### Leviticus

## Chapter 26

1‘You must not mold [gods] for yourselves or carve them with your hands, nor may you set up stone pillars in your land to worship… For I am Jehovah your God!  
  
  
 2‘You must keep My Sabbaths and be in fear of My Holy Place… For I am Jehovah!  
  
  
 [Editor note: The story resumes here, with God speaking.]  
   
  
3‘If you follow My rules and keep My Commandments and obey them, 4I’ll give you rain in its season, the ground will produce its fruitage, and the trees in your fields will bear fruit.  
  
 5‘Then, your threshing time will run through your fruit-picking time, and your fruit-picking time will run into your [planting] time. You will eat all the bread you want and you’ll live on your land in safety; for there’ll be no wars in your land!  
  
 6‘Yes, I’ll bring peace to your land, so you can go to sleep and not fear anyone!  
  
 ‘I’ll also destroy all the bad animals in your land, 7and you’ll chase your enemies and they’ll be slaughtered before you... 8Five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase tens of thousands! Then your enemies will be cut down before you with swords.  
  
 9‘I will also watch over you, make you grow and multiply, and keep My Sacred Agreement with you... 10Then you may eat what’s old and very old, or throw out the old to make way for the new.  
  
 11‘So... I will set up My Tent among you... And in My heart, there’ll be no hatred of you.  
  
 12‘I’ll walk among you and be your God, and you’ll be My people!  
  
 13‘I am Jehovah your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt where you were slaves. I’m the One who broke the shackles of your [slavery] and paraded you away in front of [everyone]!  
  
 14‘However, if you choose not to listen to Me and obey My rules… 15If you disobey them and your inner person comes to dislike My decisions… If you don’t keep all My Commandments and if you break My Sacred Agreement, 16these are the things that I must do to you:  
  
 • I will bring uprisings among you and make you uncomfortable.  
  
 • You’ll develop rashes, jaundice, fever, loss of eyesight, and your lives will be shortened.  
  
 • When you plant seeds, it won’t do any good, because your enemies will eat the [crops].  
  
 17‘For if I set My face against you, you’ll fall before your enemies. Those who dislike you will chase you, and you’ll run even when there’s no one behind you!  
  
 18‘And if you still refuse to listen to Me, I’ll have to discipline you 7 times as much for your sins, 19because I must break down your haughtiness and pride! I’ll turn your sky into iron, and your ground into brass, 20and all your hard work will be wasted... For the seeds in your ground won’t produce, and the trees in your fields won’t bear fruit.  
  
 21‘And after that, if you continue to walk a crooked path and you aren’t willing to obey Me; I’ll bring 7 plagues upon you for your sins. 22I’ll send wild animals into the land to eat you and kill your cattle, so you will decrease in numbers and your [land] will become empty.  
  
 23‘And if that doesn’t straighten you out and you keep walking a crooked path with Me... 24My Spirit will become crooked and I’ll walk a crooked path among you, causing Me to strike you 7 times for your sins!  
  
 25‘I’ll bring swords against you to avenge My Sacred Agreement. Then when you run to your cities for safety, I’ll send death to you and you’ll be handed over to your enemies.  
  
 26‘I’ll also bring a famine of bread among you; so then, it’ll take 10 women to bake your loaves in just one oven. And when they weigh out portions of bread for you to eat, you’ll still be hungry!  
  
 27‘And if you still don’t obey Me but continue to walk a crooked path with Me... 28I’ll walk among you with an angry mind, and I must discipline you 7 times as much for your sins… 29So you’ll have to eat the flesh of your own sons and daughters!  
  
 30‘I’ll also wipe away your stone columns and totally destroy the wooden [images] that you’ll make with your hands, then lay your dead bodies on the remains of your idols… For My soul will dislike you.  
  
 31‘I’ll destroy your cities, empty your holy places, and [never again] smell the odor of your sacrifices. 32I’ll empty your land, and your enemies who live there will be amazed. 33For I’ll scatter you among the nations… You will be attacked with swords and destroyed, and your land and your cities will be emptied!  
  
 34‘Meanwhile, the ground will enjoy its Sabbaths during all the time that it’s empty… 35As you’re living in the land of your enemies! Yes, that’s when the land will enjoy its Sabbaths… During all the time that it’s empty! For it’ll keep the Sabbaths that weren’t kept when you lived there.  
  
 36‘I will put all who remain into bondage [as slaves] there in the land of your enemies, so that in your hearts, even the sounds of shaking leaves will chase you! You’ll run as though you’re running from a war and fall when no one is chasing you.  
  
 37‘Brothers won’t have any regard for their brothers, like in a war. And although no one will be chasing you, you won’t be able [to be saved from] your enemies. 38You’ll die there among the ethnics, and the lands of your enemies will swallow you down. 39Then those who are left will perish because of their sins and the sins of their fathers… They’ll just waste away in the lands of their enemies.  
  
  
 40‘However... If they should then confess their sins and the sins of their fathers, and [admit] that they’ve sinned and neglected Me, and that they’ve walked a crooked path before Me, 41and [admit that] this is the reason why I walked among them with a crooked mind and destroyed them, [sending them off] into the lands of their enemies… Yes, when their uncircumcised hearts become ashamed and they repent of their sins, 42I’ll once again remember the Sacred Agreement that I made with AbraHam, IsaAc, and Jacob.  
  
 43‘I’ll also remember their land, and that land will still be waiting for them. For by then, the land will have enjoyed her Sabbaths during the time that they were gone.  
  
 ‘Yet, they must acknowledge their sins… That they neglected My decisions and they disliked My Laws in their [hearts]... 44But despite this, I still won’t fail to [keep an eye] on them while they’re in the land of their enemies, nor will I dislike them and void the Sacred Agreement that I made with them… For I am Jehovah, their God.  
  
 45‘Then I’ll remember the Sacred Agreement [that I made with them] when I brought them out of the land of Egypt and out of the house of slavery before that nation, to be their God… For I am Jehovah!’  
  
46These are the decisions, rules, and the Law that Jehovah Himself gave to the children of IsraEl from Mount SinAi through the hand of Moses.  
  
  
[Editor note: The story in this book now ends, the remainder of the book is only laws. The story resumes in the next book, Numbers.]