

*Holy Living in an Unholy World*

## Leviticus 19

**Introduction:** Questions Connected to our Study of Leviticus 18

- **Question 1:** Was it sinful for men like Jacob, David, and Solomon to have multiple wives?
  - If these men were sinning by having multiple wives, doesn't that contradict 1 John, where the Christian is described as turning from sin / not living in patterns of sin?
- **Question 2:** If incest is forbidden in Leviticus 18, was it sinful for Cain to marry his sister or for Abraham to marry his half-sister?

*OT Law – Three-fold Division (\*1689 London Baptist Confession of Faith)*

1. Moral – “written in the heart of man ... delivered by God upon Mount Sinai, in ten commandments ... commonly called moral ... The moral law does for ever bind all.”
2. Ceremonial – “God was pleased to give to the people of Israel ceremonial laws, containing several typical ordinances, partly of worship, prefiguring Christ, ... all which ceremonial laws being appointed.”
3. Civil/Judicial – “sundry judicial laws, which expired”

*Positive Law*

- Laws given directly by God to His people through special revelation at a particular time in redemptive history. These laws are usually linked with covenants and would not have been known if God had not revealed them.
- Charles Hodge, “[Positive laws] derive all their authority from the explicit command of God.... The criterion of such laws is that they would not be binding unless positively enacted; and that they bind those only to whom they are given, and only so long as they continue in force by the appointment of God....The obligation to obey such laws does not arise from their fitness for the end for which they have been given, but solely from the divine command.”<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Charles Hodge, *Systematic Theology*, vol. 3 (Oak Harbor, WA: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997), 269.

- Tom Hicks, “Positive law... is law that God posited by way of special revelation in a particular covenant. No one would have known that they ought to obey positive law, unless it had been revealed to them in a biblical covenant.”<sup>2</sup>

**Why is Leviticus 19 important?:** This chapter describes how the nation of Israel—and we as God’s people today—are to live holy lives set apart to God amid an unholy world.

- Mark Rooker, “Leviticus 19 has been called the highest development of ethics in the Old Testament. This chapter perhaps better than any other in the Bible, explains what it meant for Israel to be a holy nation (Exod 19:6).”<sup>3</sup>

**I.** \_\_\_\_\_ (1–2)

- Jay Sklar, “As this chapter will make clear, such holiness is not accomplished by withdrawing from the world, but by engaging actively in it, living out the Lord’s righteous character in every sphere of life.”<sup>4</sup>

**II.** \_\_\_\_\_ (3–36)

A. \_\_\_\_\_ (3–4)

B. \_\_\_\_\_ (5–8)

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<sup>2</sup> Tom Hicks, <https://pastortomhicks.com/2020/11/17/why-is-theonomy-unbiblical/>

<sup>3</sup> Mark F. Rooker, *Leviticus*, vol. 3A, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 250.

<sup>4</sup> Jay Sklar, *Leviticus: An Introduction and Commentary*, ed. David G. Firth, vol. 3, Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries (Nottingham, England: Inter-Varsity Press, 2013), 243.

- Mark Rooker, “The fact that the proper method of presenting an offering is included in the discussion of holiness indicates that holiness touches every dimension of an individual’s life.”<sup>5</sup>

C. \_\_\_\_\_ (9–10)

D. \_\_\_\_\_ (11–18)

E. \_\_\_\_\_ (19–22)

F. \_\_\_\_\_ (23–25)

G. \_\_\_\_\_ (26–28)

- Christine Palmer, “Israelites are forbidden from engaging in the occult and seeking omens, as is customarily done among their neighbors through reading the stars, inspecting an animal’s internal organs, observing the movement of birds, and the like .... The Lord expressly forbids ascribing power to false gods and impersonal forces that feign to foretell things to come.”

H. \_\_\_\_\_ (29–30)

I. \_\_\_\_\_ (31)

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<sup>5</sup> Mark F. Rooker, *Leviticus*, vol. 3A, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 255.

J. \_\_\_\_\_ (32–34)

K. \_\_\_\_\_ (35–36)

**Appropriation:** Heed the apostle Peter’s call in 1 Peter 1:15–16, “but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; because it is written, “YOU SHALL BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY.”