

# Laws That Govern Day-to-Day Behaviour, Personal Conduct: The Duty to Live a Life of Separation, a Life of Real Devotion to God

## Leviticus 19:01–22

### 1. *Man's duty to God*

a. Must be holy:

The basic, foundational duty

- 1) Because God is the LORD
- 2) Because God is holy
- 3) Because the LORD is your God

b. Must respect God's appointed order within the family, one's mother and father

c. Must worship on the Sabbath

d. Must not turn to idols or false gods

e. Must seek the fellowship and peace of God — through the sacrifice (a symbol of Christ): Must approach God in the right way to be acceptable

- 1) Must eat the sacrifice on the day it is offered or the next day: To burn any meat three days old
- 2) The reason: Contamination
- 3) The judgment of a violator: Held accountable, to be cut off — because he desecrated the holy sacrifice offered to God

1 The LORD said to Moses,

2 “Speak to the entire assembly of Israel and say to them:  
‘Be holy because I, the LORD your God, am holy.

3 Each of you must respect your mother and father, and you must observe my Sabbaths. I am the LORD your God.

4 Do not turn to idols or make metal gods for yourselves. I am the LORD your God.

5 When you sacrifice a fellowship offering to the LORD, sacrifice it in such a way that it will be accepted on your behalf.

6 It shall be eaten on the day you sacrifice it or on the next day; anything left over until the third day must be burned up.

7 If any of it is eaten on the third day, it is impure and will not be accepted.

8 Whoever eats it will be held responsible because they have desecrated what is holy to the LORD; they must be cut off from their people.

## 2. *Man's duty to his neighbour*

- a. Must make opportunity for the poor to work and eat, even if they are foreigners
  - 1) To leave enough harvest for them to feed themselves
  - 2) The authority of this law: God Himself
- b. Must not steal, lie, or deceive
- c. Must not swear (or use vulgarity)
  - 1) Profanes God's name
  - 2) The warning: "I am the LORD"
- d. Must not cheat or steal: Do not steal the wages of a person
- e. Must not mistreat the handicapped
  - 1) Not take advantage of
  - 2) The warning: Fear God
- f. Must be just and fair: Never pervert justice; never show partiality to the poor nor favouritism to the great
- g. Must love your neighbour as yourself
  - 1) Do not spread slander or gossip
  - 2) Do not do anything to endanger a neighbour

- 9 When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest.
- 10 Do not go over your vineyard a second time or pick up the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for the poor and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God.
- 11 Do not steal. Do not lie. Do not deceive one another.
- 12 Do not swear falsely by my name and so profane the name of your God. I am the LORD.
- 13 Do not defraud or rob your neighbour. Do not hold back the wages of a hired worker overnight.
- 14 Do not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block in front of the blind, but fear your God. I am the LORD.
- 15 Do not pervert justice; do not show partiality to the poor or favouritism to the great, but judge your neighbour fairly.
- 16 Do not go about spreading slander among your people. Do not do anything that endangers your neighbour's life. I am the LORD.

- 3) Do not hate your brother
  - 4) Rebuke, correct your neighbour when he is doing wrong (Mat 5:23-25)
  - 5) Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone
- h. Must keep God's laws and live a life of total separation, a life that is distinct
- 1) No cross-breeding
  - 2) No mixing of seed or clothes woven of different fabrics
- i. Must not sexually abuse or mistreat a slave
- 1) An example:  
A man has intercourse with an engaged slave-girl
  - 2) The penalty or punishment:
    - They are not to be put to death
    - The man is to pay compensation
  - 3) The needed restoration with God
    - The man must seek forgiveness — through the guilt offering
    - The result:  
Atonement, reconciliation — his sin will be forgiven

- 17 Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart.  
Rebuke your neighbour frankly so you will not share in their guilt.
- 18 Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbour as yourself.  
I am the LORD.
- 19 Keep my decrees.  
Do not mate different kinds of animals.  
Do not plant your field with two kinds of seed.  
Do not wear clothing woven of two kinds of material.
- 20 If a man sleeps with a female slave who is promised to another man but who has not been ransomed or given her freedom, there must be due punishment.  
Yet they are not to be put to death, because she had not been freed.
- 21 The man, however, must bring a ram to the entrance to the tent of meeting for a guilt offering to the LORD.
- 22 With the ram of the guilt offering the priest is to make atonement for him before the LORD for the sin he has committed, and his sin will be forgiven.