

Holiness

Leviticus 19

INTRODUCTION

- THIS IS ABOUT **HOLINESS**... being set apart for God's purposes, distinct from the pagan world His people live in
 - **"I AM THE LORD" IS THE THEME**
 - This chapter is very important in the Old Testament. It's referenced in Deuteronomy, Psalms, Proverbs, the Prophets and seemingly through the New Testament book of James.
 - **Lev. 19 emphasizes the living out of the Ten Commandments, which Christ summarized as Loving God and Loving Others.**

The Command to be Holy (vv.1-4)

- A) Holiness commanded to all the same (vv.1-2)
- B) Holiness in households (v.3)
 - a. This is where creation & God's glory begins in community
 - b. Connected to what immediately follows
- C) Holiness in worship (vv.3-4)
 - a. Sabbath
 - b. Solidarity

Holiness in the Offerings (vv.5-8)

- A) The end of offerings is acceptability by the Holy God (v.5)
- B) God's holiness permeates the details -- the ends do not justify the means (vv.6-8)
- C) Holiness is being set apart for the sacred purposes of God - a lack of holiness means that the people are cut off from the people of God (v.8)

Holiness in Relationships (vv.9-18)

- A) Consider the poor (vv.9-10)
 - a. Harvesting every part could indicate greed
 - b. Convicting, but it's not unlike constantly thinking about how we can spend extra money on ourselves -- not even the extra. Those who do not give to the body because they hoard their money (as if it's theirs).
- B) Deal in truth (vv.11-12)
- C) Deal in integrity (vv.13-14)
- D) Deal justly (vv.15-16)
 - a. This means that holiness demands justice be done in community affairs
 - b. This is in relational terms (in simplest of terms)
- E) Deal in love (vv.17-18)
 - a. The culmination of the moral commandments
 - b. **Mark 12:31, Luke 10:27**
 - c. **1 John 4:20-21**

Holiness in Purity (vv.19-37)

- A) Natural purity (v.19)
- B) Sexual purity (vv.20-22)
- C) Tithing purity (vv.23-25)
- D) Identity purity (vv.26-31)
 - a. Divination

- b. Cutting
- c. Tattoos
- d. Prostitution
- e. Psychics

E) Relational purity (**v.32-37**)

- a. The Elderly
- b. With Strangers
- c. In the Marketplace

We are Called to Be Holy

A) In every way (**James**)

B) How? How do we avoid this just being a baptized “to do” list? How does holiness become a lifestyle that proves itself in all of life’s dealings? (**1 Peter 1:13-25**)

- a. Know Your Salvation was Caused by God (**v.3**)
- b. Be mindful (**v.13**)
- c. Conform to Christ, not culture (**vv.14-16**)
- d. Live as Exiles, not as homebodies (**vv.17-21**)
- e. Holy results (**vv.22-25**)

CONCLUSION

- **Who are you?**
- **Whose are you? This is about “I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD” (Image)**
- **You will act and like like who you are, which is defined by whose you are.**
- **Be Holy because HE IS HOLY!**