

## Introduction to Leviticus

Posted by Bob Young

### Introduction

How often have you studied Leviticus? In your individual study? In a class?

How often have you read Leviticus?

What comes to your mind when someone says “Leviticus”?

What is your overall impression of the book of Leviticus, based on what you know of the book right now?

Leviticus is mostly laws—strange laws!

What are some strange laws you are aware of? [See p. 2, check out [www.dumblaws.com](http://www.dumblaws.com)]

### The Text

The focus of Leviticus is on holiness.

Leviticus is an account of laws and regulations designed to set up the earthly realities of the heavenly kingdom.

The focus is holiness for the people and in their worship of a holy God.

In Leviticus, spiritual holiness is symbolized by physical perfection.

1-7 Major offerings and regulations

Burnt, grain, fellowship, sin, guilt

8-10 The Levitical ministry

11-15 Clean and Unclean

16 Atonement

17-27 Holy living

Various topics: blood, sex, rules for holiness (priests), feasts, tabernacle, blasphemy, Sabbath and jubilee years, obedience-disobedience (blessings-curses), redemption of vows and sacrifices (special circumstances)

Leviticus is linked to Exodus. Consider these themes from Genesis to Deuteronomy.

A chosen, blessed people (God as primary actor)

Choose freedom

Choose holiness

Choose obedience

Choose life

Significant concepts

Treasured, Exodus 19:3-6

A covenant people, Exodus 19-20ff

Holiness: what is holiness? What are synonyms? What are opposites?

Holiness as a gift and action of God, Lev. 20:7-8

Holiness restored, Lev. 26:40-45

Here's a collection of Strange Laws that can date back very far. Most of these laws remain in the books today, even if rarely enforced. **\*Laws shown here have been collected from sources believed to be reliable, however, there are no guarantees. We recommend that you conduct further research if you plan on using any of these in a publication!**

In Texas, it's against the law for anyone to have a pair of pliers in his or her possession.

Alaska law says that you can't look at a moose from an airplane.

In Corpus Christi, Texas, it is illegal to raise alligators in your home.

It is against the law to mispronounce the name of the State of Arkansas in that State.

In Illinois, the law is that a car must be driven with the steering wheel.

California law prohibits a woman from driving a car while dressed in a housecoat.

In Memphis, Tennessee, a woman is not to drive a car unless a man warns approaching motorists or pedestrians by walking in front of the car that is being driven.

In Tennessee, it is against the law to drive a car while sleeping.

In New York, it is against the law for a blind person to drive an automobile.

In West Virginia, only babies can ride in a baby carriage.

A barber is not to advertise prices in the State of Georgia.

In Louisiana, a bill was introduced years ago in the State House of Representatives that fixed a ceiling on haircuts for bald men of 25 cents.

In Oklahoma, no baseball team can hit the ball over the fence or out of a ballpark.

In Rochester, Michigan, the law is that anyone bathing in public must have the bathing suit inspected by a police officer.

In Kentucky, it's the law that a person must take a bath once a year.

In Tennessee, a law exists which prohibits the sale of bologna (sandwich meat) on Sunday.

In Virginia, the Code of 1930 has a statute which prohibits corrupt practices or bribery by any person other than political candidates.

In Providence, Rhode Island, it is against the law to jump off a bridge.

In the State of Kansas, you're not allowed to drive a buffalo through a street.

In Cleveland, Ohio, it is unlawful to leave chewing gum in public places.

In Virginia, chickens cannot lay eggs before 8:00 am and must be done before 4:00 pm

In New York, it is against the law for children to pick up or collect cigarette and cigar butts.

In Massachusetts, it is against the law to put tomatoes in clam chowder.

In Washington State, you can't carry a concealed weapon that is over 6 feet in length.

In San Francisco, there is an ordinance, which bans the picking up and throwing of used confetti.

In Kentucky, it is illegal for a merchant to force a person into his place of business for the purpose of making a sale.

In Phoenix, Arizona, you can't walk through a hotel lobby with spurs on.

In California, a law created in 1925 makes it illegal to wiggle while dancing.

In Utah, daylight must be visible between dancing couples.

In Michigan, it is against the law for a lady to lift her skirt more than 6 inches while walking through a mud puddle.

In Georgia, it's against the law to spread a false rumor.

The law states that more than 3000 sheep cannot be herded down Hollywood Blvd at any one time.

In Texas, it is still a "hanging offense" to steal cattle.