

Leviticus 1

Outline and time frame of Leviticus

This teaching was delivered during the 1st month of 1445 BC. We know this because the last chapter of Exodus takes place on 1-1-02. (1445 BC) and the first chapter of Numbers occurs on 2-1-02. (1445 BC)

See Chart 105

Leviticus time line

Leviticus	Event	Year 2 - 1445	Place
1-7	Types of offerings	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
8-9	Ordination of Aaron and his sons	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
10	Death of Nadab and Abihu	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
11-15	Clean and unclean	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
16	Day of Atonement	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
17 - 19	Various Laws	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
20	Punishment for sin	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
21 - 22	Rules for Priests	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
23	Appointed Festivals	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
24	Blasphemer put to death	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
25	Sabbath year and Jubilee	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
26	Reward and Punishment	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai
27	Vows	1st Month	The Desert of Sinai

Verses 1- 2

Then the Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying,
² “Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When any man of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of animals from the herd or the flock.

Then the Lord called to Moses and spoke to him from the tent of meeting, saying,

Scholars have debated whether “the tent of meeting” mentioned here is the temporary tent used by Moses that was outside the camp or the Tabernacle that was just recently set up. Either way it was the word of the Lord. 😊

² “Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘When any man of you brings an offering to the Lord, you shall bring your offering of animals from the herd or the flock.

From the herd means tame animals, in distinction from wild animals. Of the flock means their cattle, sheep or goats.

The burnt offering

Verses 3 - 4

³ If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer it, a male without defect; he shall offer it at the doorway of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the Lord. ⁴ He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, that it may be accepted for him to make atonement on his behalf.

³ If his offering is a burnt offering from the herd, he shall offer it, a male without defect; he shall offer it at the doorway of the tent of meeting, that he may be accepted before the Lord.

The burnt-offering was completely consumed by fire except for the hide which was given to the priests.

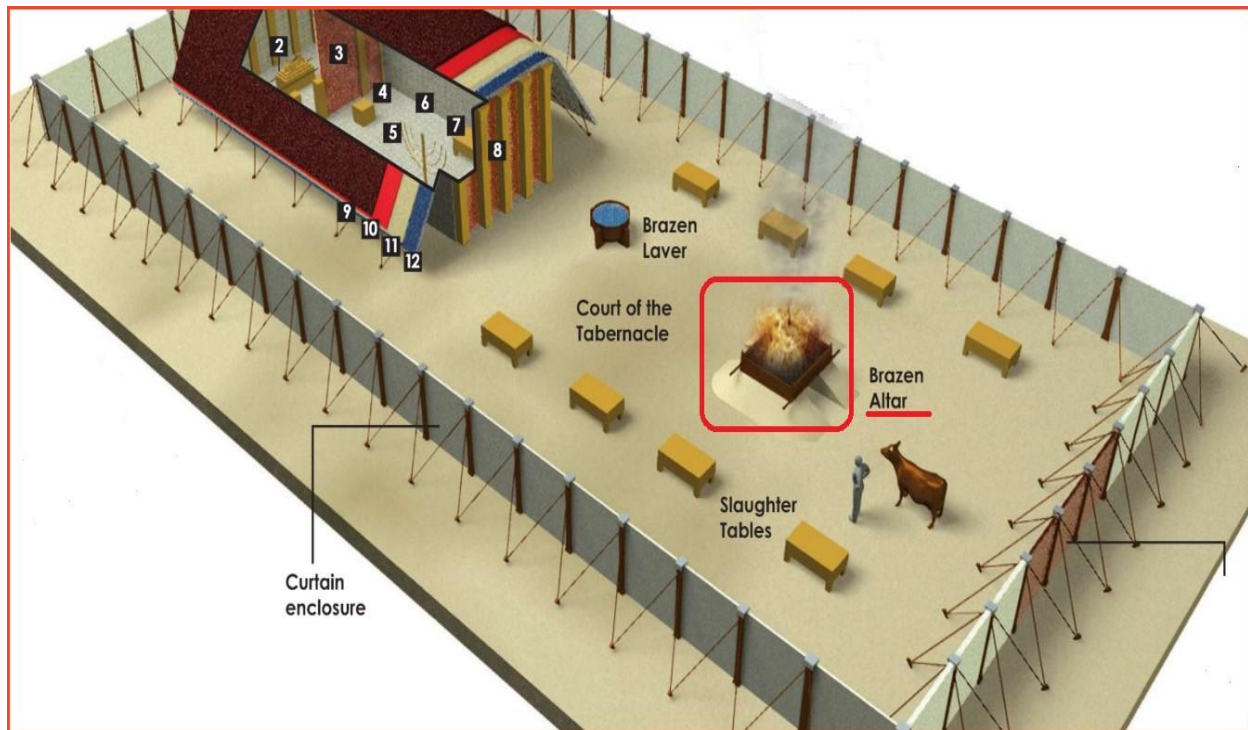
See Leviticus 7:8

⁸ Also the priest who presents anyone’s burnt offering, that priest shall have for himself the hide of the burnt offering which he has presented.

A male without defect was symbolic of the coming savior.

The fact that it had to be offered at the doorway of the tent of meeting meant that it could not be offered at a makeshift altar of uncut stones as they had done in the past. Now the Jews had one place to offer sacrifices; at the Tabernacle.

See pic 110



The altar of bronze, where the animals were sacrificed, was just inside the doorway of the tent on the east side of the Tabernacle.

⁴ He shall lay his hand on the head of the burnt offering, that it may be accepted for him to make atonement on his behalf.

By laying his hand on the head of the animal the worshipper was asking that the sacrifice be accepted as atonement for his sins. Sacrifices were a type, or a shadow, of what Christ would do on the cross.

Verses 5 - 9

⁵ He shall slay the young bull before the Lord; and Aaron's sons the priests shall offer up the blood and sprinkle the blood around on the altar that is at the doorway of the tent of meeting. ⁶ He shall then skin the burnt offering and cut it into its pieces. ⁷ The sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. ⁸ Then Aaron's sons the priests shall arrange the pieces, the head and the suet over the wood which is on the fire that is on the altar. ⁹ Its entrails, however, and its legs he shall wash with water. And the priest shall offer up in smoke all of it on the altar for a burnt offering, an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the Lord.

⁵ He shall slay the young bull before the Lord; and Aaron's sons the priests shall offer up the blood and sprinkle the blood around on the altar that is at the doorway of the tent of meeting.

The worshipper was involved in the process of sacrificing an animal by slaying it. After the worshipper slayed the animal by cutting its throat the priests would offer up the blood and sprinkle it on the altar.

⁷ The sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar and arrange wood on the fire. ⁸ Then Aaron's sons the priests shall arrange the pieces, the head and the suet over the wood which is on the fire that is on the altar.

The priests were in charge of getting the altar ready to burn the sacrifice and arranging the pieces of the animal over the wood fire of the Altar.

⁹ Its entrails, however, and its legs he shall wash with water. And the priest shall offer up in smoke all of it on the altar for a burnt offering, an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the Lord.

With this type of sacrifice all of it was burned (None of it was eaten).

Verses 10 -13

¹⁰ 'But if his offering is from the flock, of the sheep or of the goats, for a burnt offering, he shall offer it a male without defect. ¹¹ He shall slay it on the side of the altar northward before the Lord, and Aaron's sons the priests shall sprinkle its blood around on the altar. ¹² He shall then cut it into its pieces with its head and its suet, and the priest shall arrange them on the wood which is on the fire that is on the altar. ¹³ The entrails, however, and the legs he shall wash with water. And the priest shall offer all of it, and offer it up in smoke on the altar; it is a burnt offering, an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the Lord.

¹⁰ 'But if his offering is from the flock, of the sheep or of the goats, for a burnt offering, he shall offer it a male without defect.

If the offering was a sheep or a goat instead of a young bull the same procedure was followed except for one detail.

¹¹ He shall slay it on the side of the altar northward before the Lord, and Aaron's sons the priests shall sprinkle its blood around on the altar.

We are not told why a sheep or goat was slain north of the Altar.

¹³ The entrails, however, and the legs he shall wash with water. And the priest shall offer all of it, and offer it up in smoke on the altar; it is a burnt offering, an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the Lord.

As it burned the offering rose up to God in the form of smoke. A similar image was used by Paul.

See Ephesians 5:1-2

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; ² and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

Verses 14 - 17

¹⁴ 'But if his offering to the Lord is a burnt offering of birds, then he shall bring his offering from the turtledoves or from young pigeons. ¹⁵ The priest shall bring it to the altar, and wring off its head and offer it up in smoke on the altar; and its blood is to be drained out on the side of the altar. ¹⁶ He shall also take away its crop with its feathers and cast it beside the altar eastward, to the place of the ashes. ¹⁷ Then he shall tear it by its wings, *but* shall not sever *it*. And the priest shall offer it up in smoke on the altar on the wood which is on the fire; it is a burnt offering, an offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the Lord.

But if his offering to the Lord is a burnt offering of birds, then he shall bring his offering from the turtledoves or from young pigeons.

Not just any kind of bird would do, only pigeons and doves were allowed. In all ages, the dove has been the symbol of peace.

Three different burnt offerings are mentioned in this chapter; a bull, a sheep or goat, and a pigeon or dove. The kind of animal a person sacrificed was determined by their income.

The picture below is a good summary of the burnt offerings.

See pic 115

BURNT OFFERING

WHY: Atonement for intentional sin.

WHERE: Bronze Altar

WHAT: A young male animal without defect or a bird.

