

# LEVITICUS TEACHER'S GUIDE

## **Explanation of the Teacher's Guide**

I wrote this guide for the teacher who is using the lessons from *Herein Is Love: Leviticus*. This manual can be used by any adult involved in teaching children the Bible: Sunday School teachers, Christian School teachers, Home School teachers, Vacation Bible School teachers, camp counsellors and parents. Prayerfully study the Scripture references given at the beginning of each lesson. After that, read the lesson carefully. Find the visual aids you need to use for that lesson. Prepare the memory work handouts. Practice the Psalm. Plan the outdoor activity . . . and you are ready to go.

If you have only an hour each week with your class of children (which is all most Sunday School teachers have), you cannot possibly do everything suggested for each lesson in this teacher's manual. However, with one hour you might have time to: teach the lesson (which is your first priority), show and discuss the visual aids (while you are teaching), listen to the children's memory work, ask or hand out a test of review questions, pray, and

sing a psalm. If you have an extended block of time, you will find the suggested outdoor activities particularly useful.

### Visual Aids

Use *photographs*. They will connect the Bible to the real world. There are many beautiful, meaningful photographs which have enduring significance. The wealth of visual aids that the human race has collected since the invention of the camera is overwhelming. Make use of this rich resource. Expose the children to the amazing scenes witnessed and captured by the human eye through the camera. Photography books, *National Geographic* magazines, old calendars, postcards, etc. are where you will find the necessary pictures. Photographs can be used as powerful, visual testimony to help the children focus on and believe in the lessons you are teaching from the Scriptures.

Use *maps*. Whenever possible in a lesson use a map by tracing the route of a patriarch's journey, pointing out an important mountain or river, showing the area of a certain country, etc. Let the children see that the accounts in Scripture are historical events that happened in the real world.

Use *specimens*. Many of the stories in the Bible have objects in them that are central. It can be something very simple, but the object rivets the children's attention to the lesson. For example, in the lesson dealing with the offering of incense in Leviticus 10, have a small cone of sweet-smelling incense smoking on the table in front of them. Real objects from the real world help to connect the children to the real and true stories of the Bible.

### Memory Work

I always impress upon my children the need to store up God's Word like a treasure in their hearts, which can help them in a time of need. I tell the children that the real reward is knowing God's Word, but I also give them a little incentive by making each child a memory work book. This is quite simple:

- 1) Make booklets by folding 8 x 12 sheets of construction paper in half. (Make them all the same colour with younger children to avoid squabbles.) Make the front cover interesting by pasting on it a slightly smaller rectan-

gle of some sort of picture. (Again, I always make the books identical.) Sometimes I use wrapping paper. Sometimes I recycle attractive church bulletins. I usually make books to last three months for weekly lessons, changing them with the seasons. For example, the memory work book for the autumn quarter could have a picture of brightly coloured leaves on a yellow background. Often I add a few sparkles to the front cover too. Make sure each child's name is on his/her book.

2) Type out the verse. (I use a 4 x 6 sheet of paper.) Photocopy for double the number of children in the class. One copy goes into their book (which you keep until the books are finished). The other copy is handed out to each child to learn during the week. I try to make the hand-out copies interesting: In autumn I make the children's verses in different shades of brightly coloured paper cut in the shape of leaves. That way, their weekly Bible verses can make a pretty display on their bulletin boards or refrigerators at home. In winter I hand out white "snowballs." It takes just a few extra moments to trace a circle around the verse before cutting it. In spring you can hand out diamond-shaped "kites" or petalled "flowers" in pastel hues. Be creative. There's more than one way to hand out a slip of memory work, giving the children something special to take home.

3) Buy sheets of stickers, continuing the seasonal theme. (There are usually twelve stickers per sheet, four sheets per package, which costs about fifty cents per quarter per child.) Write each child's name on the back of their sticker sheet. For each week's memory work that is learned, they get to choose a sticker from their own sheet to put in their book. At the end of the term, collect all the unearned, unused stickers, but let all the children take their books home.

If you are dealing with older children (when stickers are no longer an incentive) give out marks for the memory work instead.

## **Craft**

For those teachers who have used my previous two books on Genesis and Exodus, you will notice that there is no craft section included for Leviticus. Sorry! No appropriate crafts came to mind as I worked on these lessons.

## Review Questions

For each lesson I ask a few specific review questions. However, there are two very important questions that should be asked with every lesson:

1. What does this lesson teach us about God?
2. How does this lesson help us to live our lives?

When I taught a class of older children, I typed these questions into a test for each student in my class to write. Immediately after the class, they were tested on the material. Each week they received a mark, and at the end of the year the three students with the highest averages received a prize. The competition for the top marks caused everyone to listen with remarkable attention. (Note: Not all the questions are dealing with straight information. Some of the questions are opinions or confessions; for them there is no right or wrong answer.)

## Prayer

The application of each lesson to the children's lives is found in the prayer.

## Psalms to Sing

I list one psalm (or part of a psalm) that is particularly relevant to the lesson, as well as several others that are also related to it. Singing the psalms is a crucial way, but simple way, for the children to store God's Word in their hearts. "Give thanks to the LORD; call on His Name . . . Sing to Him; sing psalms to Him" (Psalm 105:1, 2). "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach . . . and as you sing psalms" (Colossians 3:16). If time permits, I recommend singing the main psalm for each lesson several times, so that the children have already begun to memorize it. You could also send home a copy of the main psalm, so that the children can sing it at home during the week with their families. The psalter I have used is *The Book of Psalms for Singing*, published by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America, 1973.

## Outdoor Activity

The teaching of the Word of God to our children is not meant to be confined within the four walls of our Christian churches, schools and homes.

Take God's Word outside, into the fresh air and sunshine. Teach it in the open fields and the busy streets. Moses says, "Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds . . . Teach them to your children, talking about them when you sit at home and *when you walk along the road*" (Deuteronomy 11:18, 19, emphasis added). How will God's Word be fixed in the hearts and minds of our children? It will happen, not only when we read the Scriptures around the family dinner table or when we study the Bible in our Sunday School classrooms, but it will happen when we are walking along the road, when we are looking at the world around us as we discuss the things of God.

For each lesson I have suggested some small activity or excursion that will impress that particular Bible teaching upon your children. What a way to review a lesson! If you are setting out with that purpose in mind, "to teach your children . . . when you walk along the road" it will actually happen. You will do it, and they will be blessed.

# Sacrifices

**Leviticus 1–7 & 17**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

A “shadow show” would impress upon the children the idea of shadows pointing to realities beyond themselves. Using a bright lamp, cast shadows of simple objects upon a wall or screen, without letting the children see the real objects. Can they guess what each object is, just by seeing the shadow?

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. “Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” (Ephesians 5:2).
2. “We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all . . . By one sacrifice He has made perfect forever those who are being made holy” (Hebrews 10:10, 14).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. What did God require of His people so that they and their worship would be acceptable to Him? Why? Do we still offer sacrifices for sin when we worship God? Why not? Do we have a sacrifice for sin?
2. Name some men who built altars and offered sacrifices to God before the Tabernacle was built.
3. What two things does God require for the forgiveness of sins?
4. Have you confessed your sins to God? Have you trusted in God’s sacrifice to cleanse your sins? Do you believe in Jesus Christ and His death on the cross to pay for your sins?
5. How often were sacrifices made in Israel?

6. Explain why God commanded the sacrifice of all these animals if their blood could not really remove sin?
7. Why was Jesus called the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world?
8. What was the greatest demonstration of God's LOVE for us?
9. Do you trust in God's LOVE?

## **PRAYER**

Heavenly Father, we thank You for your LOVE in sending your Son to die on the cross to pay for our sins. We give thanks for his sacrifice and we rejoice in Your salvation. LORD, we confess our many sins to You, even the sins of this day. We thank You for the blood of Jesus, which cleanses us from all unrighteousness, and for Your promise of forgiveness.

## **PSALMS TO SING**

118C . . . and 4AB; 20AB; 27BE; 32AC; 40CE; 50B; 51ABCDEF; 54AB; 66BC; 116C.

These psalms deal with confession of sin, sacrifice for sin and forgiveness of sin.

## **OUTDOOR ACTIVITY**

Take the children to a farm that has cows and sheep. Speak to the farmer and find out how much his livestock is worth. I think the children will be surprised at how valuable a herd of cows or a flock of sheep is. Perhaps he can show you his finest sheep or a cow that has won first place awards at a fall fair. How much is each of these animals worth? When the Israelites were required to offer sacrifices to God for their sins, the cost for them was considerable.

*(This student lesson starts on page 1.)*

# Consecration of the Priests

**Leviticus 8**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

Show the children pictures of people being set apart in special ceremonies for special offices and services, such as the inauguration of a president or the coronation of a queen or the ordination of a minister. You could also show them pictures of the priesthood of all believers, just ordinary men and women, who serve God by offering themselves as “living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God” (Romans 12:1).

## **MEMORY WORK**

“To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood, and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve His God and Father—to Him be glory and power forever and ever! Amen” (Revelation 1:6).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. What does the word “consecrate” mean?
2. Why did Aaron and his sons have to be consecrated to serve God as priests?
3. What seven things did the LORD command for the consecration of His priests?
4. What was not done in their consecration ceremony? What oath did the LORD swear concerning the priesthood of His Son?
5. The Levitical priesthood was not meant to last forever. These priests were merely shadows pointing to whom?
6. How is Jesus a superior high priest?
7. How is it possible for us to become priests of the Holy God?



## PRAYER

LORD, we thank You for Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who ever lives to intercede for us. LORD, if there are any children here today who have not believed in Jesus, we pray that even now they would have faith in the sacrifice of Your Son upon the cross for them, and so have their sins cleansed by His precious blood, which He poured out for the salvation of many people. LORD, we thank You for such a great salvation! We thank You for setting us apart to be Your holy people and for allowing us to serve You as priests. How gracious You are towards us. How great is Your LOVE for us. We praise Your Holy Name forever and ever. Amen.

## PSALMS TO SING

110; 133AB . . . and 4B; 51AD; 99C; 115B; 118A; 135C.

Psalm 110 is the passage of Scripture where “the LORD says to my Lord,” where the Father swears on oath to the Son, that He will be a priest forever. Psalm 133 speaks of the anointing of Aaron as high priest. The other psalms deal with the LORD setting apart His saints in grace, washing them and sprinkling them from their sins, and the priests (the house of Aaron and the house of Levi) praising the LORD.

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

Go for a shadow walk with the children and look for interesting shadows, including the moving shadows of the clouds above them and their own shadows walking beside them. Winter shadow walks are best along snow-covered fields, because the contrast of dark shadows on the white background is so striking. In the early morning and late afternoon the shadows are long and strange, when even little people look like giants. On a winter's night, when a full moon is shining on the sparkling snow, look for the ghostly shadows in the eerie light. Remind the children that Leviticus is full of shadows—shadows which span centuries, shadows which lead us to Christ and the cross.

*(This student lesson starts on page 8.)*

# Fire From the Lord

**Leviticus 9 & 10**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

Do the children know what incense is? You can bring cones or sticks of incense to burn in your class for the children to see and smell. Do they know what censers are? Show them pictures of the beautifully ornamented censers used in Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, Russian Orthodox and Anglican churches. If you can actually borrow a real censer and demonstrate how it is used, that definitely would be an excellent visual (as well as olfactory) aid.

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. "Let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:28, 29).
2. "The LORD Almighty is the One you are to regard as holy; He is the One you are to fear; He is the One you are to dread" (Isaiah 8:13).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. When did the priests begin their ministry? What did Aaron do for the first time on that eighth day?
2. Why did all the people shout for joy and fall facedown?
3. Why was God pleased with that worship service? Why were the people pleased?
4. Who thought something should be added? What did they do?
5. Was God pleased with their offering of incense? Why not? How did God show His displeasure and extreme anger?
6. What were some ways in which Nadab and Abihu acted "contrary to God's command"?

7. Why was it absolutely necessary for the regulations of worship to be perfectly obeyed by the priests? Give three main reasons.
8. Were Aaron and his remaining sons allowed to leave the Tabernacle to bury Nadab and Abihu? Were they allowed to mourn and grieve for them? Why not?
9. What have you learned from the death of Nadab and Abihu? What have you learned about God from this account? Is there anything you should change in your life to make your worship more pleasing to God?

## PRAYER

LORD, may we ever worship You in spirit and in truth, with reverence and with awe. May we always serve You humbly, joyfully and obediently. O LORD, forgive us our many sins and we thank You that in Christ Jesus we find hope and mercy and forgiveness. LORD, we thank You that through faith in Your Son Jesus Christ, You have become for us, not a consuming fire, but the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort. We praise your Holy Name!

## PSALMS TO SING

141A . . . and 11; 21BD; 50A; 68A (1–3); 83B; 97AC.

Psalms 141 speaks of our prayers rising before the LORD like incense. The other psalms deal with our God being a consuming fire. “Before Him burns a fire, His foes consuming” (97C). God will make all His enemies “blaze as fire in presence of Thy power. The LORD shall swallow them in wrath; the fire shall them devour” (21B). “As melting wax before a fire, before God let them die. But let the righteous all exalt; before God let them joy; let them shout loud for joy” (68A)!

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

Fire can be such a destructive force! Take the children to see the bleak wasteland where a fire has swept through a forest, leaving only charred dead trees and acres of ashes behind it. Or show them the sad sight where a fire has raged through a house, leaving only a smouldering black shell and a vacant grey lot, where once a family lived and children played. With appropriate adult supervision, build a bonfire with the children and watch the flames consume branches, leaves, pinecones, wood, etc . . . until there is nothing left but coals and ashes.

*(This student lesson starts on page 110.)*

# A Holy People For A Holy God

**Leviticus 11**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

Explain to the children how religious Jews of today, thousands of years later, still keep these dietary laws. Bring them some “clean” food, such as some all-beef Hebrew National hotdogs with “KOSHER” stamped right on the package. You could cook them and slice them, so the children can taste a kosher snack.

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. “Be holy, because I, the LORD your God, am holy” (Leviticus 19:2).
2. “Be perfect . . . as your heavenly Father is perfect” (Matthew 5:48).
3. “For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness” (1 Thessalonians 4:7, KJV).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. Why must the people of God be holy? What did God command in the Old Testament? What did Jesus command in the New Testament?
2. What were the three main categories of laws that the priests must teach the people?
3. What was the moral law? What was the civil law? What was the ceremonial law?
4. Name seven ways these dietary laws helped the Israelites.
5. How did Jesus fulfil this part of the ceremonial law?
6. What did Jesus teach concerning clean and unclean food?
7. The Kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking      With what is the Kingdom of God concerned?

8. Without holiness no one will see the LORD. How can we be made holy? How can our unclean hearts be made clean?
9. To review the different kinds of clean and unclean creatures you could play a simple game. Have the children divide a sheet of paper in half with "CLEAN" marked at the top of one half and "UNCLEAN" marked at the top of the other half. Then show pictures or call out the names of different mammals, sea creatures, birds, insects and reptiles. Do the children know where they belong? Have them write each creature's name under its proper heading.

## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, You want us to be holy, even as You are holy. You want us to be perfect, even as You are perfect. Please help us. We sin, and You alone know all our sins. Please forgive us. Please cleanse our hearts and lives from all the thoughts, words and deeds that are evil in Your sight. Thank You, that by Your Grace through our faith in Jesus Christ, we are saved from our sins. In Christ we are made to be a holy people, with clean hearts and new lives. Thank You, LORD, for this great salvation and for the hope that one day, we will see You face to face.

## PSALMS TO SING

1. 51AD . . . and 19B; 24AB; 119B . . . all speak of our cleansing from sin. "O wash me wholly from my guilt and make me clean within; for my transgressions I confess; I ever see my sin" (51A).
2. 99C . . . and 71D; 89D . . . all speak of the holiness of God. "Behold, He is the Holy One, the LORD our God" (99C).
3. 85B . . . and 22H; 34AC; 37A; 103A; 111A; 136A (1, 2, 13); 145C . . . all speak of God providing good food for us. "The LORD will give us what is good; our land shall yield abundant food" (85B).

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

Take the children to a large supermarket and check out the meat and fish counters. According to the dietary laws of Leviticus, which foods are clean and which foods are unclean? You could also go to a small kosher grocery store. What kinds of meats do you not see here? Buy some provisions and go for a "kosher" picnic.

*(This student lesson starts on page 22.)*

# Cleansing The Unclean

**Leviticus 12–15**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

Photos of people with leprosy or other contagious skin diseases would catch and keep the children's attention for this lesson. It would also impress upon them the mercy and the power of Christ in healing such afflictions. Such sad pictures can be found in medical journals or textbooks, as well as in ordinary encyclopedias. Also, your local pharmacy might have an extra vaccination poster of a weeping child infected with measles or chickenpox.

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. "Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing LOVE. According to Your great compassion, blot out all my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin" (Psalm 51:1, 2)
2. "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. In ancient Israel, what happened to a person who had an infectious skin disease, such as leprosy?
2. Why did God command that a leper be segregated outside Israel's camp? Give two main reasons.
3. How could such a person return to Israel's camp?
4. Describe the strange purification rite involving the two birds. What did the priest do? What did it mean?
5. What else did the man have to do to be cleansed? Describe how the cured man was cleansed with both blood and water.

6. How did Jesus show that He was a priest greater than the Old Testament priests?
7. In what way is everybody like an “unclean” leper? Explain why the Bible says, “All of us have become like one who is unclean . . .” (Isaiah 64:6).
8. How can we be made clean?
9. What flowed from Jesus’ pierced side at the cross? Why was that important?
10. Why did Jesus perform miracles of healing people?

## PRAYER

O LORD, our sins have made us unclean in your sight, but you, in your great LOVE for us, have provided a way for our cleansing. We thank you, that through faith in Your Son Jesus Christ, we can be cured and cleansed of that devouring disease of the soul, which is sin. He died on the cross, that we might be washed by His precious blood. O LORD, may gratitude fill our hearts; may praise and thanks ever be on our lips for the cleansing that we have received in Christ.

## PSALMS TO SING

103A . . . and 1AB; 5AB; 6; 30AB; 38A; 51ABDE.

Psalm 103A and 30AB praise God for healing and saving: “Bless the LORD, my soul; my whole heart ever bless His Holy Name. Bless the LORD, my soul; forget not all His mercies to proclaim: Who forgives all thy transgressions, thy diseases all Who heals, Who redeems thee from destruction, Who with thee so kindly deals” (103A).

Psalms 6, 38A and 88A are all prayers and pleas for healing. These words could have been the anguished cries of a leper: “Loathsome wounds infect my body; by my folly I am bent and bowed down low. All day long I go on mourning, filled with burning, my whole body sick with woe” (38A). “My soul is full of anxious cares and gloom; my weary life draws nigh the silent tomb. I count as those that to the pit descend; I’m like the man whose strength is at an end” (88A).

Psalms 51ABDE are cries to God for cleansing: “Then with hyssop sprinkle me and from sin I clean shall be. Wash me from its stain and lo, I shall whiter be than snow” (51D).

Psalms 1AB and 5AB speak of the exclusion of the wicked from God’s presence. “Truly Thou art not a God that in sin doth take delight; evil shall not dwell with Thee, nor the proud stand in Thy sight” (5B).

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

People care about their skin. Skin is a God-given gift, an essential part of our bodies, and God's children praise Him because they are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Psalm 139:14). When the devil was inciting God to test a righteous man, Satan said, "Skin for skin . . . A man will give all he has for his own life. But stretch out Your Hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse You to Your Face." God permitted Satan to attack his faithful servant, so Satan went out from the presence of the LORD and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head. Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes, but he did not sin against God in anything he said (Job 2:4–10).

There is an expression that a person will do anything to "save his own skin," and people will do much to protect their skins. Go for a walk with the children, making note of everything we do to care for our skin: We wash our skin; if it's summer, we put on sunscreen and light clothing to protect our skin from the sun; we watch out for bees, brambles, mosquitoes, poison ivy, etc; if we are stung or scratched or burnt, we apply medicinal ointments and bandages; if it is winter, we wear warm clothes—even facemasks—to protect our skin from frostbite.

*(This student lesson starts on page 29.)*



*Please turn the page for the guide to lessons 6 and 7.*



# The Feasts and Their Fulfilment

Leviticus 16, 23, 25

## VISUAL AIDS

The religious Jews of today still celebrate the Old Covenant feasts. Bring a box of matzos for the children to see (and taste) what the Jews eat during the Feast of Unleavened Bread. When I was a child my best friend was Jewish, and I looked forward to the time each year when we went to her house and ate sandwiches made on matzos. There are excellent photos of the Jewish people celebrating the Passover meal or blowing the shofar for the Day of Atonement or making huts on apartment balconies for the Feast of Tabernacles. You can find such pictures in any children's book on Israel or in magazines depicting modern Israel or in a Jewish calendar. Also of use for this lesson would be any calendar which shows the different feast days in Judaism.

## MEMORY WORK

1. "The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves" (Hebrews 10:1).
2. "We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all" (Hebrews 10:10).

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Did Jesus observe the holy days of the Old Testament?
2. How do we know that the animal sacrifices of the Old Testament were insufficient for real cleansing from sin? What then was their purpose?
3. Why was Jesus called the Lamb of God?
4. Why was Jesus able to change the Sabbath Day from the seventh day to the first day of the week?
5. What was the New Moon Festival? How was it celebrated?

6. How was Passover the shadow of a greater deliverance? Why was Christ called “our Passover Lamb”?
7. What did the Feast of Weeks celebrate? Why was it called that? What was Pentecost? What happened on that day in the New Testament? How was it a fulfilment of the old feast day?
8. When do we celebrate New Year’s Day? How do we bring in the new year? When was Israel’s new year celebrated? What did they do? What was that feast day called?
9. What was the Day of Atonement? What happened on that day? What did the people do? What did the high priest do? How was the scapegoat a shadow of Christ? How was Jesus a greater high priest? What did the people do during the Feast of Tabernacles?
10. What was the Sabbath Year? What was the Year of Jubilee? How were they celebrated? How did they foreshadow Christ?

## PRAYER

LORD, thank you for sending your Son to be the sacrifice for our sins! Thank you for showing us, not just the dark shadows of your salvation, but the full bright reality of the Saviour—even our Lord Jesus Christ. LORD, help us to trust in Him always and let all our joy and worship and thanksgiving and celebration be in Christ our Saviour.

## PSALMS TO SING

122AB . . . and 42AC; 48B; 65A; 81A (1); 84AB; 96A; 100ABC; 116B (8, 9); 118C; 134AB; 138AB.

These psalms all deal with worshipping God within the courts of His temple in Jerusalem, particularly during Israel’s ordained feasts—the “solemn holy days” (42A) and the “solemn festal days” (81A).

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

Build an outdoor “tabernacle” with leafy branches. I remember making a leaf house as a six-year-old child. It was one of my greatest childhood accomplishments. I found a large pile of maple branches that had been limbed from a fallen tree. I hauled these home, set up a crude wooden frame and wove the branches into the frame to form a roof and walls. One end was left open for a doorway, just big enough for a small child to crawl into the house. Once inside, the occupant was completely hidden. It was beautiful there; the breezes rustled

the branches and the sunlight shone bright green through the leaves. It was a place of peace. How I loved my mapleleaf house! I shared it with one other person—my best friend, the little Jewish girl who lived across the street. She knew exactly what this was—a perfect tabernacle, fit for the Feast of Tabernacles. (I had never heard of that word or that feast, but I liked the grandeur of the name for the splendour of my house.) My hut stood for many weeks. As the leaves shrivelled, the hut was slowly transformed into a brown and brittle abode. Finally the “mess” was cleared away from the backyard, but my mapleleaf house has never vanished or shrivelled or even slightly faded from my memory.

*(This student lesson starts on page 37 and 49.)*

*Please turn the page for the guide to lesson 8.*



# The Moral Law

**Leviticus 17–19**

*This lesson is very long and should be divided into two lessons.*

## **VISUAL AIDS**

For each of the commandments, you could make and then show a collage poster of magazine pictures, newspaper articles and solitary words depicting that commandment. For an easy example, “**YOU SHALL NOT MURDER**” has an abundance of tragic clippings about horrible crimes. Use these newspaper articles as the background for the poster. Then paste on pictures of murder weapons—guns, knives, ropes, bombs. Finally add big bold words, such as **MURDER, ENVY, VIOLENCE, RAGE, HATRED, STRIFE**, etc.

An alternative to ten posters for the Ten Commandments, would be the single poster depicting Christ's Commandment: **LOVE ONE ANOTHER**. Use pictures of people helping and holding each other. Paste on words such as **LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL**—the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22).

## **MEMORY WORK**

The children should know by heart the Ten Commandments!

1. Jesus said, “Love the lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbour as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments” (Matthew 22:36–40).
2. “The entire law is summed up in a single command: Love your neighbour as yourself” (Galatians 5:14).

3. Jesus said, “This is My Commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12).
4. “Be imitators of God . . . as dearly loved children, and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God” (Ephesians 5:1, 2).

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Most of Leviticus deals with what kind of laws? What other laws are found in Leviticus?
2. What are the Ten Commandments? What does each one mean?
3. How are the Ten Commandments compressed into two words in Leviticus?
4. Did Jesus come to abolish the Law of God? What did Jesus come to do with God’s Law? What are the two ways Jesus fulfilled the Law of God?
5. Do we find the Ten Commandments in the New Testament?
6. How did Jesus Himself keep each of the Ten Commandments?
7. Which is the greatest commandment? What did Jesus say?
8. Which commandment from Leviticus is known as the “royal law”? 9. The entire law can be summed up in a single command. What is it? The entire law can be summed up in a single word. What is it?
10. Jesus said, “A new command I give to you.” What was Jesus’ commandment?
11. How did God show His LOVE to us?
12. What must you do to inherit eternal life? How can you be saved?

## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, have mercy on us, for we cannot save ourselves. It is impossible for us to keep your commandments perfectly. We do not love our neighbours as we love ourselves. Selfishness is a sin we battle against daily. We do not love you with all our heart and soul and strength and mind. Our love fails, and we fall short of your commandment. But we thank you, LORD, that your LOVE fails not. You have loved us perfectly: you sent your son to die on the cross to save us from our sins. LORD, we thank you for that salvation. It is impossible for us to inherit eternal life by our own efforts, but with you all things are possible. LORD, we pray that you would forgive our sins. We pray that you would grant us life in Christ. We pray that you would help us to believe in Jesus today and for the rest of our lives. We pray that you would help us to keep your com-

mandments. We pray that you would help us to live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us. May we be like Christ, O LORD!

## **PSALMS TO SING**

18AG . . . 5AB; 31D; 69E; 97C; 116AC; 145C.

While most of the psalms deal with God's LOVE for us, these few love psalms deal with the first and foremost commandment for us—to love the LORD our God with all our hearts. "I love you, LORD!" declares Psalm 18A. "Let all of you who love the LORD hate evil," exhorts Psalm 97C. Again the declaration is made in Psalm 116AC: "I love the LORD!"

119M . . . 1AB; 19BD; 37E; 40E; 78A; 112AB; 119A-X.

These are some of the many psalms dealing with God's Commandments: "O greatly blessed is the man . . . who places his delight, upon God's law and meditates on His law day and night" (Psalm 1A). "How blessed the upright in the way, they who Jehovah's law pursue. Blessed they who seek Him with whole heart and keep His testimonies true" (Psalm 119A). "O how I love Thy law; it is my study all the day" (Psalm 119M)!

## **OUTDOOR ACTIVITY**

Many laws in our land reflect the laws of God. Go for a walk along any city street and talk about the Ten Commandments. What signs do you see that are for the protection of human life? Notice stop signs, traffic lights, guard rails, cross walks, seat belts, etc. What things do you see that are to prevent theft? Look for locks on doors, bars on windows, chains on bicycles, burglar alarms and shoplifting signs. What else can you find? Are there any laws protecting the worship of God? Do you see anywhere on any store a sign that reads: "CLOSED ON SUNDAY"? Sadly, the signs that are common now read: "OPEN ALL DAY SUNDAY". Discuss all the little signs that you see, either upholding or ignoring God's Law.

*(This student lesson starts on page 61.)*



*Please turn the page for the guide to lesson 9.*



# The Civil Law

**Leviticus 20 & 24:10–23**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

There have been many methods for punishing and executing criminals. You could show the children racks and stocks, gallows and guillotines, firing squads, gas chambers, lion dens, electric chairs, etc. — a grisly assortment of pictures that are sure to capture their attention! Christ Himself was subjected to crucifixion, a Roman method for executing criminals.

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. “Let them sing before the LORD, for He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity” (Psalm 98:9).
2. “Surely the righteous still are rewarded; surely there is a God who judges the earth” (Psalm 58:11).
3. “Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for true and just are His judgements” (Revelation 19:2).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. What are the three kinds of laws found in Leviticus?
2. How are laws enforced in any country?
3. Which of the Ten Commandments was not a crime to break, although it was still a sin?
4. Which of the Ten Commandments was not a capital crime to break, and so did not receive the death penalty?
5. In some countries thieves have their hands chopped off. Do you think this is a just punishment? Why not? What does God say?

6. In times past a thief—even a child who stole a loaf of bread—was executed by hanging. Do you think this was a just punishment? Why not? What does God say?
7. Right now in our great nation of Canada, a murderer—even a serial killer who has tortured and slaughtered many people—is not put to death. Such a criminal is imprisoned for many years and then he is often set free. Do you think this is a just punishment? Why not? What does God say?
8. What group(s) of people in our country are not protected by law from being murdered?
9. Is reverence for God upheld by the laws of our country? Is there any penalty here for worshipping other gods, manufacturing idols, engaging in witchcraft, blaspheming God's Holy Name or breaking the Sabbath Day? Give some examples of how people proudly display their contempt for God in this country. Do you think it is a good thing for people to have the "freedom" to dishonour the LORD? Is it good for the nation as a whole? Why not?

## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for this great country in which we live, a country which is both beautiful and bountiful by your grace. We thank you for the many laws here which are good laws—laws which protect the peace, the people and the property of this land. O LORD, we pray for the leaders of our country, that they would do what is just in your sight, that they would uphold your Holy Law in the laws of this land. We pray that you, O LORD, would have dominion from sea to sea. We pray that the people here would honour you and worship you with their lips, their lives and their laws.

## PSALMS TO SING

9A; 94A; 96B; 98AB . . . and 1AB; 6; 7AB; 9B; 10AB; 17A; 19BD; 25C; 28B; 35E; 36B; 50A; 51AD; 54B; 67AB; 72A; 82; 99C; 103A; 105A; 119U; 143AC; 147B; 149.

These are just a few of the psalms that are filled with the theme of God's judgement and justice. "The LORD will eternally sit on His throne, establishing it for His judgement alone. In righteousness He'll judge the world from His seat and unto all peoples shall equity mete" (9A). God is the "Judge of Nations" (94A). "The LORD is King. Controlled by Him the world stands firm; His judgements justice bring . . . Let all prepare to greet the LORD, because He coming is. He

surely comes to judge the earth and righteousness is His. He'll nations judge with faithfulness, the world with justice bless" (96B). "Because He comes, He surely comes, the Judge of earth to be! With justice He will judge the world, all men with equity" (98A). We read and sing that "the LORD is good and just" (25C). "He will execute just judgement" (103A). "A righteous judge, God judges righteously" (7B). "The judgements of the LORD are true and righteous altogether" (19D). "There surely is a living God, who judges in the earth" (58AB)!

## **OUTDOOR ACTIVITY**

Every nation has civil laws. Perhaps you could visit a police station, a court house or a prison—all law enforcement facilities. I live in the national capital region, and in Ottawa the Royal Canadian Mounted Police have their headquarters. There you can bring children to watch the R.C.M.P. officers riding their horses and rehearsing their famous "musical ride."

*(This student lesson starts on page 77.)*

*Please turn the page for the guide to lesson 10.*



# A National Choice

**Leviticus 26**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

Pictures of national disasters (wars, droughts, plagues, etc.) would be useful for this lesson.

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. “Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD” (Psalm 33:12).
2. “Blessed is the man who fears the LORD, who finds great delight in His commands” (Psalm 112:1).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. If Israel obeyed God’s Law, what would be God’s rewards for their national obedience? Name five blessings from God.
2. Obedience to which two commandments in particular was vital for the nation to receive God’s blessing? Why?
3. If Israel disobeyed God’s Law, what would be God’s rewards for their national disobedience? Name five cursings from God.
4. How would God remove His protection?
5. How would God remove His provision?
6. How would God express His displeasure?
7. How would the Israelites be removed from the presence of God? What would they lose?
8. How would God’s power be used against them?
9. If Israel was banished from the Promised Land and sent into captivity, was all hope lost? What hope did they have? What hope do we have?

## PRAYER

LORD, you have blessed us greatly in this nation. We thank you for your protection and the peace that we experience in our country. We thank you for your provision, that there is an abundance of food and water in our land. We thank you for the children that are born here and the many signs of your LOVE and power working in this nation. However, we know that these blessings are because of your long-suffering patience, O God, not because of our faithfulness to you and your Word. This nation has turned its back on you, O God, by ignoring your person, neglecting your worship, forsaking and despising your commands. O LORD, have mercy on this nation and cause its people to repent of their sins against you. We pray for revival in this land. We pray that the people will turn their hearts to you in faith and hope and love.

## PSALMS TO SING

Many of the psalms speak of both the righteous and the wicked receiving from the LORD their “just reward.”

128AB . . . and 18CI; 28AB; 31D; 58AB; 62BC; 91AC; 109B.

“According to my righteousness, I am rewarded by the LORD; according as my hands were clean, He gives to me a just reward” (Psalm 18C). “Repay them justly for their deeds and evil of their way, and for the work done by their hands a due reward repay” (28A). “O love the LORD, ye godly ones! The LORD the faithful guards; and He the proud and haughty ones abundantly rewards” (Psalm 31D). “There surely is reward for righteous ones of worth; there surely is a God who judges in the earth” (58AB). “So it is that sovereign grace belongs to Thee, my Lord; for Thou according to his work dost every man reward” (62C). “Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who truly fears the LORD! The LORD from Zion grant to you His blessing and reward” (Psalm 128A).

The psalms clearly speak of how blessed by God the righteous person or nation is, as well as how cursed the wicked are. “For those who have been blessed by Him inherit shall the land; and those who have been cursed by Him, cut off, shall no more stand” (37C).

37C . . . and 1AB; 24C; 33B; 34A; 65AB; 67AB; 84AB; 89D; 106A; 112AB; 115B; 116A; 119A; 144BD; 146AB; 147B.

All “who trust in Him are blessed” (34A). “How blessed the man Thou choos-est and bringest near to Thee, that in Thy courts forever his dwelling place may

be” (65A). “God, our own God, will bless us! Yea, God will blessing send” (67AB)! “Blest they who in Thy house abide . . . Blest they who in Thy strength confide . . . For God the LORD is shield and sun; the LORD will grace and glory give. No good will He withhold from one, who does uprightly walk and live. O LORD of hosts, how blest is he, who places all his trust in Thee” (84AB). “Praise ye the LORD. The man is blessed who fears the LORD aright, the man who finds in His Commands his pleasure and delight. His children shall be mighty men upon the earth renowned. The generation of the just in blessing shall abound” (112A)! “He’ll bless all those who fear the LORD, the great as well as small. O may the LORD grant you increase, you and your children all . . . May you be blessed of the LORD” (115B). “How blessed the upright in the way, they who Jehovah’s law pursue. Blessed they who seek Him with whole heart and keep His testimonies true” (119A). “Happy is the man that chooses Jacob’s God to be his aid; he is blessed whose hope of blessing on the LORD his God is stayed” (146A).

Several psalms deal particularly with God’s judgement upon His people for their sin.

80AB . . . and 74A;77B; 78ADFG; 79AB; 89F; 106F.

## OUTDOOR ACTIVITY

As I write this lesson (in the summer of 2001, Ontario, Canada,) the fields all around me are yellow, not because they are ripe for harvest, but because they are dead from drought. There has been no rain this summer; the ground is hard and dry; the crops are brown and dead. Drought was one of the ways God promised to punish Israel if they did not obey His Ten Commandments. Black bears have also moved into our area, and neighbours with small children have been afraid to let them play outside. Dangerous wild animals moving into areas inhabited by humans, that was another way God promised to punish Israel for disobedience. Go for a walk with your children. What signs do you see of God’s blessing on the land? What signs do you see of God’s cursing of the land?

*(This student lesson starts on page 86.)*



*Please turn the page for the guide to lesson 11.*



# Funding the Lord's Work

**Leviticus 27**

## **VISUAL AIDS**

The main portion of this lesson is about money, and money is interesting to children. When I was a child I had a coin collection. I still remember the excitement when I found a tiny copper coin on the ground, that was from the Netherlands, and when I acquired one of the old enormous pennies from England. I now have metal coins and paper bills from all over the world. Use different coins from different countries to pique interest in this lesson, or show the children real silver dollars and compare them to the “loonies” we now have in Canada. Do you have a gold coin? Most children have never seen a real gold coin.

## **MEMORY WORK**

1. “It was not with perishable things such as silver and gold that you were redeemed from your empty way of life . . . but with the precious blood of Christ . . .” (I Peter 1:18).
2. “God loves a cheerful giver” (II Corinthians 9:7).

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS**

1. For what purpose did God free the Israelites from bondage?
2. Can you list seven ways Leviticus promotes true worship of the true God in Israel?
3. From where did the money come to support the temple worship?
4. What does “redeem” mean? How was a person, who was dedicated to the LORD, redeemed? How are we redeemed by Christ?

5. What does “tithe” mean? On what must the Israelites tithe? Who received the Israelites’ tithes? Why? Did the Levites themselves have to tithe? To whom did they give their tithe?
6. Besides supporting true religion in Israel, what other two spiritual benefits did tithing have for the people?
7. What did Jesus say about giving and tithing?

## PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you have given so much to us! Help us to give cheerfully and generously to your work in the church and to the poor people in this world.

## PSALMS TO SING

Many of the psalms speak of our redemption and of our Redeemer: 130A . . . and 19B; 25D; 26B; 31AE; 34CDE; 44CF; 49B; 55C (9–11, 15); 69C; 76A (5); 77B; 78D; 86B; 96A; 111B; 119R.

These psalms exhort us to hope and trust in God, who will redeem us: “O fear the LORD, all you He has redeemed” (34C)! “O Israel, hope in the LORD. The LORD saves graciously, and He shall Israel redeem from all iniquity, from all iniquity” (130A). “They then remembered God to be their Rock eternally, and knew that only God Most High could their Redeemer be” (78D).

These psalms also instruct us how to pray: “O Thou, Jehovah, unto me my Rock and my Redeemer be” (19B). “O do Thou keep my soul. Do Thou deliver me, and let me not be put to shame because I trust in Thee. Because I wait for Thee, let truth and right defend. Redemption, LORD, to Israel from all his troubles send” (25D). “Redeem Thou me, and in Thy grace, be merciful to me” (26B). “I to Thy hand with confidence my spirit do commend; for unto me, LORD God of truth, redemption Thou dost send” (31A). “Arise, our help above! O now redeem us for the sake of all Thy steadfast LOVE” (44C). “But in a time accepted LORD to Thee my prayers ascend. In Thine abounding truth and LOVE, O God, salvation send . . . Ne’er from the servant hide Thy face. I’m pressed; soon answer me. Draw near to me. Redeem my soul. My foes come; ransom me” (69C). “My steps establish in Thy Word and let no sin o’er me have sway. Redeem me from the power of man and I Thy precepts will obey” (119R).

These psalms are great declarations of faith: “I’ll call on God; the LORD will save . . . He will redeem my soul in LOVE, that I in peace may be” (55C).

Other psalms urge us to bring gifts and offerings to God: “Make your vows now to Jehovah. Pay your God what is His own. All men, bring your gifts before Him. Fear is due to Him alone” (76A). “Give to the LORD. To His courts come and bring an offering” (96A).

## **OUTDOOR ACTIVITY**

This lesson deals with money. Where I live (near the nation’s capital city, Ottawa, Canada) there is the mint to visit, where the children can see bins of coins.

*(This student lesson starts on page 93.)*