**LEVITICUS**

The week of 09/03/20

The next section of our Walk Through the Bible is Leviticus.

**Here’s what you need to KNOW:**

Levi was the son of Jacob and Leah. The “Levites” were the descendants of “Levi” – (note the presence of the name ‘Levi’ in the spelling of ‘Levites). The word “Leviticus” means “having to do with the Levites.”

The Levites were one of the 12 Tribes of Israel. They were different than the other tribes in that they received no land, but were instead, scattered among the other 11 tribes as a way of blessing the whole nation. The main role of the Levites was to assist the people in their worship of God and to teach them to obey His Law. The Levites received their special status because of their refusal to worship the Golden Calf and their obedience to Moses as described in Exodus 32.

Because they had no land from which to make a living, the other tribes were instructed to give a tithe (10%) of their income for the support of the Levites and the nation’s devotional activities.

One sub-group of the Levities, Aaron and his descendants, were the Priests. The rest of the Levites assisted the Priests in their duties. They did things like taking care of the worship facilities *(Tabernacle, and later, The Temple)* and other physical items used in their worship. They were also teachers, scholars, musicians, officers and judges.

The book of Leviticus gives detailed instructions about how the nation was to express its devotion to God. It describes the necessity of various Sacrifices to atone for sin, how the Priesthood would work, as well as, the need to observe additional Laws and Special religious Seasons.

**Key OBSERVATION –**

“Holy” is a continually repeated word in Leviticus.

“Holy” means “sacred; dedicated to a special purpose.”

Maybe the best takeaway from Leviticus is the logic God uses to describe the reason His people are to live holy lives.

In effect, God says, ‘If you’re going to be my people, you need to accurately reflect who I am… by doing life my way.”

So, He tells them,

*I am the Lord your God;*

***so, dedicate yourselves***

***and be holy, because I am holy.*** *(11:44)*

*I am the Lord, who gave you salvation from Egypt so I could establish myself as your God;* ***therefore, be holy, because I am holy.*** *(11:45)*

***Be holy because I, the Lord your God, am holy.*** *(19:2)*

***Dedicate yourselves and be holy,***

*because I am the Lord your God.*

*Keep my decrees and follow them.*

***I am the Lord, who makes you holy****. (20:7-8)*

Holy people are never “holier than thou.”

Holy people humbly seek to live life God’s way.

Living life God’s way is not only right, but it’s also good for us, our family and friends, and our whole world.

Today, our world desperately needs people who are willing to do life God’s way.

**GET GOING!**

**Continue your personal journey through the Bible by taking a hop, skip and a jump through the Book of Leviticus.**