion	Historical Association	Biblical Reference	Festival Scroll
Feast of Passover (Feast of Unleavened Bread)	<i>pesach</i>	Spring barley harvest	The Exodus: deliverance from bondage and freedom	<u>Exod. 12:6,</u> <u>Lev. 23:5-8,</u> <u>Num. 28:16-25,</u> <u>Deut. 16:1-8</u>	<u>Song of Songs</u>
Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)	<i>shavuot</i>	Summer wheat harvest		<u>Exod. 34:26,</u> <u>Lev. 23:9-21,</u> <u>Num. 28:26-31</u>	<u>Ruth</u>
Trumpets	<i>teruah</i>		God's revelation at Sinai (?)	<u>Lev. 23:23-25,</u> <u>Num. 29:1-6</u>	
Day of Atonement	<i>yom kippur</i>			<u>Lev. 16,</u> <u>23:26-32,</u> <u>Num. 29:7-11</u>	
Feast of Booths (Feast of Ingathering)	<i>sukkot</i>	Autumn harvest	Wilderness wandering, harvest	<u>Exod. 23:16,</u> <u>Lev. 23:33-36,</u> <u>Deut. 16:13-15</u>	<u>Ecclesiastes</u>
Purin	<i>Purim</i>		Deliverance during the Persian period	Esther 16:5	
Lights	<i>Hanukkah</i>	Winter solstice	Rededication of the Temple	1 Maccabees	

Deuteronomy



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