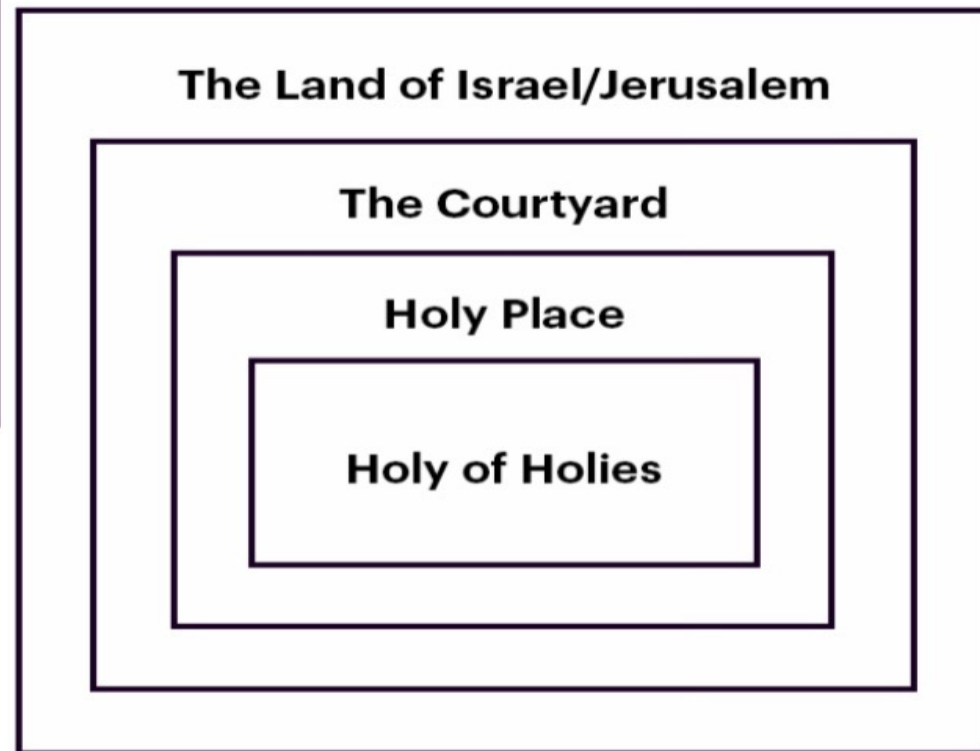
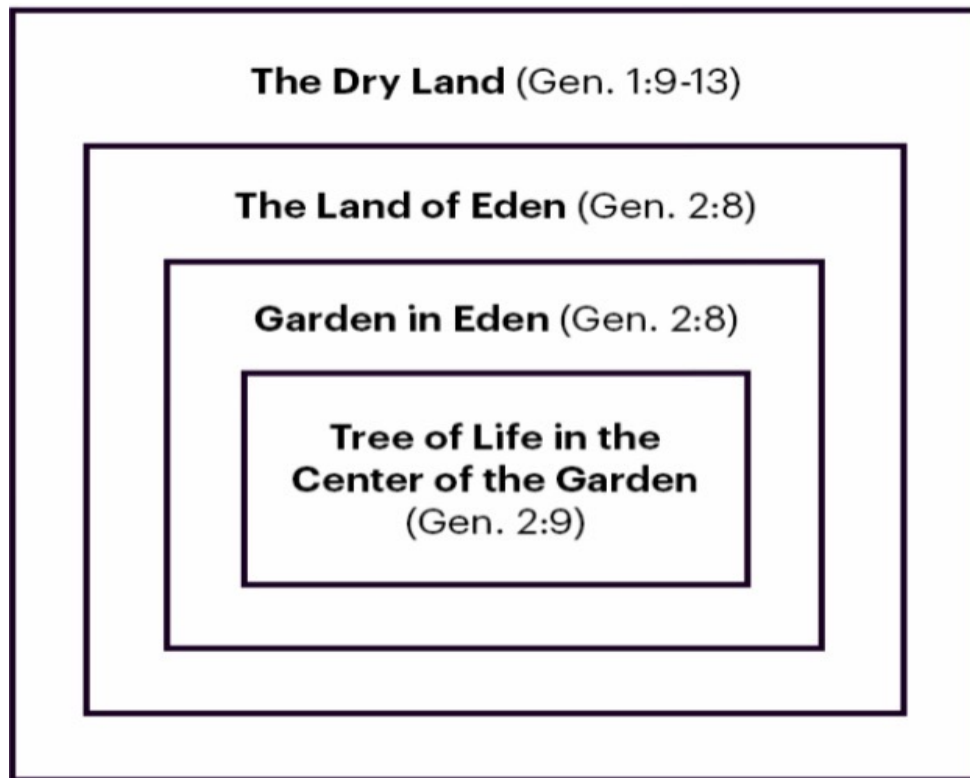


Leviticus





Psalm 15:1

YHWH, **who can dwell in
your tent? Who can live on
your holy mountain?**

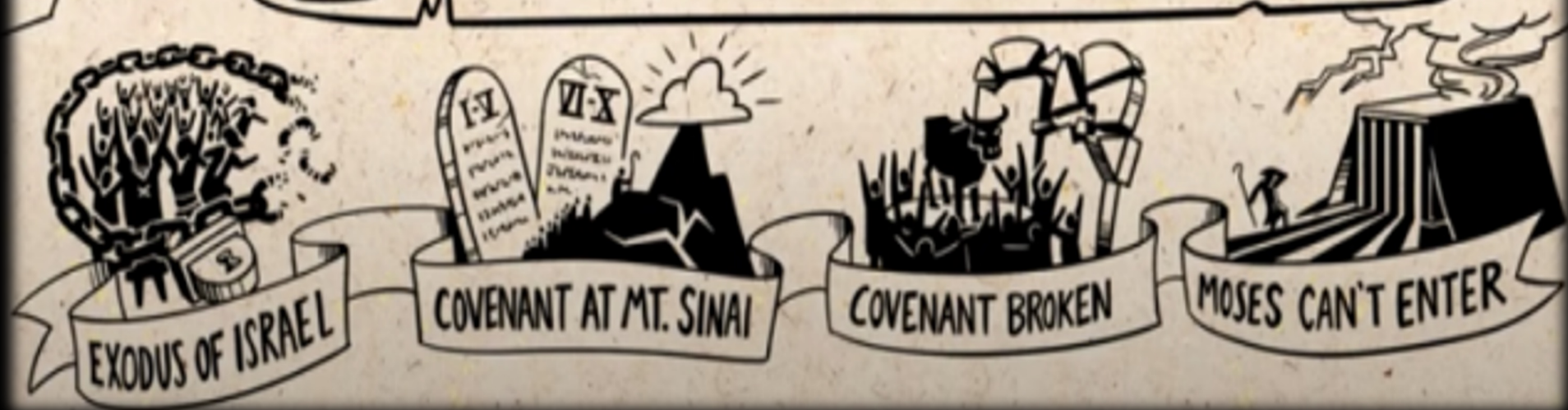


Leviticus within the Pentateuch

- (A) Genesis: prologue (separation/blessings/land)
- (B) Exodus: 1a: leaving Egypt;
1b: building the tabernacle
- (C) Leviticus: the tabernacle service
- (B') Numbers: 1a: dedicating the tabernacle;
1b': preparing to enter Canaan
- (A') Deuteronomy: epilogue (separation/blessings/land)

LEVITICUS

GOD GRACIOUSLY PROVIDES A WAY
FOR PEOPLE TO LIVE IN HIS PRESENCE



“Atonement” or “kippēr”

- NT Greek: *katalassō* = “reconciliation” (2 Cor. 5:18-20)
“at-one-ment” so “atonement” (thank Tyndale)

- OT Hebrew (Leviticus): *kippēr* = “decontaminate”,
“purify”, “purge”, NOT “reconcile” or “forgive”

- the results will be such but **the word rendered “atonement” in Leviticus is not a covering but about purification of the holy items.**

“In context, this verbal action is accomplished by applying blood to something sacred (sancta).”

— John H. Walton (PhD, Hebrew Union College)



**God didn't destroy Nahab & Abihu
for a mere mistake. God judged
them for open rebellion and
protected His house so that He
could dwell with Israel.**

Leviticus 10:1-11

Leviticus Outline

(1-7) Sacrifices

(8-10) institution of priesthood/inauguration of cultus

(11-15) clean/unclean in daily life

(16) Day of Atonement

(17-20) Holy/profane in daily life

(21-22) Legislation for the priesthood

(23-27) Festivals/sacred time

Approaching God + atonement

Judgment/cleansing of everything

Communion w/God + holiness

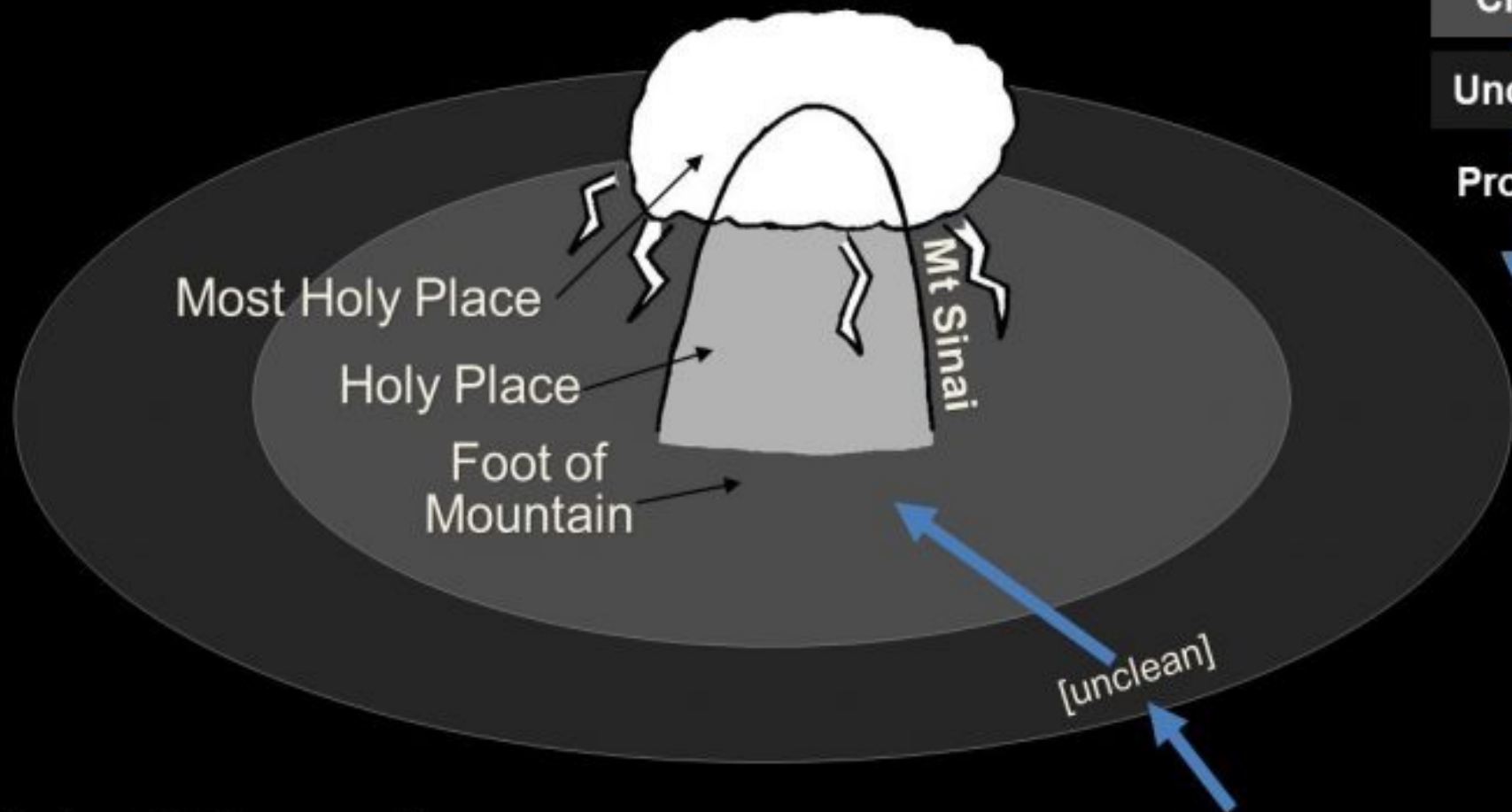
Clean and Unclean

Leviticus 11-15

¹⁰ You must distinguish between the holy and the common, and the clean and the **unclean**, ¹¹ and teach the Israelites all the statutes that YHWH has given to them through Moses.” (Leviticus 10:10-11)

For the lips of a **priest** should guard knowledge, and people should desire **instruction** from his mouth, because he **is the messenger of YHWH of Armies.**
(Malachi 2:7)

Mt Sinai



[unclean]

Nations

Holy (Lev. 18-26)



Common (Lev. 18-26)

Clean (Lev. 11-15)



Unclean (Lev. 11-15)



Sin

Death & uncleanness (Lev. 10-16)

Ch10 crisis: dead bodies on tabernacle grounds

- What are the dangers of uncleanness?

Chs11-15 time of defilement & their solutions

- Progression of key ideas (it's not random)
- Cleansing period of hours to months to years

Ch16 cleansing death

- How to cleanse the most holy place of death

Eating Animals (Lev. 11)

vv1-23: classifying animals (cf. Gen. 1:20-25!)

- Land animals (vv2-18)
- Fish (vv9-12)
- Birds (vv13-19)
- Insects (vv20-23)

vv24-40: concerning purity

- Flying insect carcass (vv24-25)
- Land animal carcass (vv26-28)
- Crawling thing (vv29-38)
- Large clean animal carcass (vv39-40)

vv41-47: crawling things

- Continual reminders that they are to be holy!
- Theological logic to these rules (vv46-47)

⁴⁶ “This is the law concerning animals, birds, all living creatures that move in the water, and all creatures that swarm on the ground, ⁴⁷ in order to distinguish between the unclean and the clean, between the animals that may be eaten and those that may not be eaten.”

Leviticus 11:46-47

²⁰ Then God said, “Let the water swarm with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky.” ²¹ So God created the large sea-creatures and every living creature that moves and swarms in the water, according to their kinds. He also created every winged creature according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ²² God blessed them: “Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters of the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.” ²³ Evening came and then morning: the fifth day. ²⁴ Then God said, “Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that crawl, and the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so.

Genesis 1:20-25

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Leviticus 12:1-8

Cleansing from Childbirth (Lev. 12)

What sex & how long is the purification process:

- Male: 40 days (vv1-4)
 - Circumcision sets apart
- Female: 80 days (v5)
 - 2x as long purification sets a part

Why?

- Practical reasons? Theological reasons?
 - Birth is dangerous & still speaks to the finitude of humanity. Death and beginning of life are the opposite of the eternal (holy) God.

Treating Infections (Lev. 13:1-14:57)

13:1-59: skin diseases & clothing infections

- What connects the concepts? A: danger of contamination
- How could this be taught theologically & practically?
- How are people & things treated differently?

14:1-32: restoring a healed person

- Three step process (vv1-9)
- 3 main atoning sacrifices offered: reparation (vv12-18), purification (v19a), and burnt offering (vv19-20)

14:33-57: treating the infected house

- 7 day impurity -> unclean stones removed -> torn down
- What is the goal and the point?

²² Have mercy on those who waver; ²³ save others by snatching them from the fire; have mercy on others but with fear, **hating even the garment** defiled by the flesh.

Jude 22-23

Bodily Emissions (Lev. 15:1-33)

vv1-17: male discharge

- Abnormal discharge (vv2-15)
- Normal discharge (vv16-17)

V18: intercourse

- Cleansing the house
 - Sex also has to do w/the finitude of humanity

vv19-33: female discharge

- Normal discharges (vv19-24)
- Abnormal discharges (vv25-30)

¹⁹ I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ love YHWH your God, obey him, and remain faithful to him. For he is your life, and he will prolong your days as you live in the land YHWH swore to give to your ancestors Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.”

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Practical takeaways from Lev. 11-15

1. It is all about reflecting God's created order! How can we do that?
2. We should be just as careful today to obey Christ in all things.
3. Consider the impact (good or harm) that we have on others.

