
BOOK OVERVIEW

Leviticus

Author: Moses

Date: about 1439 B.C.

Recipients: the nation of Israel, especially Aaron and his descendants

Key word: holy (in various forms) (131 times), sacrifice (300 times), clean and unclean (200 times), atonement (36 times)

Summary: God's standard for proper worship and holy living

Key verse: Leviticus 19:2

Notes:

Holy means "set apart." Sanctify, sanctified, sanctuary, hallow, and hallowed are from the same root word.

The book focuses upon the service and responsibilities of the Levitical priests. While all Levites, descendants of Levi, were set apart to serve God on behalf of the nation of Israel, only those who were descendants of Aaron served as priests in the Tabernacle, and later in the Temple.

After Israel entered the Promised Land, the Levites were not given a separate section of land as a tribe but they were allotted 48 cities that were dispersed throughout the nation. They were supported primarily through the tithes of the other tribes. That allowed them to devote full-time to God's service.

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