

Leviticus Introduction and Chapter 1

- Characteristics
 - Regulations
 - Regulations for Priests and Levites
 - Regulations for Hebrew laymen
 - Regulations given by God through Moses as God spoke to Moses (direct revelation)
 - Written in narrative style
 - “then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying”
 - Connected directly to Genesis and Exodus
 - Ex. 19:6; Ex. 25-31, 35-40
- Structure
 - 1-15 Priestly holiness
 - 16 The Day of Atonement
 - 17-27 Practical holiness
- Quoted frequently in scripture
 - Most completely linked with Ezekiel
- Key theological elements
 - The Presence of God
 - Holiness
 - The Role of Sacrifice
 - The Sinai Covenant

Leviticus 1:1-17 The Law of Burnt Offerings

- Nothing new here
 - Origin – Garden - animal sacrifice for sin
 - First Burnt Offering Genesis 8
 - Burnt offering of clean animals 8:20
 - Abraham offering Isaac Gen. 22
 - Exodus 10:25-26; 18:12; 20:24; 24:5; 32:6
- Burnt Offerings
 - Personal and private, voluntary v. 2 “when”
 - Men only - Household Spiritual Leadership Job 1:5
 - This section of scripture is the how, not the when
 - Clearly the most common sacrifice
 - Whole offerings, everything consumed by fire
 - No benefit to the one offering it nor to the priests
 - Violations taken very seriously
 - Three types of animals
 - From the herd

- From the flocks
 - Birds - pigeons or turtledoves
 - Highest quality animals required
 - There had to be financial/value sacrifice
 - Activity alternates between Priest and offerer
- Why do it?
 - Identification with one's own sinfulness
 - In killing the animal one also identifies with the death that he deserves
 - Another reminder of the offerer's depravity
 - Acknowledgment of a divine solution for man's fallen condition
 - Atonement for sin
 - Specifically, substitutional atonement
 - For the real goal of gaining God's acceptance v. 3