

Survey of the Old Testament Leviticus

Name refers to the tribe of Levi.

Often seen as a handbook for the Levites.

Many rules about religious service --
which of necessity involved the Levites.

Mostly legal code, with some historical
narrative

Theme: Leviticus 19:2

Speak to all the congregation of the
people of Israel and say to them, You shall
be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy.

Basically two points:

- How to become holy (1-10, 16)
- How to stay holy (11-15, 17-27)

Sacrifices (1-7)

Priesthood (8-10)

Ceremonial Cleanness (11-15)

Day of Atonement (16)

Morality (17-22)

Religious Feasts and Special Days (23-25)

Blessing/Curse (26)

Vows (27)

Special days

- Passover (connected with unleavened
bread) (23:4-8)
- Pentecost (weeks; harvest) (23:15-21)
- Feast of Booths (ingathering) (23:33-
44)

- Feast of Trumpets (23:23-25)
- Day of Atonement (16; 23:26-32)

–Sabbatical Year – every seventh year
(25:1-7)

- Land given a rest from planting
- Reading of the law
- All debts forgiven

–Jubilee Year – every 50th year (25:8-55)

- Slaves for debt set free
- Land returned
- Land rested again