

CHRONOLOGY OF LEVITICUS EVENTS AND MESSAGES

The first month after The Tabernacle was erected in the wilderness at Sinai was a momentous period of time. The forms and institutions Israel was to follow in their nation's religion and government had been instituted, but only a few aspects of the way of worship and the way of life that were to be practiced through those institutions had been revealed. The same day Israel erected The Tabernacle, God began to show them what their religious, civic, and economic practices were to be. He revealed them by speaking to Moses out of The Tabernacle from above the Covering that stood over the Ark of the Covenant. As He spoke to Moses day by day, in thirty days time He gave to Israel the outline of a distinctive way of life that was to set the Israelites apart from all other nations of the world. If you have looked at those revelations in detail by using this Commentary, it will be helpful to review the events that occurred and the MESSAGES God spoke during those days to get a panoramic view of the spectacular revelations God gave in so short a period of time. A summary of both is listed on the next page for your consideration.

At the end of that breathtaking month of revelations, more details of Israel's distinctive way of life still remained to be revealed. God continued to reveal those details as Israel traveled through the wilderness toward the Land God promised to give them. Their travels and the MESSAGES God delivered during those travels are recorded in the Book of Numbers. Near the end of their travels, when Israel stood on the border of their Land, Moses delivered three MESSAGES to them, instructing them about how their way of life should be practiced in a settled life in the Land. He challenged them to live that life faithfully, and he promised them prosperity and peace if they would live that life and mean it from their hearts. He also warned them that, if they departed from that way of life or practiced it insincerely, they would experience poverty and defeat. The MESSAGES he delivered to them on the plains of Moab near the end of his life are recorded in the Book of Deuteronomy.

The rest of the Old Testament is an inspired Record of how miserably Israel failed to follow Moses' challenge and live that life. From the time the Israelites entered the Land God gave them, they became enamored with the gods of the Canaanites and of other surrounding nations. They continued to defile themselves with the worship of false gods up until God exiled them in Assyria and Babylon. Yet, after seventy years in exile God restored them to their Land and gave them another chance. That time they did not prostitute themselves with pagan religions, but they turned the forms and ceremonies Jehovah had taught them into dead legalistic observances that ignored their spiritual meaning and significance. God was just as displeased with their legalistic practice of His teachings as He had been with their abandonment of His teachings.

Therefore, God sent His Son Jesus to salvage the Israelites and His work among them by canceling the whole system He had instituted at Sinai and by teaching them to observe the same principles in a new and freer way. True to their stubbornness, the Israelites resisted Jesus and clung to their legalistic practices as tenaciously as they had formerly abandoned those same practices. Through a faithful few, God preserved the new way Jesus had come to introduce to the Israelites and to the world. In a dramatic way, Jesus Himself came to an earnest-hearted but misled man named Paul and convinced him that He was God's Son and that His teachings were God's way of preserving His truth in a new age. Paul recorded in the Book of Galatians the pathway Jesus used to lead him to that understanding. The Book of Galatians is as remarkable a survey of how God revealed to Paul His new way of teaching His truth as the Book of Leviticus is a remarkable survey of the old way Jehovah revealed at Sinai. When you have surveyed the events and MESSAGES of the Book of Leviticus on the next page, take time to study the accompanying Commentary on the Book of Galatians, and get a fresh view of the way God has changed His methods to teach the ancient truths He has revealed since the beginning.

<u>DAY</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>MESSAGE #</u>	<u>MESSAGE TOPIC</u>	<u>REFERENCE</u>
FIRST MONTH AFTER THE ERECTION OF THE TABERNACLE				LEVITICUS
1	Erection of The Tabernacle	1	Rededication, Homage, Slaughter Offerings	1:1-3:17
2		2	Sin-offerings	4:1-5:13
3		3	Offense-offerings for offenses against Jehovah	5:14-19
4		4	Offense offerings for offenses against other people	6:1-7
5		5	Continual-offerings	6:8-18
6		6	Homage-offerings of the day of anointing	6:19-23
7		7	Regular fire-offerings	6:24-7:21
8		8	Eating fat and blood forbidden	7:22-27
9		9	Wave-offerings and contribution for the priests	7:28-36
10	Hallowing of priests	10	Command to hallow the priests and their hallowing	8:1-9:24
11	Second day of filling	14	Uncleanness from unclean creatures	11:1-47
12	Third day of filling	15	Uncleanness from childbirth	12:1-8
13	Fourth day of filling	16	Uncleanness from <i>tsaraath</i> on people, cloth, leather	13:1-59
14	Fifth day of filling	17	Cleansing of a person healed of <i>tsaraath</i>	14:1-32
15	Sixth day of filling	18	Uncleanness from <i>tsaraath</i> in houses	14:33-53
16	Seventh day of filling	19	Uncleanness from bodily discharges	15:1-33
17	Priests began serving; Nadab and Abihu rebelled.	11	Nadab and Abihu punished with death	10:1-7
		12	Drinking alcohol forbidden to priests on duty	10:8-11
		13	Deviation of Aaron, Eleazar, Ithamar forgiven	10:12-19
18		20	Day of Coverings	16:1-34
19		21	Forbidden Ceremonies	17:1-16
20		22	Laws relating to sex crimes	18:1-30
21		23	Laws relating to many subjects	19:1-37
22		24	Laws requiring the death penalty	20:1-27
23		25	Priests' conduct regarding death, grooming, marriage	21:1-15
24		26	Blemishing disqualifying a priest from fire-offerings	21:16-24
25		27	Conditions disqualifying priest and his family from eating meat from fire-offerings	22:1-16
26		28	Blemishing disqualifying an animal from fire-offerings	22:17-25
27		29	Other factors disqualifying an animal from fire-offerings	22:26-33
28		30	Holy assemblies for the sabbath and the Feast of Unleavened Bread	23:1-8
		31	Holy assemblies for second day of Feast of Unleavened Bread and Feast of Weeks	23:9-22
		32	Holy assembly for Memorial of Noise-Making	23:23-25
		33	Holy assembly for Day of Coverings	23:26-32
		34	Holy assemblies for the first day of the Feast of Booths and the day following that Feast	23:33-44
		35	Oil and bread for The Tabernacle	24:1-9
	A man blasphemed God's name	36	Penalties for blasphemy and other crimes	24:10-23
29		37	Economic obligations of Israelites to each other	25:1-26:46
30		38	Economic obligations of Israelites to Jehovah	27:1-34
SECOND MONTH AFTER THE ERECTION OF THE TABERNACLE				NUMBERS
1	Census taken; results announced	1	Take a census of every man; the census and its results	1:1-54