

## LEVITICUS

### Conversational Version

#### Burnt Offering from the Flock

**1:1**The LORD called to Moses from the Tent of Meeting and told him,

*2 “When you take an offering to the LORD, take it from the herd or flock. 3 For a burnt offering from the herd, offer a male without defect. Offer it at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting 4 and put your hand on its head to make it acceptable to atone for you. 5 Slaughter the young bull, and the sons of Aaron, the priests, will offer up its blood and sprinkle it around on the altar at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. 6 Skin the burnt offering and butcher it. 7 The sons of Aaron will put fire on the altar, arrange wood on the fire, 8 and arrange the pieces, head, and fat on the wood. 9 But you’ll wash its entrails and legs, and the priest will offer it up in smoke for a burnt offering,*

**Lev 1:1-9**

*10 “If your burnt offering is a sheep or goat from the flock, it’ll be without defect. 11 Slaughter it on the north side of the altar in front of the LORD, and the sons of Aaron will sprinkle its blood around on the altar. 12 Then butcher it with its head and fat, and the priests will arrange the pieces on the wood on the altar. 13 You’ll wash the entrails and legs, and the priest will offer it up in smoke for a burnt offering on the altar, an aroma pleasing to the LORD.*

**Lev 1:10-13**

#### Burnt Offering of Birds

*14 “If it’s a burnt offering of birds, bring an offering of a turtledove or young pigeon. 15 The priest will take it to the altar, wring its neck, and offer it up in smoke. He’ll drain out its blood on the side of the altar, 16 take away its crop and feathers, and cast it on the east side of the altar toward the place for the ashes. 17 Then he’ll tear it by its wings—but not cut it in two—and offer it up in smoke on the altar. It’s a burnt offering, an aroma pleasing to the LORD.*

**Lev 1:14-17**

#### Grain Offerings

**2:1**“A **grain offering** to the LORD will consist of fine flour with olive oil and frankincense added. **2**Take it to the sons of Aaron the priests. The priest will take a handful of the mix and offer it up in smoke on the altar as God’s portion, an aroma pleasing to the LORD. **3**The rest is for Aaron and his sons, something most holy of the offerings to the LORD by fire.

**Lev 2:1-3**

*4 “When you bring a grain offering baked in an oven, it’ll be flat cakes of fine flour mixed with olive oil or wafers with no yeast in them, basted with olive oil.*

**5** If you make it on a griddle, make it out of fine flour without yeast and mixed with olive oil. **6** Break it up into pieces and pour the oil on it. **7** If you make your grain offering in a pan, make it out of fine flour mixed with olive oil. **8** When you bring a grain offering like that, present it to the priest at the altar. **9** He'll take out God's portion and offer it up in smoke by fire, an aroma pleasing to the **LORD**. **10** The rest is for Aaron and his sons, something most holy from the offerings to the **LORD** by fire.

Lev 2:4-10

**11** "Don't put yeast or honey in grain offerings. **12** For an offering of the first part of the harvest, bring it to the **LORD**, but it's not to rise up as a pleasing aroma on the altar. **13** Season grain offerings with salt to put the salt of your God's covenant in them.

**14** "If you bring a grain offering of the first part of the harvest, bring heads of crushed new growth roasted in fire, **15** and put olive oil and incense on them.

**16** The priest will offer them up in smoke as God's portion.

Lev 2:11-16

## Peace Offerings

**3:1** "If you're offering a **peace offering**, offer from the herd a male or female without defect. **2** Put your hand on its head and slaughter it at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. The sons of Aaron will sprinkle its blood around on the altar. **3** From the sacrifice the priest will present an offering by fire to the **LORD**: the fat around and on the entrails, **4** the two kidneys in the loins and their fat, and the lobe of the liver that he'll remove with the kidneys. **5** The sons of Aaron will offer up in smoke the burnt offering that's on the wood over the fire, an aroma pleasing to the **LORD**.

Lev 3:1-5

**6** "If your peace offering comes from the flock, offer a male or female without defect. **7** If it's a lamb, **8** put your hand on its head and slaughter it in front of the Tent of Meeting. The sons of Aaron will sprinkle its blood around on the altar. **9** From the sacrifice he'll remove the entire fat tail close to the backbone, the fat that's around and on the entrails, **10** the two kidneys in the loins with their fat, and the lobe of the liver that he'll remove with the kidneys. **11** The priest will offer it up in smoke on the altar as food, an offering by fire to the **LORD**.

Lev 3:6-11

**12** "If your offering is a goat, **13** put your hand on its head and slaughter it in front of the Tent of Meeting. The sons of Aaron will sprinkle its blood around on the altar. **14** From it the priest will present an offering by fire to the **LORD**: the fat around and on the entrails, **15** the two kidneys in the loins with their fat, and the lobe

*of the liver that he'll remove with the kidneys.* <sup>16</sup>*The priest will offer them up in smoke on the altar as food, an offering by fire for a pleasing aroma.*

*"The fat belongs to the LORD. <sup>17</sup>It's an ongoing permanent statute everywhere: don't eat fat or blood."*

Lev 3:12-17

## Sin Offerings

**4:1-2** The LORD told Moses to tell Israel,

*"If an anointed priest sins unintentionally <sup>3</sup>and brings guilt on the people, he needs to offer to the LORD a bull without defect as a **sin offering**. <sup>4</sup>He is to take it to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, put his hand on its head, and slaughter it. <sup>5</sup>The anointed priest will take some of its blood to the Tent of Meeting, <sup>6</sup>dip his finger in it, and sprinkle it seven times in front of the LORD in front of the sanctuary curtain. <sup>7</sup>He'll put some of it on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense, and pour the rest at the base of the altar that's at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.*

Lev 4:1-7

*<sup>8</sup>He'll remove from the bull the fat of the sin offering: the fat around and on the entrails, <sup>9</sup>the two kidneys in the loins with their fat, and the lobe of the liver, which he'll remove with the kidneys <sup>10</sup>(like it's removed from the herd animal in the sacrifice for peace offerings), and the priest will offer them up in smoke on the altar of burnt offering. <sup>11</sup>But everything else—the bull's hide, meat, head, legs, entrails, and refuse—<sup>12</sup>he'll take to a ceremonially clean place outside the camp where they pour ashes and burn it on wood.*

Lev 4:8-12

**13** *"If the whole community sins without realizing it, <sup>14</sup>when it does become known, the assembly will offer a bull for a sin offering and take it to the Tent of Meeting. <sup>15</sup>The elders of the community will put their hands on its head and slaughter it in front of the LORD. <sup>16</sup>The anointed priest will take some of its blood to the Tent of Meeting, <sup>17</sup>dip his finger in it, and sprinkle it seven times in front of the curtain. <sup>18</sup>He'll put some on the horns of the altar and pour the rest at the base of the altar that's at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. <sup>19</sup>He'll offer up its fat in smoke on the altar, <sup>20</sup>and do with the bull what he did with the bull for the sin offering. The priest will atone for the assembly, and they'll be forgiven. <sup>21</sup>Then he'll take the bull outside the camp and burn it like he did the first bull. It's a sin offering for the assembly.*

Lev 4:13-21

**22** *"When a leader unintentionally does something the LORD forbids <sup>23</sup>and then realizes it, he's to bring a male goat without a defect, <sup>24</sup>put his hand on its head, and slaughter it where they slaughter the burnt offering to the LORD; it's a sin offering. <sup>25</sup>The priest will take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the*

*horns of the altar for a burnt offering. He'll pour the rest at the base of the altar,  
 26 and offer up its fat in smoke on the altar as with the fat of a peace offering. The  
 priest will atone for him, and he'll be forgiven.*

Lev 4:22-26

*27 "If any of the common people sin unintentionally 28 and then realize it,  
 they'll bring a female goat without defect. 29 They'll put a hand on its head and  
 slaughter it at the place for the burnt offering. 30 The priest will take some of its  
 blood with his finger and put it on the horns of the altar for a burnt offering. He'll  
 pour the rest at the base of the altar. 31 He'll remove its fat as with a peace offering  
 and offer it up in smoke on the altar for an aroma pleasing to the LORD. The priest  
 will atone for them, and they'll be forgiven.*

Lev 4:27-31

*32 "If they bring a lamb for a sin offering, it's to be a female without defect.  
 33 They'll put their hand on its head and slaughter it where they slaughter the burnt  
 offering. 34 The priest will take some of its blood with his finger and put it on the  
 horns of the altar of burnt offering, and pour the rest at the base of the altar. 35 Then  
 he'll remove its fat as with a peace offering and offer it up in smoke on the altar.  
 The priest will atone for them, and they'll be forgiven.*

Lev 4:32-35

## Sins Requiring Sin Offerings

*5:1 "If you receive a summons to testify about something you've seen or  
 otherwise known and you don't do it, you're considered guilty. 2 If you touch  
 anything ceremonially unclean, even unintentionally—swarming things or the  
 carcass of an unclean animal—you're considered defiled. 3 If you unintentionally  
 touch such human uncleanness and then realize it, you're considered defiled. 4 If  
 you swear rashly to do good or bad and come to realize it, you're considered guilty.  
 5 When you become guilty, report what you've done 6 and bring a female lamb or  
goat as a guilt offering. The priest will atone for you.*

Lev 5:1-6

*7 "If you can't afford a lamb, bring two turtledoves or young pigeons. 8 The  
 priest will offer one as a sin offering. He'll wring its neck, but not pull it off. 9 He'll  
 sprinkle some of its blood on the side of the altar and pour out the rest at the base  
 of the altar—a sin offering. 10 He'll prepare the second bird as a burnt offering  
 according to the ordinance. The priest will atone for you, and you'll be forgiven.*

Lev 5:7-10

*11 "If you can't afford two turtledoves or young pigeons, take .11 bushel<sup>1</sup>  
 ephah of fine flour for a sin offering. Don't put olive oil or incense on it; it's a sin  
 offering. 12 Take a handful of it to the priest as God's portion to offer up in smoke  
 on the altar as a sin offering. 13 The priest will atone for you in one of those ways  
 and you'll be forgiven. The rest is for the priest—like a grain offering. ''*

**Lev 5:11-13**

### Guilt Offering

**14**The LORD told Moses,

**15**“If you sin unintentionally against the LORD’s holy property, take a guilt offering to the LORD: a ram without defect according to your evaluation in silver shekels of the sanctuary. **16**Pay compensation for your sin, add a fifth, and give it to the priests. The priest will atone for you with the ram, and you’ll be forgiven.

**Lev 5:14-16**

**17**“If you sin unintentionally by doing anything the LORD forbids, you’re still considered guilty and will take your punishment. **18**Take the priest a ram without defect according to your valuation for a guilt offering. The priest will atone for your unintentional sin, and you’ll be forgiven. **19**It’s a guilt offering; the LORD has certainly considered you guilty.”

**Lev 5:17-19**

**6:1**The LORD told Moses,

**2**“If you act unfaithfully against the LORD and deceive your companion—about a deposit, a security entrusted to you, something you stole or extorted from someone, **3**have found that was lost and lied about it and sworn falsely, or sin in any way like that—**4**then you need to return what you stole, what you got by extortion, what was entrusted to you, what lost thing you found, **5**or anything you swore about falsely. Add a fifth and give it to the one it belongs to when you present your guilt offering. **6**Then take to the priest your offering to the LORD, a ram without defect, as you evaluate for a guilt offering. **7**The priest will atone for you to the LORD, and you’ll be forgiven.”

**Lev 6:1-7**

### Burnt Offering

**8**The LORD told Moses to tell Aaron and his sons,

**9**“This is the law for the burnt offering. The burnt offering will remain on the hearth on the altar all night till morning. The altar fire will always be burning.

**10**The priest will put on his linen robe and underclothes, take up the ashes of the burnt offering, and place them beside the altar. **11**Then he’ll change clothes and carry the ashes outside the camp to a ceremonially clean place. **12**He’ll burn wood on the altar every morning, lay out the burnt offering on it, and offer up in smoke the fat portions of the peace offerings. [**13**]

**Lev 6:8-13**

### Guilt Offering

**14**“This is the law for the grain offering. The descendants of Aaron will present it at the altar. **15**One of them will take a handful of the fine flour from the

*grain offering with its olive oil and incense, and offer it up in smoke on the altar, a pleasing aroma, as God's portion.* <sup>16</sup>*Aaron and his sons will eat the rest. They'll eat it as cakes without yeast in a holy place, in the court of the Tent of Meeting.* <sup>17</sup>*It will not be baked with yeast. I've given it as their share of my offerings by fire. It's most holy—like the sin offering and guilt offering.* <sup>18</sup>*Any male descendant of Aaron can eat it. It's a permanent ordinance among the offerings by fire to the LORD. Whoever touches them becomes holy.*"

**Lev 6:14-18**

<sup>19</sup>The LORD told Moses,

<sup>20</sup>*"This is the offering Aaron and his sons are to present to the LORD the day he's anointed: .11 bushel <sup>1</sup> ephah of fine flour as a regular grain offering, half in the morning and half in the evening.* <sup>21</sup>*Prepare it with olive oil on a griddle. Take it when it's well stirred,* <sup>22</sup>*and the anointed priest will offer it. By permanent ordinance it will all be offered up in smoke to the LORD.* <sup>23</sup>*Likewise, completely burn every grain offering. Don't eat any of it."*

**Lev 6:19-23**

## Sin Offering

<sup>24-25</sup>The LORD told Moses to say to Aaron and his sons,

<sup>25</sup>*"This is the law for the sin offering. Where the burnt offering is slaughtered, the sin offering will be slaughtered in front of the LORD.* <sup>26</sup>*The priest that offers it will eat it in a holy place in the court of the Tent of Meeting.* <sup>27</sup>*Anybody that touches it will become consecrated. If any of the blood splashes on a vestment, wash it off in a holy place* <sup>28</sup>*and smash the clay pot it was boiled in. If it was boiled in a bronze container, scour it and rinse it in water.* <sup>29</sup>*Any male priest can eat it; it's most holy.* <sup>30</sup>*Do not eat a sin offering that has any blood brought to the Tent of Meeting to make atonement in the Holy Place; burn it.*

**Lev 6:24-30**

## Guilt Offering

<sup>7:1</sup>*"This is the law for the guilt offering; it's most holy.* <sup>2</sup>*They're to kill the guilt offering where they kill the burnt offering. The priest will sprinkle its blood around on the altar.* <sup>3</sup>*Then he'll offer its fat: the fat tail, the fat that covers the entrails,* <sup>4</sup>*the two kidneys in the loins with the fat that's on them, and the lobe on the liver.* <sup>5</sup>*The priest will offer them up in smoke on the altar as an offering by fire to the LORD.* <sup>6</sup>*Any male among the priests can eat it in a holy place.* <sup>7</sup>*The same law applies to the guilt offering and sin offering. The priest that makes atonement with*

*it will have it.* <sup>8</sup>*The priest that presents anybody's burnt offering also gets its skin.*  
*9Every grain offering that's baked in an oven or prepared in a pan or on a griddle is for the priest that presents it.* <sup>10</sup>*Every grain offering, dry or mixed with olive oil, will be for any of Aaron's descendants.*

Lev 7:1-10

### Fellowship Offering

<sup>11</sup>*"This is the law for a peace offering. <sup>12</sup>If you offer it as a thanksgiving, then along with it, offer cakes without yeast mixed with olive oil, wafers without yeast anointed with olive oil, and cakes of stirred fine flour mixed with olive oil.*  
*<sup>13</sup>Present your offering with cakes of bread without yeast. <sup>14</sup>Present one of each offering as a contribution to the LORD. It belongs to the priest that sprinkles the blood from the peace offerings.*

Lev 7:11-14

<sup>15</sup>*"Eat the meat from a thanksgiving peace offering the day it's offered. Don't leave any of it till morning. <sup>16</sup>If it's an offering for fulfilling a vow or a freewill offering, eat it that day or the next. <sup>17</sup>Burn any meat that's left over till the third day. <sup>18</sup>If you eat meat from it on the third day, you will not be accepted. It's an offense that makes you guilty.*

Lev 7:15-18

<sup>19</sup>*"Don't eat meat that touches anything ceremonially unclean; burn it. Otherwise, anybody that is clean can eat it. <sup>20</sup>But an unclean person that eats the meat from a peace offering will be excluded from the community. <sup>21</sup>Anybody that touches something unclean—human, animal, or something detestable—and then eats the meat from a peace offering, will be excluded from the community."*

Lev 7:19-21

<sup>22-23</sup>*The LORD told Moses to tell Israel,*

*"Don't eat the fat from an ox, sheep, or goat <sup>24</sup>or from an animal that dies or wild animals tear apart. Put it to other uses. <sup>25</sup>Whoever eats the fat of an animal offered by fire to the LORD will be excluded from the community. <sup>26</sup>Don't eat the blood of any bird or animal at home. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does, will be excluded from the community."*

Lev 7:22-27

<sup>28-29</sup>*The LORD told Moses to say to Israel,*

*"When you offer a peace offering, take it to the LORD <sup>30</sup>with the breast and fat of the animal so you can present it with your hands as a wave offering to the LORD. <sup>31</sup>The priest will offer up the fat in smoke on the altar, but the breast will be for Aaron and his sons. <sup>32</sup>Give the right thigh to the priest as a contribution from the peace offering. <sup>33</sup>That portion is for the one that offers its blood and fat. <sup>34</sup>I've taken the breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the contribution from the*

*people's peace offerings, and given them to Aaron the priest and his sons as their permanent due from the people.*

Lev 7:28-34

**35**“That's what God has consecrated to Aaron and his sons from the offerings by fire to the LORD when he presents them to serve as priests. **36**The LORD commanded the Israelites to give them from the day he anointed them. It's their permanent due.”

**37**That's the law for the burnt offering, grain offering, sin offering, guilt offering, ordination offering, and peace offering. **38**It's what the LORD commanded Moses at Mount Sinai when he told the Israelites to present their offerings to the LORD in the Wilderness of Sinai.

Lev 7:35-38

### The Ordination of Aaron and His Sons

**8:1**The LORD told Moses,

**2**“Take Aaron and his sons, their vestments and anointing oil, the bull for the sin offering, the 2 rams, and the basket of bread containing no yeast, **3**and gather the community at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.”

**4**When they came, **5**Moses told them, “*The LORD has commanded this.*” Lev 8:1-5

**6**Moses had Aaron and his sons come near and bathed them. **7**He put the tunic and sash on Aaron, dressed him in the robe, put the ephod on him, and tied it on with the artistic band of the ephod. **8**He placed the pouch on him and put the Urim and the Thummim in it. **9**He placed the turban on his head, and on the front of the turban he put the golden plate, the holy crown.

**10**He took the anointing oil and anointed the Tabernacle and everything in it. **11**He sprinkled it on the altar seven times and anointed its utensils, the basin, and its stand to consecrate them.

**12**He poured some anointing oil on Aaron's head to consecrate him. **13**Next, he had Aaron's sons approach, dressed them with tunics, wrapped them with sashes, and tied caps on them. Lev 8:6-13

**14**He brought the bull for the sin offering, and Aaron and his sons put their hands on its head. **15**He slaughtered *it*, and with his finger put some of its blood on the horns of the altar to purify it. He poured *the rest* at the base of the altar and consecrated it, to atone for it. **16**He took the two kidneys with the fat on the kidneys, entrails, and lobe of the liver and offered them up in smoke on the altar. **17**He burned the bull, its hide, meat, and refuse in the fire outside the camp.

Lev 8:14-17

**18**Then he presented the ram for the burnt offering, and Aaron and his sons put their hands on its head. **19**He slaughtered it and sprinkled its blood on the altar. **20**When he'd cut the ram into pieces, he offered up the head, the pieces, and the suet in smoke. **21**After he'd washed its entrails and legs, he offered up the whole ram in smoke on the altar. It was a burnt offering for a pleasing aroma, an offering by fire to the LORD.

Lev 8:18-21

<sup>22</sup>He presented the second ram, the ram of ordination. Aaron and his sons put their hands on its head. <sup>23</sup>Moses slaughtered *it* and put some of its blood on Aaron's right earlobe, right thumb, and right big toe. <sup>24</sup>He had Aaron's sons approach. He put some of the blood on their right earlobes, right thumbs, and right big toes. He sprinkled *the rest* around on the altar. <sup>25</sup>He took the fat, the fat tail, the fat on the entrails, the lobe of the liver, the two kidneys and their fat, and the right thigh. <sup>26</sup>From the basket of bread without yeast in front of the LORD, he took a cake containing no yeast, a cake of bread mixed with olive oil, and a wafer, and placed them on the portion of fat and on the right thigh. <sup>27</sup>He put them on the hands of Aaron and his sons, and presented them as a wave offering to the LORD. <sup>28</sup>Moses took them from their hands and offered them up in smoke on the altar with the burnt offering. They were an ordination offering to the LORD by fire for a pleasing aroma. <sup>29</sup>He presented the breast as a wave offering. It was Moses' portion of the ordination ram.

Lev 8:22-29

<sup>30</sup>Moses took some anointing oil and blood that was on the altar, and sprinkled it on Aaron, his clothes, his sons, and their clothes to consecrate them and their clothes.

<sup>31</sup>Moses told Aaron and his sons,

*"Boil the meat at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and eat it there with the bread that's in the basket of the ordination offering like I commanded. <sup>32</sup>Burn the rest of the meat and bread. <sup>33</sup>Don't go outside the Tent of Meeting for a week, till you fulfill your period of ordination; he'll ordain you over the seven-day period. <sup>34</sup>The LORD commanded to do as we've done today to atone for you. <sup>35</sup>Stay at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting for a week and keep the LORD's charge so you won't die; that's what I've commanded."*

<sup>36</sup>Aaron and his sons did everything the LORD commanded by Moses.

Lev 8:30-36

### The Priests Begin Their Service

<sup>9:1</sup>On the eighth day, Moses called Aaron, his sons, and the elders in Israel. <sup>2</sup>He told Aaron, "Take a bull calf for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering—both without defect—and offer them to the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then tell the Israelites, 'Take a male goat for a sin offering, a year-old calf and lamb without defect for a burnt offering, <sup>4</sup>an ox and ram for peace offerings, and a grain offering mixed with olive oil because the LORD is going to appear to you today.'"

<sup>5</sup>They took what Moses commanded to the front of the Tent of Meeting. The whole community came and stood in front of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>Moses said, "The LORD has told you to do that so his glory can appear to you." <sup>7</sup>He told Aaron, "Come to the altar and offer your sin offering and burnt offering so you can atone for yourself. Then make the offerings to atone for the people."

Lev 9:1-7

<sup>8</sup>Aaron came to the altar and slaughtered the calf for the sin offering for himself. <sup>9</sup>His sons handed him the blood. He dipped his finger in it, put it on the horns of the altar, and poured *the rest* at the base of the altar. <sup>10</sup>Then he offered up in smoke the fat, kidneys, and lobe of the liver; <sup>11</sup>but he burned the meat and skin outside the camp.

<sup>12</sup>He slaughtered the burnt offering. His sons handed him the blood, and he sprinkled it around on the altar. <sup>13</sup>They handed him the burnt offering in pieces with the head, and he offered *them* up in smoke. <sup>14</sup>He washed the entrails and legs and offered *them* up in smoke with the burnt offering.

Lev 9:8-14

<sup>15</sup>He presented the people's offering. He slaughtered the goat for the sin offering and offered it like the first. <sup>16</sup>He also presented the burnt offering as required by the Law. <sup>17</sup>Next, he offered up in smoke a handful of the grain offering on the altar—in addition to the morning's burnt offering.

<sup>18</sup>Then he slaughtered the ox and the ram, peace offerings for the people. Aaron's sons handed him the blood, and he sprinkled it around on the altar. <sup>19-20</sup>On the breasts they placed the fat from the ox and the ram—the fat tail, fat covering, kidneys, and lobe of the liver. He offered them up in smoke. <sup>21</sup>But Aaron presented the breasts and right thigh as a wave offering to the *LORD*—like Moses had commanded.

<sup>22</sup>Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them. After he made the sin offering, burnt offering, and peace offerings, he stepped down. <sup>23</sup>He and Moses went into the Tent of Meeting. When they came out and blessed the people, the glory of the *LORD* appeared to them. <sup>24</sup>Fire came out from the *LORD* and consumed the burnt offering and the portions of fat on the altar. When the people saw *it*, they cried out and fell on their faces.

Lev 9:15-24

### The Death of Nadab and Abihu

<sup>10:1</sup>Nadab and Abihu, Aaron's sons, put fire in their firepans. They put incense on it and offered before the *LORD* fire different from what he'd commanded them. <sup>2</sup>Fire came out from the *LORD* and consumed them, and they died. <sup>3</sup>Moses told Aaron, “*That's what the *LORD* meant when he said,*

*'Those who come near me will treat me as holy  
in front of the people.'*”

So Aaron kept quiet.

<sup>4</sup>Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Aaron's uncle Uzziel, “*Carry your relatives outside the camp from in front of the sanctuary.*” <sup>5</sup>They carried them outside the camp still in their tunics. <sup>6</sup>Then Moses told Aaron and his sons Eleazar and Ithamar,

*“Don't uncover your heads or tear your clothes so you won't die and make  
him angry with the whole community. But your kin, the whole House of Israel, will*

wail over the burning the LORD brought about.<sup>7</sup>Don't even go out of the Tent of Meeting; you'll die because the LORD's anointing oil is on you."

They did what Moses said.

**Lev 10:1-7**

<sup>8</sup>The LORD told Aaron,

<sup>9</sup>"Don't drink wine or alcohol when you or your sons come into the Tent of Meeting so you won't die—an ongoing permanent statute.<sup>10</sup>That's to distinguish the holy from the profane, the ceremonially clean from unclean.<sup>11</sup>It's to teach the Israelites the statutes the LORD has given them through Moses."

<sup>12</sup>Then Moses told Aaron and his surviving sons Eleazar and Ithamar,

"Take the grain offering that's left over from the LORD's offerings by fire and eat it without yeast beside the altar; it's most holy.<sup>13</sup>Eat it in a holy place; it's for you and your sons from the LORD's offerings by fire. That's what God commanded me.<sup>14</sup>The breast and thigh of the wave offering, however, you and your sons and daughters can eat in a clean place; those parts are for you and your offspring.<sup>15</sup>The thigh offered by lifting up and the breast offered by waving, they'll take with the burnt offerings of the fat portions to present in a wave offering before the LORD. It's for you and your sons permanently."

**Lev 10:8-15**

<sup>16</sup>Moses looked all over for the goat from the sin offering, but it had been burned up. He was mad at Aaron's surviving sons Eleazar and Ithamar,

<sup>17</sup>"Why didn't you eat the sin offering at the holy place? It's most holy, and the LORD gave it to you to carry away the guilt of the community, to atone for them.

<sup>18</sup>Since its blood hadn't been brought into the sanctuary, you should have eaten it in the sanctuary like I commanded."

<sup>19</sup>But Aaron told Moses,

"This very day they presented their sin offering and burnt offering to the LORD. But this tragedy has happened to me. If I'd eaten a sin offering today, would the LORD have considered it good?"

<sup>20</sup>That made sense to Moses.

**Lev 10:16-20**

### Ceremonially Clean and Unclean Animals

**11:1-2**Again the LORD told Moses and Aaron to tell the Israelites,

"You can eat animals<sup>3</sup>that have a split hoof and chew cud.<sup>4-6</sup>Don't eat anything that just chews cud or only has a split hoof: a camel or rock-badger or rabbit.<sup>7</sup>Don't eat a pig; it has a split hoof but doesn't chew cud.<sup>8</sup>Don't eat their meat or touch their carcasses; they're ceremonially unclean."

**Lev 11:1-8**

<sup>9</sup>“You can eat anything in the water—seas and rivers—that has fins and scales. <sup>10-11</sup>Any marine life that doesn’t have fins and scales is repulsive to you; detest their carcasses. [<sup>12</sup>]

<sup>13</sup>“Detest these birds and don’t eat them: eagles, vultures, buzzards, <sup>14</sup>kites, falcons of any kind, <sup>15</sup>ravens of any kind, <sup>16</sup>ostriches, owls, sea gulls, hawks of any kind, <sup>17</sup>little owls, cormorants, ibises, <sup>18</sup>water hens, pelicans, carrion vultures, <sup>19</sup>storks, herons of any kind, hoopoes, or bats.

<sup>20</sup>“Detest most winged insects that walk on four legs. <sup>21</sup>Eat only the ones that have jointed legs and hop on the ground: <sup>22</sup>any kind of locust, cricket, or grasshopper. [<sup>23</sup>]

Lev 11:9-23

<sup>24</sup>“Touching a carcass makes you ceremonially unclean. <sup>25</sup>If you pick it up, you have to wash your clothes and be unclean until evening. <sup>26</sup>Touching a ceremonially unclean animal—that doesn’t chew cud and split hoofs—makes you unclean. <sup>27</sup>Any four-footed animal that walks on paws is ceremonially unclean. Touching its carcass makes you unclean. <sup>28</sup>If you pick it up, wash your clothes and be unclean till evening.

Lev 11:24-28

<sup>29</sup>“These things that crawl on the ground are ceremonially unclean: moles, mice, big lizards of any kind, <sup>30</sup>gechos, crocodiles, lizards, sand lizards of any kind, and chameleons. <sup>31</sup>Whoever touches them when they’re dead is unclean till evening. <sup>32</sup>Anything they fall on when they’re dead is also unclean: wooden articles, clothes, skins, sacks, anything you use. Put them in water till evening, and they’ll be clean.

Lev 11:29-32

<sup>33</sup>“Any clay container that one of these ceremonially unclean things falls into is ceremonially unclean. Break it. <sup>34</sup>Any food in it that water gets on is likewise unclean. Water or any liquid a person might drink in any container becomes unclean. <sup>35</sup>Anything that part of their carcass falls on becomes unclean. Smash an oven or stove; they’re permanently unclean. <sup>36</sup>A spring or cistern that collects water is clean even though the one that has touched their carcasses is unclean. <sup>37</sup>If any part of their carcass falls on any seed for sowing, it’s clean. <sup>38</sup>But, if water gets on that seed, it’s ceremonially unclean.

Lev 11:33-38

<sup>39</sup>“If an animal dies that you have for food, touching its carcass makes you ceremonially unclean till evening. <sup>40</sup>If you pick it up or eat some of it, wash your clothes and be unclean till evening.

Lev 11:39-40

<sup>41</sup>“Don’t eat anything that crawls on the ground: <sup>42</sup>anything that crawls on its belly, walks on four legs, or has many feet is detestable. <sup>43</sup>Don’t make yourselves

*ceremonially unclean by them.* <sup>44</sup>*Consecrate yourselves and be holy.* <sup>45</sup>*I'm the LORD that brought you up from Egypt to be your God. Be holy because I'm holy."*

<sup>46</sup>That's the law about animals, birds, marine life, or what crawls on the ground <sup>47</sup>so you can distinguish ceremonially clean from unclean, edible from not edible.

**Lev 11:41-47**

### Purification After Childbirth

**12:1-2**The LORD told Moses to tell Israel,

*"When a woman has a boy, she's ceremonially unclean for a week like during her menstruation. <sup>3</sup>On the eighth day, circumcise his foreskin. <sup>4</sup>For 33 more days, she'll be impure from her bleeding at childbirth. She's not to touch anything consecrated or enter the sanctuary until after her purification time. <sup>5</sup>If she has a girl, she's ceremonially unclean for two weeks like during menstruation. For 66 more days, she'll be impure from her bleeding at childbirth."*

**Lev 12:1-5**

<sup>6</sup>*"When her purification days are over for a son or daughter, she'll take to the priest at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting, a year-old lamb for a burnt offering and a young pigeon or turtledove for a sin offering. <sup>7</sup>He'll offer it to the LORD for her purification, and she'll be ceremonially cleansed from her bleeding at childbirth. That's the law for a woman that has a male or female child. <sup>8</sup>If she can't afford a lamb, she can take two turtledoves or young pigeons, one for a burnt offering, the other for a sin offering. The priest will offer them for her, and she'll be ceremonially clean."*

**Lev 12:6-8**

### Tests for Serious Skin Diseases

**13:1**The LORD told Moses and Aaron,

<sup>2</sup>*"When any of you has a swelling, rash, or skin discoloration that could become leprosy, go to Aaron the priest or one of his sons as priests. <sup>3</sup>He'll examine the spot. If the hair in the spot has turned white and the infection appears to be deeper than the skin, it's leprosy. The priest will pronounce you unclean. <sup>4</sup>But if the discoloration doesn't appear to go that deep and the hair on it hasn't turned white, the priest will quarantine you for a week <sup>5</sup>and examine it on the seventh day. If the spot has changed or spread, he'll quarantine you for another week <sup>6</sup>and examine it again. If the spot has faded and not spread, he'll pronounce you ceremonially clean; it's just a rash. Wash your clothes and be clean."*

**Lev 13:1-6**

<sup>7</sup>*"But if the rash spreads, go to the priest again, <sup>8</sup>and he'll pronounce you unclean. It's leprosy."*

<sup>9</sup>*"If you get leprosy, you need to go to the priest <sup>10</sup>to be examined. If there's a white swelling in the skin that has turned the hair white and there are open sores*

*in the swelling, <sup>11</sup>it's chronic leprosy. The priest will pronounce you unclean. He won't quarantine because you're definitely unclean. <sup>12</sup>If the leprosy spreads from head to toe, <sup>13</sup>he'll pronounce you clean if it has all turned to normal skin color. <sup>14</sup>But if open sores appear, <sup>15</sup>it's leprosy. <sup>16</sup>If the open sores turn to normal skin color again, <sup>17</sup>the priest will pronounce you clean.*

Lev 13:7-17

*<sup>18</sup>"When a boil heals <sup>19</sup>and a discoloration or reddish-white swelling comes up in its place, show it to the priest. <sup>20</sup>If it appears to be deeper than the skin and the hair on it has turned white, he'll pronounce you unclean. It's leprosy that has broken out in the boil. <sup>21</sup>But if there aren't any white hairs in it, it's not deeper than the skin, and it's faded, you'll quarantine for a week. <sup>22</sup>If it spreads, the priest will pronounce you unclean; it's an infection. <sup>23</sup>But if the discoloration doesn't spread, it's just a scar from the boil. You're clean.*

Lev 13:18-23

*<sup>24</sup>"If your body gets a burn on the skin and an open sore becomes a bright white or reddish-white spot, <sup>25</sup>the priest needs to examine it. If the hair in the bright spot has turned white and appears to be deeper than the skin, it's leprosy that broke out of the burn. He'll pronounce you unclean. <sup>26</sup>If there's no white hair in the bright spot and it's no deeper than the skin, but has faded, you'll quarantine for a week. <sup>27</sup>The priest will examine you on the seventh day. If it spreads on the skin, he'll declare you unclean; it's leprosy. <sup>28</sup>But if the bright spot doesn't spread, but has faded, it's the swelling from the burn. The priest will declare you clean; it's just a scar from the burn.*

Lev 13:24-28

*<sup>29</sup>"If any of you, man or woman, has an infection on the head—or in the beard, <sup>30</sup>the priest needs to examine it. If it appears to be deeper than the skin and there's thin yellowish hair in it, he'll pronounce you unclean. It's a sore, leprosy of the head or beard. <sup>31</sup>But if it appears to be no deeper than the skin and there's no black hair in it, quarantine for a week. <sup>32</sup>On the seventh day, the priest will examine it. If the sore hasn't spread, no yellowish hair has grown in it, and the scale appears to be no deeper than the skin, <sup>33</sup>then shave except for the spot and quarantine for another week. <sup>34</sup>On the seventh day, the priest will examine it. If the spot hasn't spread and doesn't appear to be deeper than the skin, he'll pronounce you clean. <sup>35</sup>If the spot spreads after that cleansing, <sup>36</sup>the priest need not look for yellowish hair; you're definitely unclean. <sup>37</sup>If the priest thinks the spot hasn't spread and black hairs have grown in it, the sore has healed. He'll pronounce you ceremonially clean.*

**38** “If any of you, man or woman, has a white bright spot on the skin, **39** the priest needs to examine it. If it’s faint white, it’s eczema breaking out on the skin. You’re ceremonially clean.

Lev 13:29-39

**40** “If a man loses his hair and becomes bald; he’s clean. **41** If his head becomes bald in the front and temples and he’s bald on the forehead; he’s clean. **42** But if a reddish infection occurs on the bald head or brow, it’s leprosy breaking out. **43** The priest needs to examine him. If the swelling is reddish white, **44** he has leprosy. The priest will pronounce him unclean; it’s an infection.

Lev 13:40-44

**45** “If you’re a leper, you need to tear your clothes, uncover your head, cover your upper lip, and call out, ‘Unclean! Unclean!’ **46** You’re unclean as long as you have the infection. Live outside the camp apart from the rest of society.

### Regulations About Mildew

**47** When a piece of wool or linen cloth or clothes has mildew on it **48** as well as on any leather article, **49** if the mark is greenish or reddish, show it to the priest.

**50** He’ll examine it and quarantine it for a week. **51** Then he’ll examine it on the seventh day. If it has spread, it’s infectious and unclean. **52** Burn it.

Lev 13:45-52

**53** “But if the spot hasn’t spread, **54** the priest will have them wash it. He’ll quarantine it for another week **55** and examine it again. If the spot hasn’t changed color, it’s unclean even though it hasn’t spread. Burn it whether the spot is on the front or back.

**56** “If the priest examines it and the spot has faded after it was washed, he’ll remove it from the cloth or leather article. **57** If it appears again in the piece of cloth or leather article, it’s an outbreak. Burn the article. **58** A piece of clothes that loses the spot after it’s been washed will be washed a second time and be clean.”

**59** That’s the law for pronouncing clean or unclean a spot of mildew on any leather article or piece of wool or linen cloth.

Lev 13:53-59

### Cleansing from Skin Diseases

**14:1** The LORD told Moses,

**2** “This is the law about lepers that are ceremonially cleansed. Take them to the priest **3** outside the camp to see if the leprosy has healed. **4** He’ll give orders to take two live clean birds, cedar wood, a scarlet string, and hyssop. **5** He’ll have one bird killed in a clay basin over running water. **6** He’ll take the live bird, the cedar wood, scarlet string, and hyssop, and dip them and the live bird in the blood of the bird killed over running water. **7** Then he’ll sprinkle seven times the one to be cleansed, pronounce the person ceremonially clean, and let the live bird go free in

*an open field. <sup>8</sup>The ones cleansed will wash their clothes, shave off their hair, take a bath, and be clean. Afterwards they can go into the camp, but they'll stay outside the tent for a week. <sup>9</sup>On the seventh day, they'll shave off their hair, beard, and eyebrows; wash their clothes, take a bath, and be ceremonially clean.*   **Lev 14:1-9**

*<sup>10</sup>“On the eighth day, the one cleansed will take 2 male lambs without defect, a yearling ewe without defect, .33 bushel <sup>.3 ephah</sup> of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering, and 1 pint <sup>1 log</sup> of oil. <sup>11</sup>The priest will present them and the person to the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. <sup>12</sup>The priest will bring 1 male lamb for a guilt offering with the pint <sup>1 log</sup> of olive oil and present them as a wave offering. <sup>13</sup>He'll slaughter the male lamb where they slaughter the sin offering and burnt offering, because the guilt offering (like the sin offering) is for the priest; it's most holy. <sup>14</sup>He's to take some blood from the guilt offering and put it on the right earlobe, thumb, and big toe of the one to be cleansed. <sup>15</sup>He'll pour some of the pint <sup>log</sup> of olive oil into his left palm, <sup>16</sup>dip his right-hand finger in it, and sprinkle it seven times in front of the LORD. <sup>17</sup>Some of the oil still in his palm he'll put on the right earlobe, thumb, and big toe of the one to be cleansed—on top of the blood from the guilt offering. <sup>18</sup>The rest of the oil in his palm goes on the head of the one to be cleansed. <sup>19</sup>Next, he'll offer the sin offering to atone for the person. Last, he'll slaughter the burnt offering <sup>20</sup>and offer it up with the grain offering on the altar. Then the person will be ceremonially clean.*   **Lev 14:10-20**

*<sup>21</sup>“But someone that's poor can take 1 male lamb for a guilt offering as a wave offering for atonement, .11 bushel <sup>.1 ephah</sup> of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering, a pint <sup>log</sup> of oil, <sup>22</sup>and two turtledoves or young pigeons. One will be a sin offering, the other a burnt offering. <sup>23</sup>On the eighth day the person will take them to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. <sup>24</sup>The priest will take the lamb for the guilt offering and the pint <sup>log</sup> of olive oil and offer them for a wave offering to the LORD. <sup>25</sup>He'll slaughter the lamb for the guilt offering and put some of its blood on the right earlobe, thumb, and big toe of the one to be cleansed. <sup>26</sup>He'll pour some of the olive oil into his left palm <sup>27</sup>and with his right-hand finger sprinkle it seven times to the LORD. <sup>28</sup>He's to put some of it on the right earlobe, thumb, and big toe of the one to be cleansed—on top of the blood from the guilt offering. <sup>29</sup>The rest of the oil that's in his palm goes on the head of the one to be cleansed. <sup>30</sup>Then he'll offer one of the turtledoves or young pigeons, <sup>31</sup>one for a sin offering, the other for a burnt offering—together with the grain offering. The priest will purify the one to be cleansed.”*

<sup>32</sup>*That's the law for ceremonially cleansing someone with limited means who had a skin infection.*

Lev 14:21-32

### Cleansing from Mildew

<sup>33</sup>The LORD said further to Moses and Aaron,

<sup>34</sup>*"When you go to Canaan and I put mildew on a house, <sup>35</sup>the owner will tell the priest, 'Something like mildew has become visible in my house.' <sup>36</sup>The priest will have them empty the house before he goes in to look at the spot so everything in the house won't become unclean. <sup>37</sup>He'll go in and look at it. If the mark on the walls has greenish or reddish depressions, and appears deeper than the surface, <sup>38</sup>he'll come to the door and quarantine the house for a week. <sup>39</sup>On the seventh day, he'll inspect the house again. If the spot has spread on the walls, <sup>40</sup>he'll have them tear out the stones with the spot on them and dump them at an unclean place outside the city. <sup>41</sup>He'll have them scrape off all the plaster in the house and dump it at an unclean place outside the city. <sup>42</sup>Then they'll replace the first stones and re-plaster the house.*

Lev 14:33-42

<sup>43</sup>*"If the spot shows up again <sup>44</sup>and the priest sees it has spread, it's toxic and unclean. <sup>45</sup>He'll have them tear the house down—its stones, timbers, and plaster—and dump them outside the city in an unclean place. <sup>46</sup>Whoever goes into the house during the quarantine, becomes unclean till evening. <sup>47</sup>Likewise, whoever eats or lies down in the house will wash their clothes.*

Lev 14:43-47

<sup>48</sup>*"But, if the priest inspects the house and the spot hasn't reappeared after being re-plastered, he'll pronounce it ceremonially clean. <sup>49</sup>To cleanse the house, he'll take two birds, some cedar wood, a scarlet string, and hyssop, <sup>50</sup>and kill one bird in a clay basin over running water. <sup>51</sup>He'll take the cedar wood, hyssop, scarlet string, and live bird and dip them in the blood of the slain bird and in the running water and sprinkle the house seven times. <sup>52</sup>He'll cleanse the house with the blood of the bird and running water, along with the live bird, cedar wood, hyssop, and scarlet string. <sup>53</sup>However, he'll let the live bird loose outside the city in an open field. That way he'll purify the house, and it'll be ceremonially clean."*

<sup>54</sup>That's the law for any skin disease, scabby sores, <sup>55</sup>mildew on clothes or a house, <sup>56</sup>a swelling, rash, or discolored skin—<sup>57</sup>to determine when they're ceremonially clean or unclean. Lev 14:48-57

### Discharges That Cause Uncleanness

**15:1-2**The LORD told Moses and Aaron to say to Israel,

*"When a man has a discharge from his body, it's ceremonially unclean <sup>3</sup>whether it keeps flowing or stops on its own. <sup>4</sup>Anything he lies on or sits on is*

*unclean.* **5-6***If any of you touch his bed or anything he sits on, wash your clothes, take a bath, and be unclean till evening.* **7***Any of you that touch a person with a discharge will do the same and be unclean till evening.* **8***If someone with a discharge spits on any of you that are clean, wash your clothes, take a bath, and be unclean till evening.* **9***Any saddle a person with a discharge rides on is unclean.* **10***If any of you touch anything what was under him, wash your clothes, take a bath, and be unclean till evening.* **11***Likewise, if the one with the discharge touches any of you without rinsing his hands, wash your clothes, take a bath, and be unclean till evening.* **12***Break any clay container he touches and rinse any wooden container in water.*

Lev 15:1-12

**13***“To become ceremonially clean, a man with a discharge will count off a week for his cleansing. He’ll wash his clothes and take a bath in running water and be clean.* **14***On the eighth day, he’ll take two turtledoves or young pigeons, and give them to the priest at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.* **15***The priest will offer one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering. He’ll purify him from his discharge before the LORD.*

Lev 15:13-15

**16***“If a man has a discharge of semen, he’ll take a bath and be ceremonially unclean till evening.* **17***He’ll wash any piece of clothes or leather that has semen on it, and it’ll be unclean till evening.* **18***If a man has relations with a woman so that there’s an emission of semen, they’ll both take a bath and be unclean till evening.*

Lev 15:16-18

**19***“When a woman has her period, she’ll be in her menstrual impurity for a week. If any of you touch her, you’ll be ceremonially unclean till evening.* **20***Anything she lies on or sits on is unclean.* **[21]** **22-23***If any of you touch anything she sits on or lies on, wash your clothes, take a bath, and be unclean till evening.* **24***If a man has relations with her during her period, he’ll be unclean for a week, and any bed he lies on will be unclean.*

Lev 15:19-24

**25***“If a woman has a discharge of blood many days outside her period or beyond her period, she’ll be ceremonially unclean like during her period.* **26***Any bed she lies on or anything she sits on is unclean like during her period.* **27***If any of you touch them, you’ll be unclean. Wash your clothes, take a bath, and be unclean till evening.* **28***To become clean from her discharge, she’ll count off a week; afterward she’ll be clean.* **29***On the eighth day, she’ll take two turtledoves or young pigeons, and take them in to the priest, to the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.* **30***He’ll offer one for a sin offering and the other for a burnt offering to purify her.*

**31***“That’s how you’ll keep Israelites separated from their ceremonial uncleanness so they won’t die for defiling my Tabernacle.”*

<sup>32</sup>That law deals with anyone that has a discharge: a man that has an emission of semen, <sup>33</sup>a woman during her period, a man that lies with an unclean woman.

Lev 15:25-33

### The Day of Atonement

**16:1** After Aaron's two sons died from approaching the LORD, he told Moses,

*2 "Tell your brother Aaron not to enter the Holy Place at just any time—the place inside the curtain in front of the Mercy Seat that's on the Ark. He'll die because I'll appear in the cloud above the mercy seat. 3 He'll enter the Holy Place with a bull for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. 4 After he takes a bath, he can put on the linen holy vestments: the tunic, underclothes, sash, and turban. 5 He's to take from the community 2 male goats for a sin offering and 1 ram for a burnt offering. 6 He'll offer the bull for the sin offering to atone for himself and his family, 7 and present the 2 goats at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. 8 He'll cast lots for them, one for the LORD, the other as a scapegoat. 9 Then he'll offer the one as a sin offering to the LORD <sup>10</sup>and present the other one alive to the LORD to make atonement by sending it into the open country.*

Lev 16:1-10

*11 "Aaron will slaughter the bull as a sin offering to atone for himself and his family. 12 He'll take a firepan of coals from the altar that's in front of the LORD and two handfuls of finely ground sweet incense and carry them inside the curtain. 13 When he puts the incense on the fire, a cloud of incense will cover the mercy seat so he won't die. 14 With his finger, seven times he'll sprinkle the bull's blood in front of the Mercy Seat.*

Lev 16:11-14

*15 "Then he'll slaughter the goat as a sin offering for the people and take its blood inside the curtain. He'll do with its blood what he did with the bull's blood. 16 He'll atone for the Holy Place because of the Israelites' impurities, transgressions, and sins. He is to do the same thing for the Tent of Meeting that stands with them among their impurities. 17 When he makes atonement in the Holy Place, nobody will be in the Tent of Meeting till he comes back out, so he can atone for himself, his family, and the whole assembly. 18 Then he'll go out to the altar that's in front of the LORD and atone for it by putting some of the bull's and goat's blood on the horns of the altar. 19 With his finger he'll sprinkle blood on it seven times to cleanse it and consecrate it from the impurities of the Israelites.*

Lev 16:15-19

*20 "When he finishes atoning for the Holy Place, the Tent of Meeting, and the altar, he'll offer the live goat. 21 He'll put both hands on its head and confess over it the Israelites' iniquities, transgressions, and sins. He'll put them on the*

*goat's head and send it into the open country by a man standing by. <sup>22</sup>The goat will carry their sins to a solitary place, and the man will release it.* Lev 16:20-22

*<sup>23</sup>"Then Aaron will come into the Tent of Meeting, change out of the linen vestments, and leave them there. <sup>24</sup>He'll take a bath in a holy place, put on his own clothes, and come out to offer burnt offerings to atone for himself and the people. <sup>25</sup>He'll offer up in smoke the fat from the sin offering on the altar. <sup>26</sup>The one that released the scapegoat will wash his clothes and take a bath. Then he can come into camp. <sup>27</sup>But take outside the camp the bull and goat for the sin offering—whose blood was brought in to make atonement in the Holy Place. Burn their hides, meat, and refuse. <sup>28</sup>The one that burns them will wash his clothes and take a bath before he comes back into camp.* Lev 16:23-28

*<sup>29</sup>"This is a permanent statute: the tenth day, seventh month, you and any foreigner living among you will fast and not work. <sup>30</sup>That day, the priest will atone for your sins in front of the LORD. <sup>31</sup>It's a fast and solemn rest for you. <sup>32</sup>The priest that's anointed and ordained to serve as priest in his father's place will make atonement. He'll put on the holy linen vestments <sup>33</sup>and atone for the holy sanctuary, the Tent of Meeting, the altar, the priests, and the whole assembly. <sup>34</sup>That's a permanent statute to atone for the Israelites' sins once a year."*

Moses did what the LORD said.

Lev 16:29-34

### Prohibition Against Eating Blood

**17:1-2**The LORD told Moses to tell Aaron, his sons, and all Israel,

*"The LORD has commanded <sup>3</sup>that no one in Israel is to slaughter an ox, lamb, or goat inside or outside the camp <sup>4</sup>instead of taking it to the Tent of Meeting to present it to Yahweh. God will hold him guilty of shedding blood. Exclude him from the community. <sup>5</sup>Instead, people need to take their animals to the priest at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and sacrifice them as peace offerings. <sup>6</sup>The priest will sprinkle the blood on the altar at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting and offer up the fat in smoke as an aroma pleasing to Yahweh. <sup>7</sup>They'll no longer sacrifice to the goat-idols they commit prostitution with. That's a permanent statute. Lev 17:1-7*

*<sup>8</sup>"Anyone in Israel or a foreigner living there who offers a burnt offering or sacrifice <sup>9</sup>without taking it to the LORD, will be excluded from the community.*

*<sup>10</sup>"I'll oppose and exclude from the community anyone in Israel or a foreigner living there who eats blood. <sup>11</sup>The life is in the blood, and I've given it to you on the altar to atone for you. It's the lifeblood that atones." <sup>12</sup>I told Israel, "Nobody among you or foreigner among you can eat blood. <sup>13</sup>When you hunt an animal or bird that can be eaten, drain out its blood and cover it with dirt.*

**Lev 17:8-13**

**14** “In all kinds of flesh, blood is identified with its life; so I told the Israelites not to eat blood. If any of you eat it, you’ll be excluded from the community.

**15** Whether native or foreign, if you eat an animal that has died or wild animals have torn to pieces, wash your clothes, take a bath, and remain ceremonially unclean till evening. **16** If you don’t do that, you’re considered guilty.”

**Lev 17:14-16**

### Forbidden Sexual Behaviors

**18:1-2** The LORD told Moses to say to Israel,

“I’m the LORD your God. **3** Don’t do what they do in Egypt where you lived or in Canaan where I’m taking you. Don’t follow their statutes. **4** If you obey my regulations and keep my statutes, **5** you’ll have life.”

**Lev 18:1-5**

**6** “Don’t have sexual relations with any blood relative; I’m the LORD. **7** Don’t uncover the nakedness of your father by uncovering the nakedness of your mother **8** or your father’s wife. **9** Don’t have sexual relations with your sister or half-sister, born in your home or elsewhere. **10** Don’t uncover the nakedness of your granddaughter; her nakedness is your nakedness. [**11**] **12-14** Don’t uncover the nakedness of your aunt; she’s your parent’s blood relative. You uncover your uncle’s nakedness by approaching his wife. **15** Don’t have sexual relations with your daughter-in-law; she’s your son’s wife. **16** Don’t have sexual relations with your sister-in-law; it’s your brother’s nakedness. **17** Don’t uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter or granddaughter; they’re blood relatives. It’s sinful.

**18** Don’t marry a woman and her sister and they become rivals.”

**Lev 18:6-18**

**19** “Don’t have sexual relations with a woman during her period. **20** Don’t have sexual relations with your neighbor’s wife and be defiled with her. **21** Don’t offer any of your offspring to Molech or profane your God; I’m the LORD. **22** Don’t lie with a male as one lies with a female; it’s detestable. **23** Don’t have sexual relations with any animal; you defile yourself. No woman is to stand in front of an animal to mate with it; it’s perverse.”

**Lev 18:19-23**

**24** “Don’t defile yourselves with such things. The nations I’m chasing out ahead of you defiled themselves that way. **25** They’ve defiled the land; so I’ve brought punishment on it; it has spewed out its people. **26** You are to keep my statutes and judgments; no native or foreigner among you is to do any of those disgusting things. [**27**] **28** That’s so the land won’t spew you out for defiling it. **29** Exclude from the community whoever does any of those disgusting things. **30** “You are to keep my charge so you won’t defile yourselves. I’m the LORD your God.”

**Lev 18:24-30**

## Laws About Personal Holiness

**19:1-2**The LORD told Moses to tell the whole community of Israel,  
*“Be holy because I’m holy. <sup>3</sup>Respect your parents and keep my Sabbaths.*

**4***Don’t turn to idols or make molten gods. I’m the LORD your God.*

**5***“When you offer a peace offering to the LORD, offer it so he’ll accept it.*

**6***Eat it the day you offer it and the next day. Burn what’s left over till the third day.*

**7***If you eat it on the third day, the LORD won’t accept it. <sup>8</sup>You’ll be guilty of profaning what’s holy to him and be excluded from the community.* **Lev 19:1-8**

**9***“When you harvest, don’t harvest the corners of your field or pick up the gleanings of your harvest. <sup>10</sup>Don’t glean your vineyard or pick up its fallen fruit. Leave it for the needy and foreigners. I’m the LORD your God.*

**11***“Don’t steal, lie, or deal falsely with one another. <sup>12</sup>Don’t swear falsely by me and profane my name.*

**13***“Don’t oppress or rob anyone or keep a hired hand’s wages overnight.*

**14***Don’t curse the deaf or trip the blind. Respect your God. I’m the LORD.*

**Lev 19:9-14**

**15***“Be just when you judge. Don’t be partial to the poor or defer to someone with status. Judge fairly. <sup>16</sup>Don’t slander or act against anyone’s life.*

**17***“You can reprove but not sin against or hate a fellow citizen. <sup>18</sup>Don’t take revenge or bear a grudge. Love your neighbor as yourself.* **Lev 19:15-18**

**19***“Keep my statutes. Don’t crossbreed two kinds of cattle, sow your field with two kinds of seed, or wear a piece of clothes that blends two kinds of material.*

**20***If a man lies carnally with a slave woman that’s engaged to another man but not yet redeemed or given her freedom, punish them. Don’t put them to death; she wasn’t free. <sup>21</sup>He’ll take a ram to the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.*

**22***The priest will atone for him with the ram, and he will be forgiven.* **Lev 19:19-22**

**23***“When you go into the land and plant fruit trees, consider their fruit forbidden for three years. <sup>24</sup>In the fourth year, their fruit will be holy, a praise offering to the LORD. <sup>25</sup>The fifth year, you can eat it so it’ll increase for you. I’m the LORD your God.*

**26***“Don’t eat anything with blood in it or practice fortunetelling or soothsaying.*

**27***“Don’t trim off the hair on your temples or trim the edges of your beard.*

**28***“Don’t make cuts on your body for the dead or wear tattoos. I’m the LORD.*

**Lev 19:23-28**

**29** “Don’t profane your daughter by making her a prostitute, so your country won’t fall into prostitution and fill up with lewdness.

**30** “Keep my Sabbaths and respect my sanctuary.

**31** “Don’t defile yourself by appealing to mediums or spiritualists.

**32** “Stand up for the gray headed, honor the aged, respect God.

**33** “Don’t mistreat foreigners living in your country. **34** Treat them like the natives among you. Love them like yourself. You were foreigners in Egypt. I’m the LORD your God.

**35** “Don’t cheat in judgment in measuring weight or volume. **36** Have accurate balances, weights, ephahs, and hins. **37** Observe my statutes and ordinances. I’m the LORD that brought you out of Egypt.”

Lev 19:29-37

### Punishments for Sin

**20:1-2** The LORD told Moses to say to Israel,

“Stone to death people that sacrifice their offspring to Molech. **3** I’ll oppose them and exclude them from the community; they’ve defiled my sanctuary and my holy name. **4** If you don’t execute them, **5** I’ll oppose them and their families, and exclude both them and the ones that carried on prostitution with them.

**6** “I’ll oppose people that turn to mediums or spiritualists and carry on prostitution with them. I’ll exclude them from the community. **7-8** So consecrate yourselves and be holy. Practice my statutes because I’m the LORD that sanctifies you.

**9** “Exclude from the community anyone that cusses at father or mother. That’s a crime punishable by death.

Lev 20:1-9

**10** “If a man commits adultery with another man’s wife, execute them both.

**11** A man that lies with his father’s wife, has uncovered his father’s nakedness. Execute them both. They’ve committed a crime punishable by death. **12** If a man lies with his daughter-in-law, execute them both; they’ve committed incest. They’ve committed a crime punishable by death. **13** A man that lies with a male like the ones that lie with a woman—both of them have committed a disgusting act. Execute them. They’ve committed a crime punishable by death. **14** It’s immoral for a man to marry a woman and her mother. Burn them both so there won’t be immorality among you.

**15** Execute a man that lies with an animal and kill the animal. **16** Execute any woman that approaches an animal to mate with it; kill the animal. They’ve committed a crime punishable by death.

Lev 20:10-16

**17** “It’s a disgrace for a man to take his sister—his father’s or mother’s daughter—so he sees her nakedness and she sees his. Exclude them from the

*community. He has uncovered his sister's nakedness. He bears his guilt.* <sup>18</sup>*A man that lies with a menstruating woman has laid bare her flow, and she has exposed the flow of her blood. Cut both of them off from the community.* <sup>19</sup>*Don't have sexual relations with your aunt; you've made naked a blood relative. You'll be guilty.* <sup>20</sup>*A man that lies with his uncle's wife has uncovered his uncle's nakedness. They'll bear their sin and die childless.* <sup>21</sup>*A man that takes his brother's wife is repulsive; he has uncovered his brother's nakedness. Both will die childless.*

**Lev 20:17-21**

<sup>22</sup>*"Keep my statutes and ordinances so the land where I'm taking you won't spew you out.* <sup>23</sup>*Don't follow the customs of nations I drive out ahead of you. It's because they did those things that they're repulsive to me.* <sup>24</sup>*Take their land; I'll give it to you, a land flowing with milk and honey.* <sup>25</sup>*So distinguish between ceremonially clean and unclean animals or birds. Don't make yourselves disgusting by animals, birds, or what crawls on the ground that I've separated from you as unclean.* <sup>26</sup>*Be holy to me because I, the LORD, am holy. I've set you apart from the nations to be mine.*

<sup>27</sup>*"Stone a medium or spiritualist, man or woman. They've committed a crime punishable by death."*

**Lev 20:22-27**

### Instructions for Priests

**21:1**The LORD told Moses to tell the sons of Aaron the priests,

*"None of you are to defile yourselves for a dead person* <sup>2</sup>*except for a close relative: mother, father, son, daughter, brother—* <sup>3</sup>*or virgin sister, since she doesn't have a husband.* <sup>4</sup>*Don't profane yourselves as a relative by marriage.* <sup>5</sup>*Don't shave your heads, trim your beards, or make cuts on your bodies.* <sup>6</sup>*Be holy to your God and not profane him, because you present the offerings by fire to the LORD, the food of your God.* <sup>7</sup>*Priests can't marry a prostitute or divorced woman. They're holy to God"*

<sup>8</sup>*"Consecrate them because they offer the food of your God. They'll be holy to you because I, the LORD, that sanctifies you am holy.* <sup>9</sup>*If a priest's daughter profanes herself by prostitution, she profanes her father. Burn her.*

**Lev 21:1-9**

<sup>10</sup>*"A high priest—the one that's anointed and consecrated to wear the vestments—will not uncover his head or tear his clothes,* <sup>11</sup>*approach any dead person or defile himself even for his father or mother.* <sup>12</sup>*He's not to leave the sanctuary or profane it, because he has on him God's consecrating oil.* <sup>13</sup>*He has to marry a virgin from his own people.* <sup>14</sup>*He can't marry a widow, divorced woman,*

*or prostitute; <sup>15</sup>he would profane his offspring among his people. I'm the LORD that sanctifies him.”*

Lev 21:10-15

**16-17**The LORD told Moses to tell Aaron,

*“None of your offspring with a defect can offer the bread of his God: <sup>18</sup>a blind or lame man, one with a disfigured face or deformed limb, <sup>19</sup>a man with a broken foot or hand, <sup>20</sup>a hunchback or dwarf, one with a defect in his eye, one with eczema, scabs, or crushed testicles. <sup>21</sup>None of your descendants that has a defect can offer the LORD's offerings by fire. <sup>22</sup>He can eat the bread of his God, holy and most holy, <sup>23</sup>but he can't go in to the curtain or approach the altar. He's not to profane my sanctuary. I'm the LORD that sanctifies him.”*

**24**That's what Moses told Aaron, his sons, and all Israel.

Lev 21:16-24

**22:1-2**The LORD told Moses to tell Aaron and his sons,

*“Handle the holy gifts carefully that the Israelites dedicate to me so you don't profane my name. <sup>3</sup>Don't approach the holy gifts while you're ceremonially unclean. I'll remove you from me. <sup>4</sup>If you're a leper or have a discharge, you can't eat the holy gifts till you're clean. Touching anything made ceremonially unclean by a corpse or seminal emission, <sup>5</sup>or touching any teeming thing that makes any person unclean, <sup>6</sup>makes you unclean till evening. You can't eat the sacred gifts till you take a bath. <sup>7</sup>When the sun sets, you'll be clean and can eat them. <sup>8</sup>You can't eat an animal that dies or is torn to pieces by wild animals; that makes you ceremonially unclean. <sup>9</sup>Keep my charge so you won't be considered defiled and die for profaning my name. I'm the LORD that sanctifies them.”*

Lev 22:1-9

**10**“No layman, visitor with a priest, or hired hand can eat the sacred gifts. **11**But a slave that a priest buys with his own money can eat them; so can slaves born in his house. **12**If a priest's daughter marries a layman, she can't continue to eat the gifts. **13**But if she becomes a widow or is divorced, doesn't have any children, and goes back to her father's family, she can eat her father's food. **14**If any of you laymen unintentionally eat a sacred gift, add a fifth to it and give it to the priest. **15**Laymen are not to profane the sacred gift Israelites offer to the LORD; **16**so they're fined for it. I'm the LORD that sanctifies them.”

Lev 22:10-16

## Unacceptable Sacrifices

**17-18**The LORD told Moses to tell Aaron, his sons, and all Israel:

*“When an Israelite or foreigner presents a burnt offering, an offering for fulfilling a vow, or a freewill offering, <sup>19</sup>for God to accept it, it must be a male without defect from the cattle, sheep, or goats. <sup>20</sup>Don’t offer anything that has a defect. <sup>21</sup>When anyone sacrifices a peace offering to the LORD to fulfill a special vow or for a freewill offering from the herd or flock, it must be perfect. <sup>22</sup>Don’t offer a blind, crippled, or injured animal, or one with a running sore, eczema, or scab. Don’t make it an offering by fire on the altar to the LORD. <sup>23</sup>An ox or lamb that has an enlarged or undersized member, you can present for a freewill offering, but not for a vow. <sup>24</sup>Don’t offer anything that has its testicles bruised, crushed, torn to pieces by wild animals, or castrated. <sup>25</sup>Don’t accept anything like that from a foreigner for an offering as the food of your God. It has a defect; he won’t accept it.”*

Lev 22:17-25

**26**The LORD told Moses,

*“A newborn ox, sheep, or goat will remain with its mother for a week. After that it’s acceptable as an offering by fire to the LORD. <sup>28</sup>But don’t slaughter an ox or sheep and its young the same day. <sup>29</sup>When you offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the LORD, do it so he will accept you. <sup>30</sup>Eat it the same day; don’t leave any till morning. <sup>31</sup>Keep my commandments that way. <sup>32</sup>Don’t profane my holy name; treat me as holy in Israel. I’m the LORD that sanctifies you, <sup>33</sup>who brought you out of Egypt to be your God.”*

Lev 22:26-33

## Sabbaths and Festivals

**23:1-2**The LORD told Moses to tell Israel,

### Sabbaths

*“The LORD has appointed these times: <sup>3</sup>six days you can work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath for complete rest, a holy convocation. It’s a Sabbath to the LORD wherever you live.*

*“These are his appointed times, holy convocations that you’ll declare at their appointed times. <sup>5</sup>The fourteenth day, first month at twilight is the LORD’s Passover. <sup>6</sup>Then on the fifteenth, there’s a Festival of Unleavened Bread to him. Eat bread without yeast for a week. <sup>7</sup>The first day, hold a holy convocation; don’t work. <sup>8</sup>Present an offering by fire to the LORD for a week. On the seventh day, hold a holy convocation; don’t work.”*

Lev 23:1-8

### Firstfruits

**9-10**The LORD told Moses to say to Israel,

*“When you harvest the land I’m giving you, take a bundle of the first part of the harvest to the priest. <sup>11</sup>The day after Sabbath he’ll wave it back and forth in front of the LORD for you to be accepted. <sup>12</sup>When you wave it, offer a male lamb a year old without defect for a burnt offering. <sup>13</sup>Its grain offering will be .22 bushel .2 ephah of fine flour mixed with olive oil, an offering by fire to the LORD for a pleasing aroma, with its liquid offering, 3pts <sup>¼</sup> hin of wine. <sup>14</sup>Before you take the offering to your God, don’t eat bread or roasted grain from the new growth. It’s an ongoing permanent statute wherever you live.*

**Lev 23:9-14**

### **Feast of Weeks**

*<sup>15</sup>“Count seven Sabbaths from the day after the Sabbath when you brought the bundle for the wave offering. <sup>16</sup>Count 50 days to the day after the seventh Sabbath. Then present a new grain offering to the LORD. <sup>17</sup>Take in 2 loaves of bread for a wave offering, made from .22 bushel .2 ephah. They’ll consist of fine flour baked with yeast as the first of the harvest to the LORD.*

*<sup>18</sup>Along with the bread, present 7 year-old male lambs without defect, a bull from the herd, and 2 rams. They’ll be a burnt offering along with their grain offering and liquid offerings. It’s an offering by fire of an aroma pleasing to the LORD. <sup>19</sup>Also offer 1 male goat for a sin offering and 2 yearling male lambs for a peace offering. <sup>20</sup>The priest will wave them with the bread from the first part of the harvest for a wave offering with 2 lambs in front of the LORD. They’re holy to the LORD for the priest. <sup>21</sup>On that same day, make a proclamation. Hold a holy convocation. Don’t work. It’s an ongoing permanent statute wherever you live.*

*<sup>22</sup>“When you harvest, don’t harvest the corners of your field or gather the gleanings from your harvest. Leave them for the poor and foreigners. I’m the LORD your God.”*

**Lev 23:15-22**

### **Feast of Trumpets**

*<sup>23-24</sup>Again the LORD told Moses to tell Israel,*

*“The first day, seventh month, hold a complete rest, a reminder by blowing bugles, a holy convocation. <sup>25</sup>Don’t work but present an offering by fire to the LORD.”*

**Lev 23:23-25**

### **Day of Atonement**

*<sup>26</sup>The LORD told Moses,*

*<sup>27-28</sup>“The tenth day, seventh month, is The Day of Atonement, a holy convocation. Fast and don’t work; present an offering by fire to the LORD to atone for yourselves to the LORD your God. <sup>29</sup>Any of you that won’t fast <sup>30</sup>and refrain*

*from working that day, I'll destroy from among the people.* <sup>31</sup>*It's a permanent statute wherever you live.* <sup>32</sup>*On the ninth of the month at evening, rest till the next evening.*"

Lev 23:26-32

### Feast of Tabernacle

<sup>33-34</sup>Again the LORD told Moses to tell Israel,

*"The fifteenth day, seventh month is the Festival of Booths to the LORD for a week.* <sup>35</sup>*The first day is a holy convocation. Don't do any kind of work.* <sup>36</sup>*For a week, present an offering by fire to the LORD. On the eighth day, hold a holy convocation and present an offering by fire to the LORD.*

<sup>37</sup>*"These are the LORD's scheduled holidays that you're to declare as holy convocations, to present burnt offerings to the LORD, grain offerings, sacrifices, and liquid offerings, each day's matter as prescribed.* <sup>38</sup>*They're in addition to the ones on the LORD's Sabbaths.*

Lev 23:33-38

<sup>39</sup>*"The fifteenth day, seventh month, when you've gathered your crops, celebrate the LORD's festival for a week. Rest on the first and eighth days.* <sup>40-41</sup>*On the first day, take the foliage from beautiful trees, palm branches and boughs of leafy trees and willows by the stream. Every year celebrate a festival to the LORD your God for a week. It's an ongoing permanent statute for the seventh month.*

<sup>42</sup>*The native-born in Israel will live in booths for a week* <sup>43</sup>*to remind your generations that I had the Israelites live in booths when I brought them out of Egypt. I'm the LORD your God."*

<sup>44</sup>Moses declared to Israel the LORD's specified holidays.

Lev 23:39-44

### Pure Oil and Holy Bread

**24:1**The LORD said to Moses,

<sup>2</sup>*"Tell the people to bring you clear oil from pressed olives that can keep a lamp burning continually.* <sup>3-4</sup>*Outside the curtain of Testimony in the Tent of Meeting, Aaron will keep the lamps on the lampstand in order from evening to morning continually. It's an ongoing permanent statute.*

<sup>5</sup>*"Take fine flour and bake 12 cakes. Put .22 bushels* <sup>2</sup> *ephah in each one.* <sup>6</sup>*Set them in two stacks, six to a stack on the pure gold table.* <sup>7</sup>*Put pure frankincense beside each stack for the bread as God's portion, an offering by fire to the LORD.* <sup>8</sup>*Every Sabbath Aaron will set this bread in order in front of the LORD, a permanent covenant for Israel.* <sup>9</sup>*It'll be for Aaron and his sons to eat in a sacred place. It's the most sacred to them from the LORD's offerings by fire, their permanent portion."*

Lev 24:1-9

## A Blasphemer Stoned

<sup>10</sup>The son of an Israelite woman and Egyptian father went out among the people and got into a fight with an Israelite man in the camp. <sup>11</sup>The woman's son blasphemed the Name and cursed; so they brought him to Moses. (His mother was Shelimith, daughter of Dibri, tribe of Dan.) <sup>12</sup>They put him in custody till the LORD made his commandment clear to Moses.

<sup>13</sup>The LORD told Moses,

<sup>14</sup>*"Take him outside the camp. The ones who heard him will put their hands on his head and the community will stone him. <sup>15</sup>Tell the people, 'If anybody curses God, he's considered guilty. <sup>16</sup>The community is to stone anybody that blasphemers the LORD.'*

<sup>17</sup>*"Execute a murderer, <sup>18</sup>but anybody that kills an animal will make it good, life for life. <sup>19</sup>If one person injures another, do the same thing to that person: <sup>20</sup>fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth. [<sup>21</sup>] <sup>22</sup>There'll be one standard for you and a foreigner. I'm the LORD your God."*

<sup>23</sup>Moses told the people, and they took outside the camp the one that had cursed, and stoned him.

Lev 24:10-23

## The Sabbath Year

**25:1-2**The LORD told Moses at Mount Sinai to tell Israel,

*"When you go into the land I'm giving you, the ground will have a rest to the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Plant your fields, prune your vineyards, harvest your crops for six years.*

*<sup>4</sup>But the seventh year, the ground will rest to the LORD. Don't plant your fields or prune your vineyards. <sup>5</sup>Don't store up volunteer growth or gather grapes from untrimmed vines. Let the ground lie feral for a year. <sup>6</sup>You'll have for food what the ground grows on its own during its sabbath year—yourselves, your male and female slaves, hired hands, and foreigners living with you. <sup>7</sup>Your livestock and the wild animals on your land will have its produce to eat directly.*

Lev 25:1-7

## The Year of Jubilee

<sup>8</sup>*"Count off 7 weeks of years (49 years). <sup>9</sup>Then blow the ram's horn all over the country on the tenth day, seventh month, the Day of Atonement. <sup>10</sup>Consecrate the fiftieth year as a nation-wide release for its people, a jubilee. You'll go back to your own property and family. <sup>11</sup>Don't plant, store up volunteer growth, or pick clean the untrimmed vines. <sup>12</sup>It's a Year of Jubilee, set aside for you. Eat its produce directly out of the field.*

Lev 25:8-12

<sup>13</sup>*"In the Year of Jubilee, each of you may go back to your own property.*

<sup>14</sup>*If you sell or buy something from one another, don't wrong one another.*

<sup>15</sup>*Corresponding to the number of years since the last Year of Jubilee, you'll buy*

*and sell it based on the number of crops.* **16***Calculate its price by the number of crops you're buying or selling.* **17***Don't cheat one another; respect God. I'm the LORD your God.*

**Lev 25:13-17**

**18***"In that way, observe my statutes and obey my regulations so you can live securely on the land.* **19***Then the ground will yield its produce so you can eat your fill.* **20***But if you wonder what you're going to eat in the seventh year if you don't plant or harvest crops,* **21***I'll order my blessing for you in the sixth year so the ground will produce a crop sufficient for three years.* **22***When you're planting the eighth year, you'll still be eating from the old crops till the ninth year's crop comes in.*

**Lev 25:18-22**

**23***"You can't sell land permanently because it's mine. You're foreigners that live temporarily with me.* **24***So provide for the redemption of every piece of property.* **25***If you become so poor you have to sell some of your property, your nearest relative can buy it back.* **26***If you don't have any relatives but accumulate enough, you have the right to buy it back yourself.* **27***To reclaim it, calculate the years since its sale and refund the balance.* **28***If you don't accumulate enough to buy it back, it remains with the buyer till the Year of Jubilee and then reverts to you.*

**Lev 25:23-28**

**29***"If you sell a house in a walled city, you have a right to buy it back for a full year.* **30***If you don't buy it back within a year, it passes permanently to the buyer; it doesn't go back to you in the Year of Jubilee.* **31***Houses in villages without walls, however, are like property in the open country; you can buy them back, and they revert to you in the Year of Jubilee.* **32***In Levitical towns, Levites have an ongoing right to buy back their houses,* **33***and their houses revert to them in the Year of Jubilee. Their houses are their possessions among the Israelites,* **34***but they can't sell pastures attached to their towns; they're permanent possessions.*

**Lev 25:29-34**

**35***"If citizens become poor, sustain them like foreigners or temporary residents so they can keep living with you.* **36***Don't charge them interest; respect God.* **37***Don't lend them your silver or food at interest.* **38***I'm the LORD your God that brought you out of Egypt to give you Canaan and be your God.*

**Lev 25:35-38**

**39***"If citizens become so poor that they sell themselves to you, don't subject them to slavery.* **40***Till the Year of Jubilee, treat them like hired hands or foreigners with you.* **41***Then they and their offspring will go back to their family and ancestors' property.* **42***They're my servants that I brought out of Egypt. Don't sell them in the slave trade.* **43***Don't rule them harshly; respect me.* **44***You can acquire male and female slaves from pagan nations,*

**45**from foreigners living among you;  
you can acquire possessions from the families they produce in your country;  
**46**you can will them to your heirs and  
use them as permanent slaves.

But with Israelites, don't mistreat one another that way.

Lev 25:39-46

**47**"If foreigners' or temporary residents' means become sufficient and any fellow citizens become so poor as to sell themselves to a foreigner or descendant living among you, **48-49**they'll have redemption rights. A brother, uncle, nephew, or other blood relative has a right to buy them back. If they prosper, they can redeem themselves. **50**Then they and their purchaser will calculate from the year they sold yourselves up to the Year of jubilee. The price of their sale will correspond to that number of years. Their case will be like the time of a hired hand. **51**If many years still remain for their redemption, they'll refund their purchase price corresponding to their remaining years. **52**If few years remain till the Year of Jubilee, they'll calculate with their purchaser. In proportion to their years, they'll refund the amount for their redemption. **53**They'll be with the purchaser like someone hired year by year, not like slaves. **54**If you're not bought back, you and your offspring will still go back free in the Year of Jubilee, **55**because Israelites are my servants that I brought out of Egypt. I'm the LORD your God."

Lev 25:47-55

### Blessings for Obedience

**26:1**"Don't make idols, set up images or sacred pillars, or put stone figurines in your country to bow to. **2**Keep my Sabbaths and reverence my sanctuary. **3**If you follow my statutes and keep my commandments, **4**I'll give you rain in its season so the ground will grow crops and the trees will bear fruit. **5**Threshing time will last till grape harvest, and grape harvest will last till planting season. You'll have plenty to eat, and you'll live securely in your country. **6**I'll grant peace so you can lie down without feeling afraid. I'll eliminate dangerous wild animals from the land, and no sword will pass through your land. **7**You'll chase your enemies, and they'll fall by your sword. **8**Five of you will chase 100, and 100 will chase 10,000. **9**I'll favor you, multiply you, and confirm my covenant with you. **10**You'll eat the old supply and clear out the old because of the new. **11**I'll live among you **12**and be your God, and you'll be my people. **13**I'm the LORD your God that brought you out of Egypt so you wouldn't be their slaves. I broke the bars of your yoke and made you walk erect.

Lev 26:1-13

### Punishment for Disobedience

**14** “If you don’t carry out these commandments, **15**if you reject my statutes, abhor my ordinances, and break my covenant, **16**I’ll bring panic over you. Consumption and fever will make your eyes sink in and depress you. You’ll plant your seed for nothing because your enemies will eat it. **17**I’ll oppose you, and your enemies will strike you down. The ones that hate you will rule you. You’ll run when nobody’s chasing.

**18** “If you still don’t obey me, I’ll **punish you seven times over** **19**and break your strong pride. I’ll make your sky like iron and your ground like bronze. **20**You’ll spend your strength for nothing, because the ground won’t grow crops and the trees won’t bear fruit.

**21** “If you’re still hostile toward me and refuse to obey, I’ll **strike you with plague seven times over**. **22**I’ll let wild animals loose among you to terrorize your children, destroy your livestock, and decimate your population till your roads are deserted.

**23** “If you’re still hostile toward me and don’t return to me, **24**I’ll be hostile toward you and **strike you seven times over**. **25**I’ll bring on you a sword to avenge the covenant. When you retreat to your towns, I’ll send a plague and deliver you to your enemies. **26**When I break your staff of bread, ten women will bake your bread in one oven and bring it to you in rations. You’ll eat and not be satisfied.

**27** “If you still don’t obey me, but act hostile toward me, **28**I’ll act hostile toward you and **punish you seven times over**. **29**You’ll eat your sons and daughters. **30**I’ll destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and heap your remains on the remains of your idols because I’ll abhor you. **31**I’ll lay waste your towns too, and make your sanctuaries desolate. I won’t smell your pleasing aromas. **32**I’ll make the land so desolate it will appall your enemies that settle in it. **33**I’ll scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you as your land grows desolate and your towns become ruins.

**34** “The land will enjoy its Sabbaths during its desolation while you’re in your enemies’ country. **35**It will get the rest it didn’t get on the Sabbaths while you were living in it. **36**You that are left, I’ll make lose heart in your enemies’ countries. The sound of a blown leaf will chase you. You’ll run when nobody’s chasing you. **37**You’ll stumble over each other and fall like you’re running from the sword, even though nobody’s chasing you. You won’t have the strength to stand up to your enemies. **38**You’ll perish among the nations that consume you. **39**You that are left will rot away in your enemies’ countries because of your ancestors’ sin.

Lev 26:14-39

**40** “If you confess your and your ancestors’ sin in your unfaithfulness and hostility toward me—**41** if your uncircumcised heart becomes humble and you make amends for your sin, **42** I’ll remember my covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as well, and I’ll remember the land. [**43**] **44** I won’t reject you so completely that I destroy you and break my covenant with you. **45** I’ll remember the covenant with your ancestors that I brought out of Egypt in front of the nations so I could be your God. I’m the LORD.”

**46** The LORD established those statutes, ordinances, and laws for Israel through Moses at Mount Sinai. **Lev 26:40-46**

### Laws About Vows

**27:1-2** Again the LORD told Moses,

“When people make difficult vows, appraise them before the LORD. **3** Appraise a male that’s 20 to 60 years old at 20 oz of silver <sup>50 shekels of the sanctuary</sup> **4** and a female at 12 oz <sup>30 shekels</sup> of silver. **5** Appraise a male that’s 5 to 20 years old at 8 oz <sup>20 shekels</sup> and a female at 4 oz <sup>10 shekels</sup>. **6** Appraise a male that’s a month to 5 years old at 2 oz <sup>5 shekels</sup> of silver and a female at 1½ oz <sup>3 shekels</sup>. **7** Your appraisal for males above 60 will be 6 oz <sup>15 shekels</sup> and 4 oz <sup>10 shekels</sup> for females. **8** But if you can’t afford that appraisal, you can have the priest appraise you according to your means. **9** If it’s an animal you can offer to the LORD, it will be holy. **10** You won’t exchange it good for bad or vice versa. If you do exchange it, both it and the substitute become holy. **11-12** But if it’s a ceremonially unclean animal, which people don’t offer to the LORD, the priest will appraise it. His appraisal is final. **13** But if you ever want to buy it back, add a fifth to the appraisal. **Lev 27:1-13**

**14** “If you consecrate your house to the LORD, the priest will appraise it. His appraisal is final. **15** But if you want to buy it back, add a fifth to the appraisal. **Lev 27:14-15**

**16** “If you consecrate part of your field to the LORD, the priest’s appraisal will be in proportion to the seed for sowing it: 11 bushels <sup>1 homer</sup> of barley at 20 oz <sup>50 shekels</sup> of silver. **17** If you consecrate your field in relation to the Year of Jubilee, it will stand according to the priest’s appraisal. **18** If you consecrate your field after the Year of Jubilee, the priest will calculate the price in proportion to the years till the next Year of Jubilee and deduct it from its appraisal. **19** If you ever want to buy it back, add a fifth to the appraisal. **20** If you sell it, you can’t buy it back. **21** When it reverts in the Year of Jubilee, it will be holy to the LORD like a field set apart and will belong to the priest. **22** If you consecrate a field to the LORD that you’ve bought—

*not a part of your own property—<sup>23</sup>then the priest will calculate for it the amount of your valuation as holy to the LORD. <sup>24</sup>In the Year of Jubilee, the field will go back to its original owner. <sup>25</sup>Appraisals will be in shekels of the sanctuary (20 gerahs per shekel).*

**Lev 27:16-25**

*<sup>26</sup>“However, you can’t consecrate firstborn animals—ox or sheep; they already belong to the LORD. <sup>27</sup>But if it’s a ceremonially unclean animal, you can buy it back according to its appraised value plus a fifth. If you don’t buy it back, the priest will sell it for its appraised value.*

*<sup>28</sup>“Nevertheless, nothing devoted to the LORD—man, animal, or field—can be sold or bought back. It’s most holy. <sup>29</sup>No one that’s been sentenced to death can be ransomed. Execute that person.*

**Lev 27:26-29**

### Laws About Tithes

*<sup>30</sup>“Set apart to the LORD a tenth of the land, produce of the ground and fruit of the trees. <sup>31</sup>If you want to buy back part of that tenth, add a fifth to it. <sup>32</sup>Set apart to the LORD every tenth member of a herd and flock. <sup>33</sup>Whether it’s good or bad, you don’t need to substitute for it. If you do, both it and the substitute become holy, and you can’t buy them back.”*

*<sup>34</sup>Those are commandments the LORD gave Moses for Israel at Mount Sinai.*

**Lev 27:30-34**

Version by Virgil Warren: christir.org