

Old Testament Survey  
Leviticus (Part One)

The title of the book of Leviticus is derived from the Septuagint (Greek Translation of the Old Testament) meaning *“that which pertains to the Levites.”*

The book of Exodus describes the construction of the Tabernacle

The book of Leviticus describes the priestly function within the Tabernacle

- Author – Moses
- Place – Mount Sinai
- Time – The book of Leviticus covers a period of 11 months
- People – The original audience was redeemed Israel
- Genre – It is the language of legal literature
- Biblical Significance – Referenced forty times in the New Testament
- Purpose – Leviticus gives direction for the believers worship (chapters 1-16) and the believers walk (chapters 17-27). It shows how God wants His people to be different.

Key verse: *Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy. **Lev 19:2** (NKJV)*

The word *holy* appears over 80 times in Leviticus

*Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.” **1 Pet 1:13-16** (NIV)*

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The Levitical Offerings – The offerings were to be an expression of the heart establishing both the foundation and maintenance of our fellowship with God.

1. Burnt Offering (1:3-17; 6:5-13) – Total surrender and commitment

Picture of Christ: *And walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. **Eph 5:2** (NIV)*

Picture of Believers: *Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. **Rom 12:1*** (NIV)

2. Grain Offering (2:1-16; 6:14-23) – Expression of gratitude and thanks; a recognition that daily sustenance and abundance had been provided for by God.
3. Peace Offering (3:1-17; 7:11-36) – It was an offering to be shared with God, the priest and the worshipper expressing communion and fellowship with God and man.

*For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility. **Eph 2:14*** (NIV)

4. Sin Offering (4:1-35; 6:24-30) – Maintaining a right fellowship with God by providing the forgiveness of unintentional sin or personal defilement.

Ex. Peter requesting that he be washed all over (John 13)

*If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. **1 John 1:9*** (NIV)

5. Trespass Offering (5:14-6:7) – The principle of restitution expressing genuine repentance reminding us that every sin carries with it a cost.

Ex. Story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19) – Restore four fold

Warren Wiersbe Outline of the Offerings:

Burnt and Grain Offerings – Our commitment to God

Peace Offering – Our communion with God

Sin and Trespass Offering – Our cleansing from God