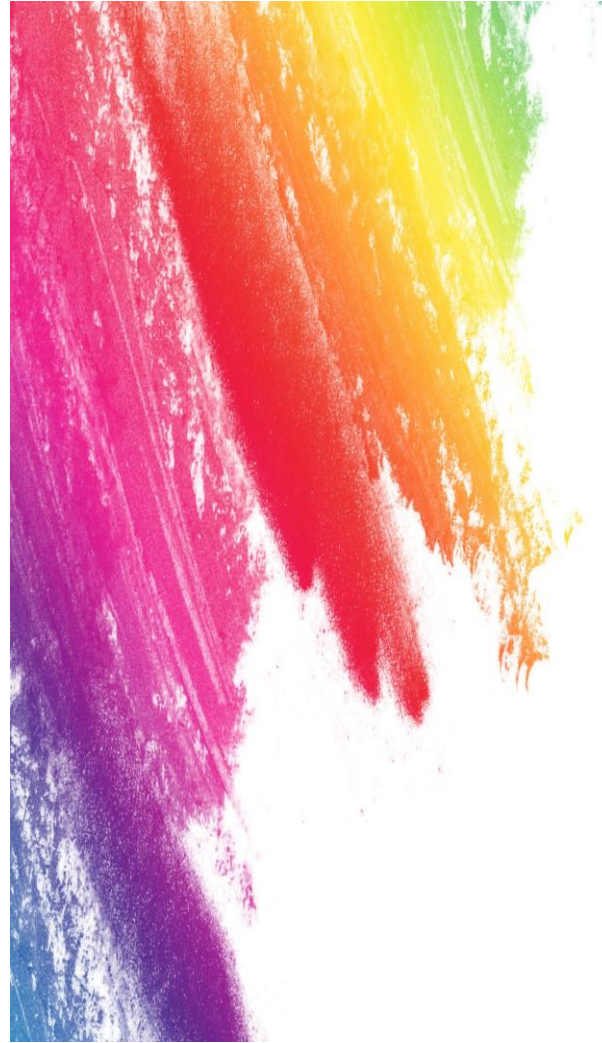


THE TORAH

LEVITICUS

BENJAMIN ASANTE

TRINITY STUDENT)



# INTRODUCING LEVITICUS

## WHAT HAPPENED?

1. Exodus of Israel
2. Covenant at Mount Sinai ( Exodus 19:5)
3. Covenant broken ( Exodus 32:8)
4. Moses couldn't enter the presence ( Exodus 40:35)

"How can people who are considered unholy by God be reconciled with Him?"

"How God is graciously providing a way for sinful corrupt people to live in His presence."



# ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

Abraham crying for a baby!

Genesis 15:5

He took him outside and said, "Look up at the sky and count the stars-if indeed you can count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be."

Genesis 15:13

Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there."



# ANCIENT ARCHITECT

God's plan did not begin with us. It will not end with us.

His plan and purpose transcend our age and our time.

Pastor Steve preached the last three weeks on Job 28 asking where can wisdom and understanding be found.

Isaiah said...

Isaiah 55:8

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD.





# ANCIENT ARCHITECT



# THE MAN BEHIND CREATION





# ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

Genesis 15:14

But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.

Genesis 15:18

On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land, from the Wadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates-

Genesis 15:19,21

the land of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, [21] Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites and Jebusites."



# ABRAHAMIC COVENANT

Up until this time, Israel was walking in its prophetic plan & destiny that was said about them to their Father Abraham when the covenant was sculptured.

Exodus 3:8

So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey-the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.





# WHO IS GOD?

Exodus 34:6-7

6. And He passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “the LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious GOD, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,

7. Maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation



# WHO IS GOD?

## LEVITICUS 19:2

“Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy.” How Israel was to live as a holy nation is the burden of Leviticus.

Who is God?

God is Holy

“Set apart or unique”

Life, Purity, Goodness & Justice

“Author and Creator of Life”



# WHO IS ISRAEL?

## EXODUS 9:1

Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘This is what the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, says: **“Let my people go, so that they may worship me.**

## 1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.

A nation God has called to be set apart to unveil His glory through them to the nations.



## WHO IS ISRAEL?

### EXODUS 32:9-10

“9. I have seen these people,” the LORD said to Moses,  
“and they are a stiff-necked people.

“10. Now leave me alone so that my anger may burn  
against them and that I may destroy them. Then I will  
make you into a great nation.”





# GOD & HIS PEOPLE

Among God's people, He has chosen Israel to be His people.

1. They are stiff-necked

2. I may destroy them



# GOD & HIS PEOPLE

1. They are stiff-necked. ( At least the signs and wonders you saw in Egypt should inform your decisions today yet they remained the same.

Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is-his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Hebrews 3:9

where your ancestors tested and tried me, though for forty years they saw what I did.



# GOD & HIS PEOPLE

2. I may destroy them

**Exodus 34:7**

Maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion, and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation



# GOD REDEEMPTIVE PLAN

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

God's redemptive strategy to restore His people to His presence to fulfill the Abrahamic covenant led us to the book of Leviticus.  
(Abrahamic Covenant Genesis 17)







# BREAK DOWN OF LEVITICUS

Chapter 1-7 various kinds of sacrifices that must take place

Chapter 8-10 Preparation of Moses' brother Aaron as High Priest

Chapters 11-15 outline the purity laws.

Chapters 17-27 enumerate various laws about holiness.



# INSIDE LEVITICUS

Inside the first breakdown are various kinds of sacrifices that God required from His people to meet to atone for their sins.

Leviticus doesn't have many stories. With the exception of the story of Nadab and Abihu, there is nothing other in Leviticus than the laws passed on to God's people.





# Five Key Jewish Offerings

OFFERING	PURPOSE	SIGNIFICANCE	CHRIST THE PERFECT OFFERING
<b>BURNT OFFERING</b> Lev. 1 - Voluntary	To make payment for sins in general	Showed a person's devotion to God	Christ's Death was the perfect offering
<b>GRAIN OFFERING</b> Lev. 2 - Voluntary	To show honor and respect for God in worship	Acknowledged that all we have belongs to God	Christ was the perfect man, who gave all of himself to God and others
<b>PEACE OFFERING</b> Lev. 3 - Voluntary	To express gratitude to God	Symbolized peace and fellowship with God	Christ is the only way to fellowship with God
<b>SIN OFFERING</b> Lev. 4 - Required	To make payment for unintentional sins of uncleanness, neglect, or thoughtlessness	Restored the sinner to fellowship with God; showed the seriousness of sin	Christ's death restores our fellowship with God
<b>GUILT OFFERING</b> Lev. 5 - Required	To make payment for sins against God and others. A sacrifice was made to God, and the injured person was repaid or compensated	Provided compensation for injured parties	Christ's death takes away the deadly consequences



## SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

Israelites are desperate in need of God however they are entangled with all sorts of sins. A substitute system God incorporated to turn His people Israel away from their sins, pay their debt sin, cleanse and purify the community and the temple from sin, and allow them to stay in God's presence.



# THE ORDINATION OF AARON AND HIS SONS

Chapter 8-10 Preparation of Moses' brother Aaron as High Priest

Chapter 8 is broken up into seven sections. Each section ends with the words and Moses did as the Lord commanded



## THE ORDINATION OF AARON AND HIS SONS

1. Moses gathers all the materials and people he will need in order to ordain the priests. He also gathers the entire congregation around the tent of meeting (vs. 1-4).
2. Moses washes Aaron and his sons (they are to be set apart as Holy so they must be made clean) and dresses Aaron in the special attire of the High Priest (vs. 5-9).



## THE ORDINATION OF AARON AND HIS SONS

3. Moses anoints Aaron and everything in the Tabernacle with the specially made anointing oil (see Exodus 30:22-33). He then dresses Aaron's sons (vs. 10-13).

4. Then Moses follows the instructions for the purification offering (or sin offering see Leviticus 4) and offers it to atone for the sins of Aaron and his sons (he also purifies the altar of burnt offering) (vs. 14-17).





## THE ORDINATION OF AARON AND HIS SONS

5. Moses then offers a burnt offering on behalf of Aaron and his sons (see Leviticus 5:14-6:7) (vs. 18-21).

6. Moses then presents the ram as an ordination offering (a type of fellowship or peace offering see Leviticus 3) He then consecrates Aaron and his sons from head to toe by putting the blood of the ordination offering on their right ears, thumbs, and toes. Moses then offers the fat of the ordination offering and the bread as a wave offering to the Lord before burning it (vs. 22-29).



## THE ORDINATION OF AARON AND HIS SONS

7. Moses takes some of the anointing oil and some of the blood and sprinkles it on Aaron and his sons' clothing to further consecrate them (it would also serve as a visual reminder to the Israelites that their sins were paid for with blood). Then Moses gives instructions for eating the ordination offering. He also gives the priests instructions for the completion of their ordination (stay in front of the tent of meeting for 7 days) (vs.30-36).



## THE LORD ACCEPTS AARON OFFERING

Chapter 9 opens on the eighth day after the day of ordination (when the priests' consecration would have been complete). Moses gives instructions to Aaron and his sons for offering their first sacrifices to the Lord. They are to offer a sin offering and a burnt offering for themselves and a sin offering, a burnt offering, and a fellowship offering for the people.

The elders participated on behalf of the people of Israel. So, Aaron and his sons performed the offerings as the Lord (and Moses) commanded.



## **NADAB AND ABIHU COSTLY MISTAKE**

Chapter 10 opens only moments later, with the death of Nadab and Abihu (Aaron's oldest sons) for failing to revere the holiness of God.

Nadab and Abihu offered “unauthorized fire” before the Lord and were immediately killed. Nadab and Abihu's bodies are removed from the sanctuary. The word translated sanctuary here means “the holy place” indicating that Nadab and Abihu had entered the Holy of Holies, a place no one was permitted to enter (except the High Priest once a year on the Day of Atonement). The beginning verses of chapter 16 seem to indicate this as well.





## NEW TESTAMENT CONTINUITY

Leviticus 10:3

Moses then said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke of when he said: "Among those who approach me I will be proved holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honored.'" Aaron remained silent.

God is warning Aaron. He is reminding him that if Aaron and his sons do not treat him with the reverence that He deserves, then God will use their deaths to glorify Himself.

Did God use the death of Ananias and Sapphira to glorify Himself? (Acts 5:1-11)



## THE PURITY LAWS

How can anyone be fit for God? The Bible has much to say about how we're unfit to approach him and how we can be changed. Leviticus chapters 11 to 15 speak about the many things in normal life that would make you unclean.

1. If you were unclean, you weren't fit to approach God.
2. If you were clean, you could approach with sacrifices.
3. Israel's great gift was access to God – and uncleanness cut you off from community and from God.



# THE PURITY LAWS

## Food laws

In Leviticus 11, all kinds of animals, birds, insects, and fish are labeled 'clean' and 'unclean' as food.

## Childbirth

In Leviticus 12, we see that a woman would be unclean after childbirth – the amount of time varied whether she had given birth to a boy or a girl.

## Skin disease

In Leviticus 13 & 14, there's a lot said about uncleanness from having a skin disease – anything from a mild skin complaint to something like leprosy.



# THE PURITY LAWS

Bodily emissions

And then Leviticus 15 lists all sorts of bodily emissions like sex and monthly periods that make someone unclean.

The world is not your friend nor the world's law.  
God intends for His people to be different.





## THE HOLINESS CODE

Lev 17-27 is commonly called the “Holiness Code” by biblical scholars. These chapters are marked by a concern for holy living on the part of the people rather than a concern with sacrificial systems or ritual purity, as are the first sixteen chapters of the book.

The holy living to which the Holiness Code calls the people is to be exemplified in all areas of life—economic, social, sexual, and family. Lev 19:2 “You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy” (20:7, 26; 21:8). “I am the LORD” or “I am the LORD your God.” (These two phrases occur only two times in Leviticus 1-16, but forty-seven times in chapters 17-26.) The people are to be holy because the Lord their God is holy

# THE HOLINESS CODE

. . .  
. . .  
. . .  
. . .  
. . .

. . The quality of our lives matters more than the duration. More important to God  
. . for His people to be holy than to be old.

. . .  
. . .  
. . .

. . . LORD, help me to live a life that brings glory to Your Name.

. . .



# JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

Leviticus 9:22

Then Aaron lifted his hands toward the people and blessed them. And having sacrificed the sin offering, the burnt offering, and the fellowship offering, he stepped down.

God's people need sacrifices because they inevitably fail to be holy.

Here, Aaron was ordained as a high priest to offer offerings on behalf of the people.

The sacrifices taught us that sin brings death and that only shed blood brings atonement.



# JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

Leviticus 17:11

For the life of a creature is in the blood, and I have given it to you to make atonement for yourselves on the altar; it is the blood that makes atonement for one's life.

The animal was slaughtered for substitution.

Only blood could atone for the sins of people.

Hebrews 9:22

Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood, there is no forgiveness of sins.



# JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

Leviticus 6:12

The fire on the altar must be kept burning; it must not go out. Every morning the priest is to add firewood and arrange the burnt offering on the fire and burn the fat of the fellowship offerings on it.

Behind the whole sacrificial system is that the people would keep sinning.

Leviticus 16:21

He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites—all their sins—and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the wilderness in the care of someone appointed for the task.



## **JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM**

Leviticus teaches that we deserve death for our sins, our righteousness has failed us and we too need a sacrificial substitute. To find that sacrificial system, we turn to the book that could be called the New Testament commentary on Leviticus.

1. The sacrificial system was only a means to teach people about the sacrifice of the coming Messiah, Jesus Christ. The reality was Jesus Himself.

Hebrews 10:1

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming-not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.

# JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

Matthew 1:21

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

# JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

By contrast, Jesus was the sacrifice of atonement for taking away or expiating sin

1. John 1:29 – The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!”

Rom 3:25 – God presented Him as the atoning sacrifice through faith in His blood, in order to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance He had passed over the sins committed beforehand.



# JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

John 2:2 - He Himself is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 Cor 5:7 - Get rid of the old leaven, that you may be a new unleavened batch, as you really are. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

Acts 4:12 - Salvation exists in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.”

# JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

· ·  
· ·  
· ·  
· ·  
· ·  
· ·  
· · Hebrews 13:11-12

· ·  
· · The high priest carries the blood of animals into the Most Holy Place as a sin  
· ·  
· · offering, but the bodies are burned outside the camp.

· ·  
· ·  
· · [12] And so Jesus also suffered outside the city gate to make the people holy  
through his own blood.



# JESUS THE FULFILMENT OF THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM

1 Peter 1:19-20 NIV

but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

[20] He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.

## **BIG IDEA**

God is the plaintiff who stands in accusation against our sins and God the Son is the punished one who satisfies the demands of God's justice.

Our purity and righteousness are found only in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the spotless Lamb of God. No one has ever shared your human nature entirely and yet remained without sin. No one else has been able to absorb the full wrath of God and satisfy it entirely. Only in Christ has God, who is deeply offended by your sins and mine, made a provision for salvation.