

**“BE HOLY
FOR I AM
HOLY”**
THE BOOK OF LEVITICUS

Warning to Obey – Blessings and Curses

Leviticus 26



Problem: How can sinful man have fellowship with a holy God?



Ex. 40:35 Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

NASB



Lev. 1:1 Then the Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting ...

NASB

Leviticus – Structure



- Laws of Sacrifices (Ch 1-7)
- Laws of Priesthood (Ch. 8-10)
- Laws of Ceremonial Cleaning (Ch. 11-16)
- **Laws of Holy Living (Ch. 17-27)**
 - “The Holiness Codes”

Leviticus 26 - Roadmap

- God's Commandments (vs. 1-2)
- Blessings for Obedience (vs. 3-13)
- Curses for Disobedience (vs. 14-39)
- Restoration by Repentance (vs. 40-46)

Commandments



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Commandments

- **Deut 6:24:** “So the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God for our good always and for our survival, as it is today.”
- **Matt 11:30:** “For my yoke is easy and My burden is light”
- **John 15:10:** “If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love.
- **1 John 5:3:** “For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.”

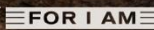



God's Commands (vs. 1-2)

- **Lev. 26:1** 'You shall not make for yourselves idols, nor shall you set up for yourselves an image or a sacred pillar, nor shall you place a figured stone in your land to bow down to it; for I am the Lord your God. **2** 'You shall keep My sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary; I am the Lord.

NO CARVE-OUTS

NASB

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Leviticus 26

- **Commandments (vs. 1-2)**
 - [1] Absolute ban on idolatry
 - [2] Keep the Lord's Sabbaths
 - [3] Reverence the Lord's sanctuary

Why?

“...for I am the Lord your God.”

“I am the Lord”



Leviticus 26

- **Observations (vs. 1-2)**
 - The Hebrew word ['eliyl'] = “good for nothing”
 - “...His commands are for our good always”
 - Sabbath & Sanctuary
 - God is crystal clear on what He expects
 - **Matt 22:37-38** – Affirmatively stated
 - “NO CARVEOUTS”

The Greatest Commandment

Matthew 22:37-38

- 37 And He said to him, “ ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the great and foremost commandment.

Applications

- **To be holy in our daily lives:**
 - No room for idolatry.
 - Devote all of our heart, soul, mind to God
 - Josiah – **2 Kings 22 and 23**
 - Diligently study God's Word so we know and understand His commandments
 - We must believe God and do what He says!

Blessings for Obedience (v. 3-13)

- **Food Security [vs. 4-5]**
 - Timely rains
 - Good harvests
- **Physical Security [v. 6-10]**
 - Peace
 - Victory over enemies
- **Spiritual Security [vs. 11-13]**
 - God's presence and dwelling with His people

Blessings and Curses

Blessings	Curses
Fertile land (4-5, 10)	Unproductive land (16, 19-20, 26)
Live in safety (5)	Live in foreign nation (33)
Savage beasts removed (6)	Beasts will devour (22)
Sword removed (6)	Sword avenges (25)
Victory over enemies (7)	Defeated by enemies (17, 25)
God's favor (9)	God's disfavor (17)

Source: Rooker

Blessings for Obedience - NT

- Specific blessings promised to Israel
- Food Security
 - **Matt 6:31-33**
- Spiritual Security
 - **John 5:24**
- 2 Timothy 3:12

Curses for Disobedience (vs. 14-39)

- Progressively severe and intense
- Covenant-breaking (vs. 15)
- Disciplinary in nature (vs. 23)
- “I” and “I myself”
- 2x as long as Blessings section

Curses for Disobedience

- **First Curse (vs. 14-17): Fear and Weakness**
 - Mental and physical illness;
 - Unfruitfulness
- **Second Curse (vs. 18-20): Poor harvests**
 - Drought and poor harvests
- **Third Curse (vs. 21-22): Afflicted by wild animals**
- **Fourth Curse (vs. 23-26): War**
- **Fifth Curse (vs. 27-39): War and Exile**
 - Cannibalism

Curses for Disobedience - NT

- **Galatians 3:13:** “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us-- for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO HANGS ON A TREE “

Curses for Disobedience - NT

- **Hebrews 12:6;10-11**

- 6 For those whom the Lord loves He disciplines, And He scourges every son whom He receives; 10 For they disciplined us for a short time as seemed best to them, but He disciplines us for our good, so that we may share His holiness. 11 All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

Restoration Through Repentance (vs. 40-45)

- Confession of iniquity
- Humility leads to a desire to make amends (Pride the enemy)
- God's promise – God's heart

Restoration Through Repentance - NT

- Living in the shadows of sin
 - 1 John 1:9
- Diluted Devotion – Carve-outs
 - Heart, Soul, and Mind
- Abide in the love of Christ

Lev 26 and the NT

- Jesus – the ultimate example of obedience
- Hebrews 11- HHOFF
- Disobedience follows from unbelief
 - **Heb. 3:18** 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who were disobedient? 19 So we see that they were not able to enter because of unbelief.
- **Heb. 4:3** “For we who have believed enter that rest”

Conclusion

- God demands complete devotion
 - *For our good always*
- We must seek to know His Word and obey what it says
- We must repent when we fail