

Beyond Exodus: Leviticus

Leviticus tells us how sinful people can approach a holy God.
Leviticus also tells us how a redeemed people must live in order to please a holy God.
This goes in two directions: ***Right with God, Right with People.***

That first benefit of Leviticus is that it points to Jesus with its emphasis on substitutionary sacrifice, or atonement. The second benefit of Leviticus is to address daily life with each other.

In terms of approaching the presence of a holy God...
Ex 40:38 tells us that when God spoke to Moses, God was in the Tabernacle and Moses was not.
Num 1:1 tells us that when God spoke to Moses, they were both in the Tabernacle.

When Leviticus opens, no one has the presence of God.
So, in asking the question, did it work. We can know if it worked if one or more people had access to God's presence once again. What we're looking for in Leviticus is whether or not these instructions that came from God helped people gain access to the presence of God.

If not, then it's nothing more than an empty religion. When Leviticus closes, Moses and his brother Aaron as High Priest do have access to the presence of God. What happened? Atonement. The key chapter in Leviticus is Chapter 16, The Day of Atonement. This helps us to understand the substitutionary sacrifice of Jesus Christ who died for our sins. We have access to God through Jesus because of His death and resurrection.

Home Group Discussion Questions:

How can a sinful person approach a holy God?
>Please base your response on Scripture rather than quoting Pastor Karl

Why would a person's relationship with God have an impact on their relationships with people?

Read Lev 4:13, 22, 27 (See if you can notice the pattern)
>How does the need to deal with unintentional sin impact your concept of what sin really is?

Read Lev 16:6-10 and 16:15-16
This is Aaron in his priestly role. Notice in v6 that Aaron offers a sacrifice for His own sin ***before*** He offers a sacrifice for the sins of the people. Then in v15 Aaron sacrifices a goat for the sins of the people and in v20-22, the live goat is released in the wilderness.

>What does the sacrifice of the first goat represent?
>What does the release of the second goat into the wilderness represent?