

**Loris First Baptist Church**  
***“Through The Bible In One Year”***

Introduction to “The Book of Leviticus”

1. The word *Leviticus* gets its name from the “Levites” (the priests).
2. Leviticus is a manual, a “how-to” guide for the new priesthood, explaining the duties of priest and people as they worship God at His Tabernacle:
  - a. First half of the book covers the various sacrifices and duties of Priests.
  - b. Second half of the book states principles of personal (as well as ritual) holiness.
3. Leviticus was written to show Israel how to live in Fellowship with a Holy, Righteous God:
  - a. The importance of Atonement: *“Through the Sacrificial System”* – (Lev 17:11)
  - b. The importance of the Law: *“The Precepts of the Law”* - (Lev 18:5)
  - c. The importance of Obedience: *“The Penalties for Violations”* - (Lev 26:1-46)
4. The book of Leviticus can be divided into four major parts:
  - a. **The Way To Become Acceptable To God Through A Perfect Sacrifice** (Chapters 1-7):
    - 1) The Burnt Offering (Lev 1)
      - a) A Picture of Christ’s Atoning Sacrifice
      - b) The Only Way to Approach God
      - c) The Only Way to Become Reconciled and Acceptable to God
    - 2) The Grain or Meal Offering (Lev 2)
      - a) A Picture of Christ as The Bread of Life
      - b) The Way to Give Thanks
      - c) A Way to Show One’s Dedication to God
    - 3) The Fellowship or Peace Offering (Lev 3)
      - a) A Picture of Christ’s Atoning Sacrifice
      - b) The Way to Grow in Peace and Fellowship with God
      - c) The Way to Seek a Deeper Relationship with God

4) The Sin Offering (Lev 4:1-5:13)

- a) A Picture of Christ's Atoning Sacrifice
- b) The Way to Secure Forgiveness of Sin

5) The Guilt Offering (Lev 5:14-6:7)

- a) A Picture of Christ's Atoning Sacrifice
- b) The Way to Be Set Free from the Weight and Anguish of Guilt
- c) The Pricking of Conscience

6) Special Duties of the Priests Conducting the Offerings (Lev 6:8-7:38)

**b. The Way To Become Acceptable To God Through A Perfect Mediator (Lev 8-10):**

- 1) The Ordination of Priests – *"Steps to Ordination"* (Lev 8)
- 2) The Work and Ministry of Ordained Priests – *"Showing People How to become Acceptable to God"* (Lev 9)
- 3) The Judgment on False Religion – *"Fate of All Who Approach God in Wrong Way"* (Lev 10)

**c. The Way To Live a Holy Life Before God Through A Clean Body (Lev 11-16):**

1) Laws That Govern Clean and Unclean Animals (Lev 11)

- a) Symbolizes Physical and Spiritual Purity
- b) Taking Care of Body by Eating the Right Foods

2) Laws That Protect Mother and Child Right after Childbirth (Lev 12)

- a) Symbolizes that Sin Nature is Present in Child at Birth
- b) Demonstrates Need for Even Babies to Experience Spiritual Cleansing

3) Laws That Protect People from Leprosy or Infectious Skin Diseases (Lev 13)

- a) Symbolizes the Danger of the Disease of Sin
- b) Demonstrates the Need to Prevent the Spread of Sin

4) Laws That Cleanse and Restore People from Leprosy or Infectious Skin Diseases (Lev 14)

- a) Symbolizes that Sin can be Forgiven and Cleansed
- b) Demonstrates that Sinners can be Restored to Fellowship

5) Laws That Protect People from Sexual Diseases (Lev 15)

- a) Symbolizes How Defiling Sin Is
- b) Demonstrates that Sinners can be Cleansed from Sin

6) Great Provision of God to Make a Person Holy (Lev 16)

- a) Description of the Great Day of Atonement
- b) Symbolizes the Only Way to Approach God
- c) Demonstrates that Shed Blood is the Only Way to Make Atonement for Sin

**d. The Way To Live a Holy Life Before God Through A Pure Spirit (Lev 17-27):**

1) Laws that Preserve the Atonement (Lev 17)

- a) Don't Commit Idolatry
- b) Don't Abuse the Shed Blood of the Sacrifice

2) Laws that Govern Sexual Behavior (Lev 18)

- a) Prohibitions against Illicit Sex
- b) Prohibitions against Perverted Sex

3) Laws that Govern Day-to-Day Personal Conduct (Lev 19)

- a) The Duty to Live a Life of Separation to God
- b) The Duty to Live a Life of Devotion to God

4) Laws that Spell Out the Punishment for Terrible Crimes (Lev 20)

5) Laws That Govern the Priests, the Ministers of God (Lev 21-22)

- a) Requirements for the Priesthood
- b) Qualifications for the Priesthood
- c) Duties of the Priesthood

6) Laws That Govern the Annual Feasts (Lev 23)

- a) A "7" Part Picture of Christ's Work
- b) The Feasts take us from Christ's Death at Calvary to Christ's Return to Earth

7) Laws That Govern the Lampstand, the Holy Bread, and the Cursing of God (Lev 24)

- a) Presents Availability of God
- b) Presents Judgment Against Cursing God

8) Laws That Govern Use of Property and Treatment of the Poor (Lev 25)

- a) Presents God's Rules for Social Justice
- b) Presents God's Desire for Man's Freedom

9) Exhortation to Obey God's Laws (Lev 26)

- a) Promises of Blessings for Obedience
- b) Warnings of Curses for Disobedience

10) Laws That Govern Vows and Commitments Made to God (Lev 27)

5. Author of the book of Leviticus is Moses, according to:

- a. Internal Evidence (Lev 1:1; Lev 27:34)
- b. Old Testament (Ezra 6:18)
- c. New Testament (Rom 10:5; 1Cor 9:9; 2Cor 3:15)
- d. Jesus Christ (Matt 8:2-4)

6. The book of Leviticus was written somewhere between 1446-1406 B.C.

7. The book of Leviticus was written for three major Purposes:

- a. Historical Purpose: *It gave the Israelites a handbook on: 1) How to approach God and become acceptable to Him; 2) How to live a clean, holy life before God.*
- b. Doctrinal Purpose: *Teaches all of Mankind at least 3 things:*
  - 1) *God is a Holy God who does NOT accept any form of worship!*
  - 2) *God has determined that there is ONLY "1" way to approach Him!*
  - 3) *God expects those that Worship Him to live a Holy Life!*
- c. Christological Purpose: *Use various things throughout the book to point to Jesus Christ:*
  - 1) *As the Perfect Sacrifice, the Lamb of God who takes away our sin.*
  - 2) *As the Perfect High Priest, the Mediator between God and man.*
  - 3) *As the Only One who has Power to help Believers live Holy Lives.*