

Be
Human

1

Psalm 103:7

Introduction

“He revealed his character to Moses and his deeds to the people of Israel.

Explain

- ▶ Does God have a character?
- ▶ Does God want his children to have his character?
- ▶ Do the laws of God teach you wisdom, the ways of God, or merely exist to tell you what is sin and what is not sin?

2

Leviticus 19:1-2

Various Laws

“The Lord said to Moses, 2 “Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them: ‘Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.



Holiness

to be set apart

Explain

- ▶ What happens when you put one rotten tomato inside a basket full of good tomatoes?
- ▶ Can you join together with people who are rotten and remain unrotten yourself?
- ▶ What are some things that will make you common, ordinary, unholy?

3

Leviticus 19:3

Various Laws

**“Each of you must
respect your mother
and father, and you
must observe my
Sabbaths. I am the
Lord your God.**

Explain

- ▶ Can you see God?
- ▶ Can you see your parents?
- ▶ When you do not respect your parents whom you can see, can you respect God whom you cannot see?
- ▶ In what ways can you show respect for your parents?



Sabbath

a weekly day of rest and worship

Explain

- ▶ Should you be too busy to do things that will help you to grow?

4

Leviticus 19:4

Various Laws

**“Do not turn to idols or
make metal gods for
yourselves. I am the
Lord your God.**



Idol

a picture or object that is worshipped as a god

Explain

- ▶ Will you grow or die when you worship anything else apart from God?
- ▶ Will you grow or die when you worship God?
- ▶ What do you become when you worship God?

5

Leviticus 19:9-10

Various Laws

**“When you reap the
harvest of your land,
do not reap to the
very edges of your
field or gather the
gleanings of your
harvest.**

“Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the Lord your God.

Meanings

reap

to cut and collect (a plant, crop, etc.) from a field

harvest

the season when crops are gathered from the fields or the activity of gathering crops

gleanings

grain, etc., that is gathered

foreigner

a person who is from a country that is not your own

vineyard

a field where grapes are grown

edge

the line or part where an object or area begins or ends

Explain

- ▶ When you plant a crop, who makes it grow?
- ▶ When you harvest all your crops, will there be food for the poor or stranger?

6

Leviticus 19:11

Various Laws

“*Do not steal.*

Do not lie.

*Do not deceive one
another.*

Explain

- ▶ In what way can you steal?
- ▶ In what way can you lie?
- ▶ In what way can you deceive someone?
- ▶ Are you human when you do all these things?

7

Leviticus 19:12

Various Laws

**“Do not swear falsely
by my name and so
profane the name of
your God. I am the
Lord.**



Profane

having or showing disrespect
for religious things

Explain

- ▶ How do you swear falsely by God's name?
- ▶ Are you human when you are profane?

8

Leviticus 19:13

Various Laws

**“Do not defraud or rob
your neighbor.**

***Do not hold back the
wages of a hired
worker overnight.***

Meanings

defraud

to trick or cheat someone or something in order to get money

wage

an amount of money that a worker is paid based on the number of hours, days, etc., that are worked

Explain

- ▶ How can you defraud someone?
- ▶ How do you hold back the wages of a hired worker?
- ▶ What could go wrong when you hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight?

9

Leviticus 19:14

Various Laws

**“Do not curse the deaf
or put a stumbling
block in front of the
blind, but fear your
God. I am the Lord.**

Meanings

deaf

not able to hear

stumbling block

something that stops you from doing what you want to do

curse

an offensive word that people say when they are angry

Explain

- ▶ How do you curse the deaf?
- ▶ How do you put a stumbling block in front of the blind?
- ▶ What does it mean to fear God?

10

Leviticus 19:15

Various Laws

**“Do not pervert justice;
do not show
partiality to the poor
or favoritism to the
great, but judge your
neighbor fairly.**

Meanings

pervert

to change (something good) so that it is no longer what it was or should be

justice

the quality of being fair or just

partiality

an unfair tendency to treat one person, group, or thing better than another

favoritism

the unfair practice of treating some people better than others

Explain

- ▶ How do you pervert justice?
- ▶ How do you show partiality to the poor or the great?
- ▶ In what ways can you show fairness to your neighbor?

11

Leviticus 19:16

Various Laws

“*Don’t spread gossip
and rumors.

Do not do anything
that puts your
neighbor’s life in
danger. I am the Lord.*

Meanings

gossip

a person who often talks about the private details of other people's lives

rumor

information or a story that is passed from person to person but has not been proven to be true

Explain

- ▶ How do you spread rumors or gossip?
- ▶ What can go wrong when you spread rumors and gossip about someone?
- ▶ In what way can you put your neighbor's life in danger?

12

Leviticus 19:17

Various Laws

“*Don’t secretly hate your neighbor. If you have something against him, get it out into the open; otherwise, you are an accomplice in his guilt.*

Meanings

secret

kept hidden from others :
known to only a few people

accomplice

a person who works with or
helps someone who is
doing something wrong or
illegal

guilt

a bad feeling caused by
knowing or thinking that
you have done something
bad or wrong

Explain

- ▶ How can you secretly hate your neighbor?
- ▶ Will your neighbor be able to change anything when they do not know that they have offended you?

13

Leviticus 19:18

Various Laws

“*Don’t seek revenge or
carry a grudge
against any of your
people.*

*Love your neighbor as
yourself. I am God.*

Meanings

revenge

the act of doing something to hurt someone because that person did something that hurt you

grudge

a strong feeling of anger toward someone that lasts for a long time

Explain

- ▶ How can you bear a grudge against another person?
- ▶ In what ways can you love your neighbor as yourself?

14

Leviticus 19:19

Various Laws

**“Keep my decrees.
Do not mate different
kinds of animals.
Do not plant your field
with two kinds of seed.
Do not wear clothing
woven of two kinds of
material.**

Meanings

decree

to order or decide (something) in an official way

mate

of animals : to have sexual activity in order to produce young

weave

to make something (such as cloth) by crossing threads or other long pieces of material over and under each other

Explain

- ▶ What does it mean to keep the decrees of God?
- ▶ How do you mate different kinds of animals?
- ▶ When is clothing woven of two different materials?

15

Leviticus 19:26

Various Laws

**“Do not eat any meat
with the blood still in
it.**

***Do not practice
divination or seek
omens.***

Meanings

divination

the practice of using signs (such as an arrangement of tea leaves or cards) or special powers to predict the future

omens

something that is believed to be a sign or warning of something that will happen in the future

Explain

- ▶ How do you make sure that the meat you eat does not have blood in it?
- ▶ In what ways do people practice divinations and omens?
- ▶ Is there such a thing as luck, or do you only reap what you sow?

16

Leviticus 19:27

Various Laws

**“Do not cut the hair at
the sides of your head
or clip off the edges of
your beard.**

17

Leviticus 19:28

Various Laws

**“Do not cut your bodies
for the dead or put
tattoo marks on
yourselves. I am the
Lord.**



Tattoo

a picture, word, etc., that is drawn on a person's skin by using a needle and ink

18

Leviticus 19:29

Various Laws

“Do not degrade your daughter by making her a prostitute, or the land will turn to prostitution and be filled with wickedness.

Meanings

prostitute

a person who has sex with someone in exchange for money

degrade

to treat (someone or something) poorly and without respect

19

Leviticus 19:30

Various Laws

**“Observe my Sabbaths
and have reverence for
my sanctuary. I am the
Lord.**

Meanings

reverence

honor or respect that is felt for or shown to (someone or something)

sanctuary

a place where someone or something is protected or given shelter

20

Leviticus 19:31

Various Laws

**“Do not turn to
mediums or seek out
spiritists, for you will
be defiled by them. I
am the Lord your God.**

Meanings

medium

a person who claims to be able to communicate with the spirits of dead people

spiritist

a person who claims to be able to speak with the dead

defile

to make (something) dirty

21

Leviticus 19:32

Various Laws

“Stand up in the presence of the aged, show respect for the elderly and revere your God. I am the Lord.



Aged

having lived or existed for a long time; very old.

22

Leviticus 19:33-34

Various Laws

**“When a foreigner lives
with you in your land,
don’t take advantage of
him. Treat the foreigner
the same as a native. Love
him like one of your own.
Remember that you were
once foreigners in Egypt. I
am God, your God.**



Native

used to refer to the place
where a person was born and
raised

Explain

- ▶ In what ways can you treat a foreigner as somebody who was born where you live?
- ▶ In what way can you treat a foreigner as yourself?

23

Leviticus 19:35-36

Various Laws

“*Don’t cheat when
measuring length,
weight, or quantity.
Use honest scales and
weights and measures.
I am God, your God. I
brought you out of
Egypt.*



Cheat

to break a rule or law usually
to gain an advantage at
something

Explain

- ▶ In what ways can you cheat when measuring length, weight, or quantity?

24

Leviticus 19:37

Various Laws

**“‘Keep all my decrees
and all my laws and
follow them. I am the
Lord.’**



1

Deuteronomy 15:1-3

The Year for Canceling Debts

“ At the end of every seventh year, cancel all debts. This is the procedure: Everyone who has lent money to a neighbor writes it off.

“ You must not press your neighbor or his brother for payment: All-Debts-Are-Canceled—God says so. You may collect payment from foreigners, but whatever you have lent to your fellow Israelite you must write off.

Meanings

debt

an amount of money that you owe to a person, bank, company, etc.

procedure

a series of actions that are done in a certain way or order

lend

to give (something) to (someone) to be used for a period of time and then returned

press

to push (something) with strong or steady force

foreigner

a person who is from a country that is not your own

write off

cancel the record of a bad debt

2

Deuteronomy 15:7-9

The Year for Canceling Debts

“When you happen on someone who’s in trouble or needs help among your people with whom you live in this land that God, your God, is giving you, don’t look the other way pretending you don’t see him.

“*Don’t keep a tight grip
on your purse. No.
Look at him, open your
purse, lend whatever
and as much as he
needs. Don’t count the
cost.*

“Don’t listen to that selfish voice saying, “It’s almost the seventh year, the year of All-Debts-Are-Canceled,” and turn aside and leave your needy neighbor in the lurch, refusing to help him. He’ll call God’s attention to you and your blatant sin.

Meanings

pretend

to act as if something is true when it is not true

grip

to grab or hold (something) tightly

lend

to give (something) to (someone) to be used for a period of time and then returned

selfish

having or showing concern only for yourself and not for the needs or feelings of other people

lurch

to make a sudden sideways or forward motion

blatant

very obvious and offensive

3

Deuteronomy 15:10-11

The Year for Canceling Debts

“*Give freely and spontaneously. Don't have a stingy heart. The way you handle matters like this triggers God, your God's, blessing in everything you do, all your work and ventures.*

“*There are always going to be poor and needy people among you. So I command you: Always be generous, open purse and hands, give to your neighbors in trouble, your poor and hurting neighbors.*

Meanings

spontaneous

done or said in a natural and often sudden way and without a lot of thought or planning

venture

to start to do something new or different that usually involves risk

stingy

not liking or wanting to give or spend money

generous

freely giving or sharing money and other valuable things

trigger

something that causes something else to happen

hurting

to have many problems



1

Deuteronomy 22:1-2

Various Laws

“ *If you see your
kinsman’s ox or sheep
wandering off loose,
don’t look the other
way as if you didn’t see
it.*

“Return it promptly. If your fellow Israelite is not close by or you don’t know whose it is, take the animal home with you and take care of it until your fellow asks about it.

“*Then return it to him.
Do the same if it’s his
donkey or a piece of
clothing or anything
else your fellow
Israelite loses. Don’t
look the other way as if
you didn’t see it.*

Meanings

kinsman

a male relative

wander

to move around or go to different places usually without having a particular purpose or direction

promptly

exactly at a particular or the correct time

2

Deuteronomy 22:4

Various Laws

**“If you see your fellow’s
donkey or ox injured
along the road, don’t
look the other way.
Help him get it up and
on its way.**



Injured

physically hurt or harmed

3

Deuteronomy 22:5

Various Laws

“*A woman must not wear a man’s clothing, nor a man wear women’s clothing. This kind of thing is an abomination to God, your God.*



Abomination

something that causes disgust or hatred

5

Deuteronomy 22:8

Various Laws

“When you build a new house, make a parapet around your roof to make it safe so that someone doesn’t fall off and die and your family become responsible for the death.

Meanings

parapet

a low wall at the edge of a platform, roof, or bridge

responsible

used to describe the person or thing that causes something to happen

Explain

- ▶ Does God care about how you build your house?

6

Deuteronomy 22:9

Various Laws

“ *Don’t plant two kinds of seed in your vineyard. If you do, you will forfeit what you’ve sown, the total production of the vineyard.*

Meanings

vineyard

a field where grapes are grown

forfeit

to lose or give up (something) as a punishment or because of a rule or law

production

the process of making or growing something for sale or use

7

Deuteronomy 22:10

Various Laws

“ *Don’t plow with an ox
and a donkey yoked
together.*

Meanings

plow

a piece of farm equipment that is used to dig into and turn over soil especially to prepare the soil for planting

yoke

a bar or frame that is attached to the heads or necks of two work animals (such as oxen) so that they can pull a plow or heavy load

8

Deuteronomy 22:11

Various Laws

“*Don't wear clothes of
mixed fabrics, wool
and linen together.*

Meanings

fabric

woven or knitted material

9

Deuteronomy 22:12

Various Laws

“*Make tassels on the
four corners of the
cloak you use to cover
yourself.*

Meanings

cloak

a piece of clothing that is used as a coat, that has no sleeves, and that is worn over the shoulders and attached at the neck

tassels

a decoration made of a bunch of strings fastened at one end

Explain

- ▶ Does God care about how you dress?



1

Deuteronomy 23:1

Exclusion From the Assembly

“*No eunuch is to enter
the congregation of
God.*

Meanings

eunuch

a man who has had his sexual organs removed

congregation

the people who are attending a religious service

2

Deuteronomy 23:1

Exclusion From the Assembly

**“No bastard is to enter
the congregation of
God, even to the tenth
generation, nor any of
his children.**

Explain

- ▶ Should you marry before having children if you do not want them to become bastards?

Meanings

bastard

a person whose parents were not married to each other

congregation

the people who are attending a religious service

generation

a group of people born and living during the same time

3

Exodus 23:13

Sabbath Laws

“Be careful to do everything I have said to you. Do not invoke the names of other gods; do not let them be heard on your lips.



Invoke

to mention (someone or something)



1

Deuteronomy 23:19- 20

Miscellaneous Laws

**“Do not charge a fellow
Israelite interest,
whether on money or
food or anything else
that may earn interest.**

“*You may charge a
foreigner interest, but
not a fellow Israelite,
so that the Lord your
God may bless you in
everything you put
your hand to in the
land you are entering
to possess.*

Meanings

interest

the money paid by a borrower for the use of borrowed money

earn

to deserve or get (something) because of something you have done

foreigner

a person who is from a country that is not your own

2

Deuteronomy 24:6

Miscellaneous Laws

“*Don’t seize a handmill
or an upper millstone
as collateral for a loan.
You’d be seizing
someone’s very life.*

Meanings

seize

to get or take (something) in a forceful, sudden, or violent way

collateral

something that you promise to give someone if you cannot pay back a loan

handmill

a mill for grinding grain, pepper, coffee, etc. worked by hand as distinguished from those driven by steam, water, or other power.

loan

an amount of money that is given to someone for a period of time with a promise that it will be paid back : an amount of money that is borrowed

millstone

either one of two large, flat, round stones that are used for grinding grain in a mill

3

Deuteronomy 24:10-13

Miscellaneous Laws

**“When you make a loan
of any kind to your
neighbor, don’t enter
his house to claim his
pledge. Wait outside.
Let the man to whom
you made the pledge
bring the pledge to you
outside.**

**“And if he is destitute,
don’t use his cloak as a
bedroll; return it to him
at nightfall so that he
can sleep in his cloak
and bless you. In the
sight of God, your God,
that will be viewed as a
righteous act.**

Meanings

destitute

extremely poor

pledge

a serious promise or agreement

bedroll

bedding materials that are rolled together so that they can be carried from one place to another

cloak

a piece of clothing that is used as a coat, that has no sleeves, and that is worn over the shoulders and attached at the neck

righteous

morally good

4

Deuteronomy 24:14-15

Miscellaneous Laws

**“Don’t abuse a laborer
who is destitute and
needy, whether he is a
fellow Israelite or
foreigner living in your
land and in your city.**

“Pay him at the end of each workday; he’s living from hand to mouth and needs it now. If you hold back his pay, he’ll protest to God and you’ll have sin on your books.

Meanings

abuse

to treat (a person or animal) in a harsh or harmful way

laborer

a person who does hard physical work for money

destitute

extremely poor

protest

to show or express strong disagreement with or disapproval of something

foreigner

a person who is from a country that is not your own

5

Deuteronomy 24:17

Miscellaneous Laws

“*Make sure foreigners
and orphans get their
just rights. Don’t take
the cloak of a widow as
security for a loan.*

Meanings

foreigner

a person who is from a country that is not your own

orphan

a child whose parents are dead

just

agreeing with what is considered morally right or good

cloak

a piece of clothing that is used as a coat, that has no sleeves, and that is worn over the shoulders and attached at the neck

widow

a woman whose husband has died

loan

an amount of money that is given to someone for a period of time with a promise that it will be paid back



1

Leviticus 18:6

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“*No one is to approach
any close relative to
have sexual relations. I
am the Lord.*

2

Leviticus 18:7

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not dishonor your father by having sexual relations with your mother. She is your mother; do not have relations with her.

3

Leviticus 18:8

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with your father’s wife; that would dishonor your father.



Dishonor

to cause (someone or something) to no longer be respected

4

Leviticus 18:9

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with your sister, either your father’s daughter or your mother’s daughter, whether she was born in the same home or elsewhere.

5

Leviticus 18:10

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with your son’s daughter or your daughter’s daughter; that would dishonor you.



Dishonor

to cause (someone or something) to no longer be respected

6

Leviticus 18:11

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with the daughter of your father’s wife, born to your father; she is your sister.

7

Leviticus 18:12

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with your father’s sister; she is your father’s close relative.

8

Leviticus 18:13

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with your mother’s sister, because she is your mother’s close relative.

9

Leviticus 18:14

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not dishonor your father’s brother by approaching his wife to have sexual relations; she is your aunt.



Dishonor

to cause (someone or something) to no longer be respected

10

Leviticus 18:15

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with your daughter-in-law. She is your son’s wife; do not have relations with her.

11

Leviticus 18:16

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with your brother’s wife; that would dishonor your brother.



Dishonor

to cause (someone or something) to no longer be respected

12

Leviticus 18:17

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with both a woman and her daughter. Do not have sexual relations with either her son’s daughter or her daughter’s daughter; they are her close relatives. That is wickedness.



Wicked

very bad or unpleasant

13

Leviticus 18:18

Unlawful Sexual Relations

**“Do not take your wife’s
sister as a rival wife
and have sexual
relations with her
while your wife is
living.**



Rival

a person or thing that tries to defeat or be more successful than another

14

Leviticus 18:19

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not approach a woman to have sexual relations during the uncleanness of her monthly period.

15

Leviticus 18:20

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with your neighbor’s wife and defile yourself with her.



Defile

to make (something) dirty

16

Leviticus 18:22

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with a man as one does with a woman; that is detestable.



Detestable

causing or deserving strong
dislike

17

Leviticus 18:23

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not have sexual relations with an animal and defile yourself with it. A woman must not present herself to an animal to have sexual relations with it; that is a perversion.

Meanings

defile

to make (something) dirty

perversion

something that improperly changes something good

18

Leviticus 18:24-25

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“Do not defile yourselves in any of these ways, because this is how the nations that I am going to drive out before you became defiled.

“*Even the land was defiled; so I punished it for its sin, and the land vomited out its inhabitants.*

Meanings

defile

to make (something) dirty

inhabitant

a person or animal that
lives in a particular place

Explain

- ▶ How does the land vomit out those who defile it?

19

Leviticus 18:28

Unlawful Sexual Relations

“And if you defile the land, it will vomit you out as it vomited out the nations that were before you.



Defile

to make (something) dirty

Explain

- ▶ How do you know that the person you are going to have sexual relations with is not a close relative and does not break any of the above laws?



