

Dear Teacher,

To truly understand Christ's redemptive sacrifice on the cross you and I need to understand the truths found in the tent of worship, which is filled with Gospel truth. God's desire for us is to enter into the promises found in His Word and He has given these books (Leviticus, Deuteronomy and Joshua) for us to study.

The Apostle Paul told Timothy, his son in the faith: "You then, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others. Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 2:1-3).

I want to give you this same word of encouragement and let you know how grateful we are to God for your partnership as together we nurture and help the church grow. As we move through the study I want you to be asking yourself and your group the following questions:

- What does the Word of God say?
- What does this passage mean?
- What does this passage mean to me? How can I apply God's eternal principles to my life today?

If you have these three questions in mind and search for their answers, then this course will be truly fruitful and profitable in your life and in the lives of those you will be leading through this study. I trust that as we study Leviticus through Joshua and then as you teach it, you will grow in the knowledge of God and in your relationship with His Son, Christ Jesus, as you come to better understand His plan for the world and you. The thoughts and ideas given in this introduction are to help you be more effective in your study and teaching.

It is my prayer that the experience of this study will continue to help you in your journey of faith and nurture you in your faith as you continue grow in your spiritual life and lead others in their spiritual journey.

Praying for His blessing upon you,

Dick Woodward
Pastor and author of the Mini Bible College

Leading the Bible Study Group

The Mini Bible College has prepared this devotionally practical survey of the foundational books of the Bible. Your role as teacher is to guide your group through the study sessions and exercises, helping them to understand the concepts, discover the eternal principles and, most importantly, apply them to their lives. This is a survey study that will take almost four months and is designed to be more than just a course. This study is part of a strategic plan to provide you with the tools to nurture and grow personally and help your church grow both spiritually and numerically.

To help you we have provided the following tools:

- The Leader's Guide
- A manual for small group leaders
- Report forms
- Audio of Leviticus through Joshua
- A study booklet on Leviticus through Joshua
- A set of 10 workbook

This Leader's Guide is designed to equip you for the task of leading this Bible study course.

GETTING STARTED

Before Class

- Personally start inviting people to come to this spiritual banquet. “Go to the street corners and **invite to the banquet anyone you find.**’ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, both good and bad, and the wedding hall was filled with guests” (Matthew 22:9-10).
- Prepare yourself in prayer for those who will attend. If possible, pray for them by name. Only God can change the hearts of people, and prayer is the most powerful tool. “Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that **they should always pray and not give up.**” (Luke 18:1).
- Ask for help. Do not try to do everything yourself. Invite one or two individuals to help with music, singing, greeting, and keeping records for the class.
- Review the lesson and understand the lesson objective.
- Become familiar with the material; listen, read and study each lesson and memorize the Bible verse before class time.
- Be sure all materials are ready for each class.
- Make sure the meeting area is adequate and comfortable for the class.

During Class

(Remember to try to keep the class time to one hour and a half.)

- Greet everyone as they arrive. (Remember how nice it is when you are welcomed? Extend God's welcome to all.) Have someone to serve as the greeter and introduce people to one another if they are not already acquainted.

- Open with a time of worship and prayer, asking God to help you and each one understand and apply the God’s Word to your lives.
- Recite the memory verse
- Listen to the audio lesson.
- Work through the workbook, inviting discussion with a focus on application. We trust the questions will raise interesting discussion and understanding that will lead to application. If the group is too large (more than 10), consider dividing it into smaller groups of three or four people to encourage discussion. Be sure to monitor the time and be careful that the conversation does not detract from the focus of the lesson and the study of God’s Word.
- Thank all for coming and encourage attendance to the next class.
- Challenge the students to invite others to join the Bible study.
- Encourage the students to memorize the biblical passages of the lessons each week.

After each class

- Gather up all materials.
- Restore the meeting room to the proper order. Leave things more orderly than you found them.
- Fill out and file report forms.
- If you are meeting in someone’s home, be sure to thank them for their hospitality.

Special Instructions for Teaching the Auditory Learners

It is important to remember that those who cannot read and write learn and retain information differently than those of us who are literate. The auditory learners learn from listening and telling what they have heard. Illiteracy was not an obstacle in Jesus’ day. It is good to remember and even tell those in your class that most of the disciples and the majority of the people who first shared and spread the Gospel could not read or write.

In many ways, auditory learners have a greater capacity to learn what they hear than we who must write something down to remember it. Thus, take the time to allow your students to hear the Scripture and the lessons, pausing the message and even going back to listen again to a portion if it was not understood, and then allow them to respond to questions. When auditory learners can “story back” – tell in their own words what they have heard and learned – it indicates that they have properly grasped the principle. Therefore, use the study questions to guide the study time as it will help in the learning process. Ask the questions out loud and encourage all to participate and this will lead them into a deeper understanding of God’s Word and a stronger relationship with His Son, Jesus the Christ.

The Tent of Worship

Chapter 1

Audio Lesson: Old Testament Survey lesson 15



Objective: to introduce the purpose and main points of the book of Leviticus to teach God's people to worship.



“You must not do as they do in Egypt, where you used to live, and you must not do as they do in the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you. Do not follow their practices. You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the LORD your God. Keep my decrees and laws, for the man who obeys them will live by them. I am the LORD.”

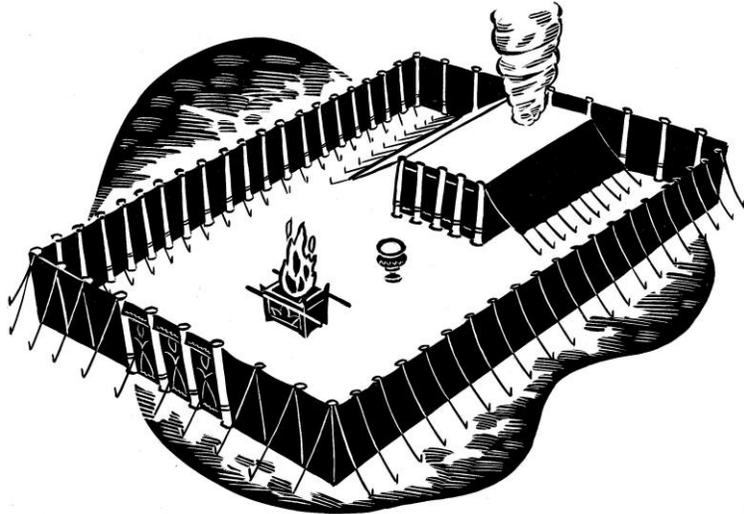
—Leviticus 18:3-5

The book of Leviticus is a difficult book for many people to understand. It explains in many details how the Levites were to minister as the priests of Israel. In order to understand the book of Leviticus, it is essential to understand the tabernacle in the wilderness, where these priests were in charge of the presentation of sacrifices, offerings and other liturgies.

The tent of worship included a courtyard and the tabernacle, which was divided into two compartments separated by a thick veil. The outer compartment of the tabernacle was called “the Holy Place,” and the inner compartment was called the “Holy of Holies,” where God dwelt.

There were some very significant articles of furniture in the tent of worship. The brazen altar, where sinners sought forgiveness, was just inside the gate of the courtyard. Also in the courtyard was the laver, where the priest would cleanse himself on behalf of the sinner. When the priest entered the Holy Place (the outer compartment of the covered tent), a candlestick would be on his left, the table of showbread would be on his right, an altar of incense in front of him. Inside the Holy of Holies was the Ark of the Covenant, which held the presence of God. Once a year, the high priest would go into the Holy of Holies and offer a sacrifice for the sins of all the people.

Every part of the tent of worship was very symbolic and pointed to the promised Redeemer – Jesus the Christ. The gospels tell us that at the moment Jesus died on the cross, the veil that separated the Holy of Holies from the rest of the Holy Place in the temple was miraculously torn from top to bottom, signifying that Jesus' sacrifice made it possible for us to enter God's presence.



Tabernacle in the Wilderness

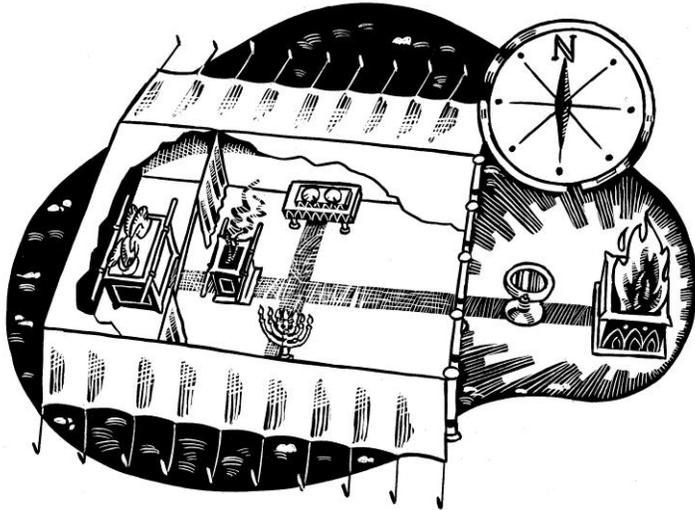
1. True or **false**? The tent of worship was just a symbol of God, and His presence wasn't actually there.
2. True or **false**? The Ark of the Covenant was very precious and holy and the Israelites worshiped it once a year.
3. **True** or false? The water in the laver pictures for us Jesus - the Word of God - that can cleanse us from sin.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.

4. What was the tabernacle?
 - a. Moses' house
 - b. The priests' house
 - c. A tent of worship**
 - d. A building in Egypt
5. Which of the following is one of the main purposes of our salvation?
 - a. To escape from our enemies
 - b. To prosper in business
 - c. To live a long and blessed life
 - d. To worship God**
6. The cloud by day and pillar of fire by night over the tabernacle represented the presence of the Spirit of God. Which of the following describes the Holy Spirit's relationship to us? (choose all that apply)
 - a. He is in us.**
 - b. He comes upon us.**
 - c. He watches us from a distance.
 - d. He takes over and completely controls us.

7. Why was it important for the tabernacle to be located at the center of the camp?
- a. So it would be easy to get to
 - b. To remind people that God is the center of everything we do**
 - c. To keep people from fighting about where to put it
 - d. So no one would be jealous of the people closest to it
8. Why would someone go to the tabernacle? (circle all that apply)
- a. To be forgiven
 - b. To impress Moses
 - c. To worship God**
 - d. To earn good points with God
9. When someone went to the tabernacle to be forgiven for sin, who made the sacrifice?
- a. The sinner
 - b. The sinner's father
 - c. A priest**
 - d. Moses
10. How often would the high priest go into the Holy of Holies to sacrifice for all the people?
- a. Every morning
 - b. Every night
 - c. Once a month
 - d. Once a year**
11. In what shape were the articles of furniture placed in the tent of worship?
- a. In a straight line
 - b. In a cross**
 - c. In a circle
 - d. In four corners of the tent
12. What did the animals sacrificed on the brazen altar represent?
- a. The Lamb of God who took away the sins of the world**
 - b. The mortality of human beings
 - c. The souls of sinners
 - d. False idols
13. What did the cleansing ritual at the laver mean?
- a. That God expects us to be clean
 - b. That people should wash hands before they eat
 - c. That only those who have been cleansed of sin can approach God**
 - d. That only priests can be forgiven of sin

14. What did the candlestick represent?
- The fire of burnt offerings
 - The light of God's Word that leads us to life**
 - Angels
 - The wisdom of priests
15. What did the table of showbread symbolize?
- How God meets our daily needs**
 - The harvest feast
 - A sin offering
 - Nothing—it was there for priests to eat
16. What did the altar of incense represent?
- Bible study
 - Good deeds
 - The Law
 - Prayer**
17. Why was the veil between the presence of God and the people?
- To symbolize the divorce and separation between a Holy God and sinful humanity**
 - So people wouldn't be able to see what God looked like
 - So the high priest could worship without anyone looking
 - To remind people that God is a mystery
18. How does the veil express the theme of the Old Testament?
- Only priests can know the secrets of God.
 - God will always be hidden from people.
 - The separation between God and humanity is why we need a Savior.**
 - God punishes sinners by keeping them out of temples.
19. Who is our Great High Priest?
- The oldest person in the family
 - The oldest person at the temple
 - Moses
 - Jesus**
20. What is the meaning of the tent of worship (circle all that apply)?
- To teach God's people how to be forgiven and to worship.**
 - It is a symbolical picture of Jesus Christ.**
 - We need to go to a tent of worship and ask a priest to pray for us.
 - Once delivered from the bondage of sin, we are to know and worship our deliverer.**



“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.” (1 Corinthians 6:19, 20)

As a Christian, today you are God’s temple and presence in the Holy of Holies. How does that make you feel? Does that change the way you pray? Is there anything in your life that needs to change because of the holiness of His presence?



Thank your heavenly Father for providing all that He has provided. If there is anything you need to confess to God in His presence, do so now. Ask Him to help you experience His presence in new and deeper ways.



Going Deeper

1. What was God teaching His people through the tent of worship? _____

2. Explain how each article of furniture pictured what God had to do so that a sinner could be forgiven and stay in fellowship with a holy God. _____

3. How does the role of the priest fit into that scenario? _____

4. What was represented by the holy of holies and the thick veil that separated those two compartments of the tent? _____

5. Explain how the large veil in the Temple of Solomon tore from top to bottom when Jesus died on the cross and the significance of that miracle. _____

6. Explain how each article of furniture in the tent of worship is a picture of Christ. _____

7. By devotional application, explain how you can worship your way through these articles of furniture in the tent of worship today without a priest, except for our great High Priest Jesus Christ. _____
