



TAKE TIME TO BE HOLY

Studies in Leviticus and Numbers

ABSTRACT

Leviticus teaches Israel how to be transformed into God's holy nation. Numbers organizes them as a nation, tells of their refusal to enter the land, and then brings them to edge of Canaan after a generation has perished in the wilderness.

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Memory Verses

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light.” Genesis 1:1-3

“Now the Lord had said to Abram: ‘Get out of your country, from your family and from your father's house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’” Genesis 12:1-3

“Joseph said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.’” Genesis 50:19-20

“And Moses said to the people: ‘Remember this day in which you went out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out of this place.’” Exodus 13:3

“Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep my covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.” Exodus 19:5

“Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.” Exodus 40:34

Lessons 1-4 “For I am the LORD who brings you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.” Leviticus 11:45

Lessons 5-8 “Now when the people complained, it displeased the LORD; for the LORD heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of the LORD burned among them, and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.” Numbers 11:1

Lessons 9-13 “Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, ‘Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them.’” Numbers 20:12

Lesson One: Be Holy as God Is Holy

Exodus 3:1-6; 19:1-15; Leviticus 18:1-5, 24-30; 20:22-26; 1 Peter 1:13-16; 2:1-12

1. Define the words holy, sanctify, and consecrate.
2. When did the Lord first refer to Israel as a holy nation?
3. They were also referred to as a kingdom of _____.
4. What made the ground near the burning bush holy?
5. What was Moses instructed to do after being told he was on holy ground?
6. In preparation for the Lord's descent on Mt. Sinai, Moses was told to _____ the people.
7. Who proclaimed the Lord's holiness in Isaiah 6?
8. To be God's holy people Israel had to be sure they didn't behave like the _____ they had previously been with, nor imitate the conduct of those in _____, the land to which they were going.
9. Holiness would require that they learn to observe the Lord's _____ and keep His _____.
10. Israel was warned that the land would _____ them out if they committed the _____ of the Canaanites.
11. The Lord had _____ them from the people that they might be _____.
Lev. 20:26
12. Peter quoted from Leviticus in warning his readers not to conform to the _____ which were part of the old life.
13. 1 Peter 2 calls Christians a holy _____ and a holy _____.
14. Both Leviticus and 1 Peter say the Lord is our standard of holiness. In what ways is our holiness like His? How, if at all, is it different?

Lesson Two: Sacrifices to the Lord

Leviticus 1-7; Hebrews 10:1-14

1. Hebrews 9:22 says that without shedding of _____ there can be no _____.
2. Leviticus is the book of holiness and in order for unholy people to be made holy and able to approach the holy God sacrifices had to be offered. While we live under a different covenant with different sacrifices, we can still learn some important lessons from these laws.
3. The burnt offering was to be a male without _____.
4. What was done with the skin of the burnt offering? 7:8
5. How much of a burnt offering was consumed on the altar?
6. For more on the grain offerings, see Numbers 15.
7. Who received the biggest portion of the grain offering?
8. What two things were forbidden in a grain offering burnt in the fire?
9. What portion of the peace offering was burned on the altar?
10. What portions of the peace offering did the priests receive? 7:28-36
11. The one offering the peace offering was allowed to eat the rest of the animal, but any leftovers had to be burned on the _____ day. 7:11-18
12. The regulations for sin and trespass offerings can seem complicated, but pay attention to the ones for which blood was carried into the tabernacle and ones in which the blood was only put on the horns of the altar and poured out at its base.
13. Who ate the flesh of the sin offering? When was everyone forbidden to eat the flesh of a sin offering?
14. “The blood of bulls and goats could not take away _____.” Heb. 10:4
15. The Levitical priests _____ ministering daily in offering sacrifices, but after _____ sacrifice Jesus _____ at the right hand of God.

Lesson Three: Priests Working for the Lord

Leviticus 6:8-13; 8-10, 21

1. What did the high priest wear when performing his duties? Describe the garments worn by the other priests. Ex. 28
2. Who witnessed the consecration of Aaron and his sons to be priests?
3. Where did Moses apply the anointing oil?
4. List the different sacrifices offered in Lev. 8.
5. Where did Aaron and his sons cook the ram of consecration?
6. The new priests were to stay at the tabernacle _____ and _____ for seven days.
7. Until the eighth day Moses acted as a priest in offering the sacrifices, but now Aaron and his sons are to begin their work.
8. What did Aaron sacrifice as a sin offering for himself?
9. What was slain as a sin offering for the people?
10. When did the glory of the Lord appear to the people?
11. How did the people react when fire came out from the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar?
12. Why did fire come out from the Lord and kill Nadab and Abihu?
13. Why were Aaron and his two remaining sons not allowed to mourn for Nadab and Abihu?
14. The priests had to be clearheaded and able to distinguish between _____ and _____, _____ and _____.
15. Why did Moses become angry with Eleazar and Ithamar?
16. Study carefully the regulations for priests in ch. 21.
 - a. Priests were not allowed to defile themselves for any of the dead, except what close relatives?
 - b. Whom were they forbidden to marry?
 - c. What descendants of Aaron were disqualified from the priesthood?

Lesson Four: Laws for God's People

Leviticus 11-15; 17-20; 24:10-23; 26

1. The laws the Lord gave His people were intended to transform them into a holy people. Many of these laws guided them in the moral realm, some in their worship of the Lord, but there were some that seem to have had the primary intention of teaching obedience and separation from the nations around them.
2. What land animals were forbidden to them as food? What water animals were forbidden? Which insects were they allowed to eat?
3. What foods are forbidden to the Christian today?
4. They were to be holy because the Lord had brought them out of _____ to be their _____ and He was holy.
5. How long was a woman considered unclean after childbirth? What offering did Joseph and Mary bring after the birth of Jesus? Luke 2:22-24
6. Note on leprosy: While the term leprosy today is usually restricted to Hansen's disease, in the Bible it seems to have referred to a wide array of skin disorders.
7. Who was responsible for "diagnosing" leprosy?
8. Where were lepers required to dwell?
9. Lev. 14 and the ritual for cleansing the healed lepers will help you understand Matt. 8:1-4 and Luke 17:11-14.
10. Any kind of discharge from the body made one unclean (Lev. 15). These discharges were not sinful things, but the Lord used physical uncleanness to teach the importance of approaching Him in an undefiled way.
11. While we don't live under the laws of Lev. 15, reading these can help us better appreciate the sufferings of the woman in Luke 8 (also Matt. 9 and Mark 5).
12. Why did God forbid the eating of blood? When was this prohibition first mentioned in the Bible? Where in the New Testament is it found?
13. They were warned against imitating the doings of the land of _____, where they had dwelt, and the doings of the land of _____, to which they were going.
14. What would "the land" do to Israel if they defiled themselves with the abominations of the nations before them?
15. How many times in Lev. 19 do we read "I am the LORD" or "I am the LORD your God?"

16. "You shall _____ your neighbor _____."
17. What were they do with their fields and vineyards that would benefit the poor?
18. Does Lev. 19:28 mean it is a sin for a Christian to get a tattoo?
19. Take note in ch. 20 of how many times the death penalty was attached to sin. The LORD wanted them to take seriously their call to holiness.
20. What did Israel do first when a man was caught blaspheming in ch. 24?
21. Lev. 26 is very similar to Deut. 28 with its blessings and curses, with the former being spoken at Mt. Sinai and the latter delivered to the younger generation in the plains of Moab.
22. Among the blessings of obedience, the Lord promised to set His _____ among them and _____ among them." 26:11-12

Lesson Five: Special Days and Feasts

Leviticus 16; 23; 25:1-22; Numbers 15:32-36; Hebrews 9

1. The Sabbath was a day of rest and holy convocation. What does the word convocation mean?
2. When did the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread take place? What great event did it memorialize?
3. In addition to the eating of unleavened bread, they were to bring a sheaf of the _____ of the harvest to wave before the Lord.
4. Fifty days after Passover they celebrated another feast day. What was it called in Ex. 23:16? In Deut. 16:9-10?
5. What holy day marked the beginning of the seventh month?
6. When did the Feast of Tabernacles come? What did it commemorate?
7. The Day of Atonement fell on the _____ day of the _____ month.
8. Note that “afflict your souls” was understood as a command to fast, making the Day of Atonement the only commanded fast day of the Law.
9. For whom did the high priest offered a bull as a sacrifice on the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)?
10. Describe the actions taken with the two goats on the Day of Atonement?
11. What were the Israelites to do with their fields every seven years?
12. What was done with the land in the Year of Jubilee?

Lesson Six: Israel's Murmurings

Numbers 1:1-4, 44-54; 3:5-15, 39; 6:1-8, 22-27; 9:1—12:16

1. We must not forget that Israel arrived at Mt. Sinai as a loosely organized band of escaped slaves. One of the things that had to be done was to become more organized and ready to invade the land of promise. The first four chapters of Numbers help us see the organization with which they camped, marched, and cared for the tabernacle. We will not cover these chapters in detail, but I do recommend reading them, even though they are not part of the “required” reading for this lesson.
2. Who was counted in the census of ch. 1 and who was excluded?
3. Ch. 2 details the way the tribes were organized into four armies, how they camped, and how they traveled.
4. The Levites were given to _____ and his _____ to take care of the needs of the _____.
5. The Levites had been taken by God instead of the _____.
6. How many Levites were counted in the first census? What ages were included in the counting of the Levites?
7. List the things required by the Nazirite vow.
8. Why were some unable to keep the first Passover after leaving Egypt?
9. How did they decide when those who missed the first Passover would be able to keep it?
10. How did the Israelites know when it was time to break camp?
11. List the different things for which the silver trumpets were used.
12. When did Israel leave Sinai? How long had they been there?
13. What man was asked to be the “eyes” of Israel as they traveled through the wilderness?
14. How did the Lord punish the complaining that began in 11:1?
15. Who started the complaining about food?
16. What was Moses' complaint in 11:10-15?
17. Why were the seventy elders selected?
18. The Lord promised so much meat that it would come out of their _____.
19. What was the Lord's reply when Moses questioned how He was going to supply that much meat?
20. Who wanted Moses to force Eldad and Medad to stop prophesying? What was Moses' response?

21. When did the Lord strike Israel with a plague?
22. What was the complaint of Miriam and Aaron in ch. 12?
23. How was the relationship of Moses with God different from that of other prophets?
24. How long was Miriam excluded from the camp?

Lesson Seven: The Twelve Spies

Numbers 13, 14; Deuteronomy 1:19-46

1. When we compare Deut. 1 with Num. 13 we see that the people wanted men sent in to spy out the land and the Lord then gave instructions to Moses to have it done.
2. How are the 12 spies described in Num. 13:3?
3. What were they to look for in Canaan?
4. What fruits did they bring back to the people?
5. They described the land as flowing with _____ and _____, but inhabited by people who were _____.
6. Who was the first to speak up and urge Israel to go up and possess the land?
7. “We were like _____ in our own sight.”
8. The congregation of Israel _____ that night and then complained against _____ and _____.
9. The men said that their _____ and _____ would become victims/prey.
10. What did the people decide they wanted to do?
11. What reasons did Joshua and Caleb give for Israel being able to take Canaan?
12. What was the congregation intending to do to Joshua and Caleb before the glory of the Lord appeared?
13. The Lord threatened to strike the people with _____ and _____ them.
14. When Moses pleaded for Israel’s deliverance, what did he tell the Lord that the nations would say?
15. Moses’ intercessory prayer in Num. 14:17-19 was based on the Lord’s self-description in Ex. _____.
16. The men of Israel were said to have put the Lord to the test _____ times.
17. Though He relented from destroying the entire nation, all those who were numbered from _____ years old and above would die in the wilderness.
18. What two men were specifically exempted from this death sentence?
19. Why was number forty chosen for the years of wandering in the wilderness?

20. How did the ten unbelieving spies die?
21. What did Moses tell the people when they changed their minds and decided to go up and take the land?
22. What happened when they launched an attack?

Lesson Eight: Leaders for God's People

Numbers 16-18

1. What tribes did the leaders of the rebellion come from?
2. How many men did Korah, Dathan, Abiram, and On have with them when they addressed Moses and Aaron?
3. What did they accuse Moses and Aaron of doing?
4. "Tomorrow morning the Lord will show who is _____, and who is _____."
5. Korah and his fellow-Levites were reminded of what privileges in 16:8-10?
6. What failure did Dathan and Abiram accuse Moses of in 16:12-14?
7. Moses and Aaron pleaded with the Lord not to destroy Israel because of the sin of _____ man.
8. What happened to Korah, Dathan, and Abiram?
9. How were the 250 men who were offering incense killed?
10. What was done with the censers of the 250? Why?
11. Why did the Lord send a plague among the people?
12. How was Aaron able to stop the plague?
13. How many were killed before the plague was stopped?
14. Why did Moses have each tribe bring a rod/staff to him?
15. Where were the twelve rods placed overnight?
16. How did the Lord demonstrate that Aaron was His chosen priest?
17. Where was Aaron's rod to be kept from that day forward?

Lesson Nine: Moses Sins

Numbers 20:1-29; 27:12-17; Psalm 106:32-33

1. When and where did Miriam die?
2. What is the complaint of Israel in Num. 20?
3. What were Moses and Aaron instructed to do in order to provide water?
4. “Must _____ bring water for you out of this rock?”
5. The Lord told Moses and Aaron that they had failed to _____ Him and had not _____ in the eyes of the people.
6. How would Moses and Aaron be punished?
7. What assurances did Moses give the king of Edom when requesting permission to pass through His land?
8. What did Israel do when Edom refused to give them passage through their land?
9. Where was Israel when Aaron died?
10. When did the death of Aaron take place? Num. 33:38-39
11. Who became the high priest when Aaron died?
12. What did Moses request of the Lord when told to go up and view the land before he was gathered to his people?

Lesson Ten: Obeying and Disobeying God

Numbers 21; Deuteronomy 2:8—3:11

1. Deuteronomy 2 tells us Israel was not to fight against or try to take the territory of what three nations?
2. What Canaanite king attacked Israel in Num. 21?
3. How did God punish their murmuring as they were going around the land of Edom?
4. How were they cured?
5. Where in the New Testament does Jesus compare Himself to this wilderness cure?
6. Be sure to locate the Zered, Arnon, and Jabbok Rivers on your map.
7. What did Israel do when King Sihon refused to allow them passage through his territory?
8. Locate Bashan on your map.
9. How large was Og's iron bedstead/bed? Deut. 3

Lesson Eleven: Blessing, Instead of Cursing, Israel

Numbers 22-24

1. Where was Israel camped when the events of Num. 22-24 took place?
2. Why were Balak and the Moabites frightened?
3. Where did Balaam live?
4. What did Balak ask Balaam to come and do for him?
5. Balaam told the messengers he would bring back word as _____ spoke to Him. He then refused to go because _____ told him not to go.
6. What was Balaam's initial response when the second group of messengers came from Balak?
7. "Stay here tonight, that I may know _____ the LORD will say to me."
8. Describe the actions of Balaam's donkey when she saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the way.
9. What river served as a boundary for the territory of Moab?
10. Balaam had Balak to prepare _____ altars with a _____ and a _____ on each.
11. Why did Balaam not come back from the desolate (bare) height and curse Israel?
12. What did Balak have Balaam do the second time in hopes of a different result?
13. Because He is not a man or son of man, God does not do what two things?
14. Balaam compared Israel to a lion that would not lie down until it had done what?
15. Balak angrily told Balaam that _____ had kept him back from honor.
16. In his fourth prophecy Balaam saw a _____ rising out of Jacob that would batter/crush the brow/forehead of _____.
17. How did Peter describe Balaam's motivation in 2 Peter 2:15-16?

Lesson Twelve: Getting Ready to Move

Numbers 25-26; 27:15-23; 31

1. What part did Balaam play in the sin at Acacia Grove (Shittim)?
2. The people of Israel were invited to the _____ of their gods and enticed into _____ by the women.
3. What were the judges of Israel told to do to those who were involved in the sin with Moab and Midian?
4. What did Phinehas do when an Israelite man presented to his brethren a Midianite woman?
5. How many died in the plague that resulted from this sin?
6. What did the Lord promise Phinehas because of his actions?
7. How many soldiers were counted in ch. 26?
8. How many of the soldiers counted in ch. 1 were still alive?
9. Moses asked that a successor be chosen so that Israel would not be like _____ which have no _____.
10. How many men were sent to fight against Midian?
11. Who carried the signal trumpets into battle?
12. How many kings of Midian were killed?
13. Why did Moses become angry when the soldiers returned?
14. How long did those who had killed someone or touched a dead body have to remain outside the camp?
15. How was the plunder from the battle divided between the soldiers and the general population? And how much from each was given to the Lord?
16. Why did the soldiers make a special offering to the Lord?

Lesson Thirteen: Preparing to Enter the Land

Numbers 32-36

1. Why did Reuben, Gad, and eventually half of Manasseh want to remain east of the Jordan?
2. Initially Moses was angry and thought they would _____ the heart of the children of Israel.
3. What promise did they make that caused Moses to relent?
4. The Lord had executed judgments on the _____ of Egypt. 33:5
5. When and where did Aaron die?
6. What did Moses warn would happen if they failed to completely drive out the inhabitants of Canaan?
7. How many cities were the Levites to receive?
8. How many cities of refuge were they to designate? What was the purpose of these cities?
9. Why was it important that they not accept a ransom for a murderer?
10. What was the concern of some in Manasseh about the daughters of Zelophehad?