

=BOOKS OF THE BIBLE=

Lesson 3

Leviticus

Objects to have:

A sign to represent the book of Leviticus, with the theme word LAW on it

Chalk and chalkboard

“Mirror” of aluminum foil, framed on construction paper, large enough for all the following to be attached to it:

The word NO on a strip of paper

A picture of a toy and some money

Some pictures of clothing

A black spot on a piece of paper

A picture of a father and a mother

A picture of someone else

A large red heart

Your Bible.

Introducing the lesson:

(Pick up your Bible. Show the children the two divisions of your Bible—the Old Testament and the New Testament. Tell them that all the stories in the Old Testament took place before Jesus came to earth from Heaven. Some of the stories of the New Testament took place just before Jesus came on earth, some took place while He was on earth, and some took place right after He left to go back to Heaven. Then review the names and the themes of the first two books of the Old Testament—Genesis and Exodus. Show the children the third book of the Bible. Have them repeat the name Leviticus with you several times so that they learn to say it properly. Let them see how the name is printed. Show them this book in your Bible. Teach them the theme of this third book of the Bible. Put up the sign to represent Leviticus.)

Telling the story:

(Put down your Bible.) “Moses!” Moses heard his name being called. Who was calling Moses? God was calling Moses. God wanted to talk to Moses. When God called him and talked to him, Moses was at the tabernacle. The tabernacle was a tent. It was not round like this tent is round. (Draw on the chalkboard a circus tent.) The tabernacle was shaped like this. (Draw on the chalkboard a rectangle, with the short sides on the right and on the left; forming the front and the back of the tabernacle. Divide the rectangle by drawing a line two-thirds of the way back from the front.)

The tabernacle had two rooms. The front room was called, “the Holy Place.” The back smaller room was called, “the Holy of Holies.” It was pretty inside the tabernacle; it was not pretty on the outside. Inside the tabernacle there was a beautiful curtain that hung from the ceiling to the floor (indicate) to divide the tabernacle into two rooms. There was a huge candlestick stand here (point to the left of the entrance to the tabernacle), made of gold. There was a table here (point to the right of the entrance to the tabernacle), covered with gold. There was a little altar of incense here (point to the right of the entrance to the Holy of Holies), covered with gold. Inside the Holy of Holies was the ark of the covenant, and it was covered with gold. All the curtains that were hanging against the walls were very pretty, with pictures sewed in them. The curtains had blue and purple and red in them.

Moses, beside the tabernacle, listened while God talked to him. God said, “There are certain ways that I want My people to act. There are certain things they must not do. There are certain things that they must do. Listen, Moses; I will tell you how My people ought to live.” Moses listened very carefully. Written in the book of Leviticus are the laws which God gave Moses.

(Pick up your “mirror.”) I have a “pretend” mirror today. Sometimes when I look into a mirror I see that my face is dirty. When I see the dirt on my face, I know that it should be washed. I get out the wash cloth and the soap and wash my face. The dirt comes off as I wash and rinse it. Then I dry my face. Then I have a clean face. The mirror is what showed me that I had a dirty face.

Let us pretend that this is a mirror. We'll give this mirror a name; we'll call it God's law. Let us look at the real "God's law." (Open your Bible and look at the book of Leviticus.) God's law says, "Do not tell lies." Oh, when I look at God's law, I know that telling lies is bad. Maybe I made a scratch in a chair. Mother asks, "Did you make the scratch in the chair?" If I said, "No," I would be telling a lie. By looking into God's law I would know that not telling the truth is telling a lie, and that telling lies is bad. (Put the big NO on the aluminum foil mirror.)

Let us say that a little boy sees a toy. (Describe the toy to fit the picture which you have.) The toy is not his, but he wants it. He just takes it. It is stealing when we take something that does not belong to us. What if a little girl decides that she wants to have some candy. There is no candy at home, so she decides to buy some candy at the store. She needs money to buy candy. She decides to get some money from Sister's bank or Mother's purse. That money is not her money! She takes the money! That is called stealing.

Let us look at God's law. God says, "Thou shalt not steal!" (Put the picture of the toy and the money on the aluminum mirror.) By looking into God's mirror, His law, we have found out that it is sin to steal.

(Put the clothes on the mirror.) God's law says that we are to be very careful to dress right. (You may wish to elaborate on this.)

(Place the picture of the mother and the father on the mirror.) God's law says, "Honor your father and your mother." We are to do whatever Father and Mother command us to do! We are to do the work they want us to do, we are to eat whatever they tell us to eat, we're to go to bed whenever they tell us to go to bed. We are to help them whenever they ask for help. We are to honor our father and our mother. Whenever we do bad toward Father and Mother, we are sinning. God's law helps us to know that it is bad not to obey, not to honor Father or Mother. When we look into the Bible, it helps us to know when we've done wrong. When we know that we have done wrong, then we know that we need to confess our sins and get forgiveness from God.

Look at this black spot that we are putting on our mirror. (Put it on there.) By looking into God's mirror, His law, we see our sins. If we are not loving and kind, when we look into the Bible, we see that sin.

Look at this person whom I am putting on our mirror. By looking into God's mirror, we see whether we have taken care of the bodies that God has given us. Let's talk about some bad things that we are never to put into our bodies. Let's talk about some good things. (Lead the children to discuss these with you.) By looking into God's mirror, we see that we are to keep our bodies clean on the outside as well as on the inside.

Let us try to remember what God's law tells us not to do, and what it tells us to do. (Review from the pictures on the mirror.) God's law as we see it in the book of Leviticus is like a mirror.

Look at this big red heart that I am putting at the bottom of the mirror. (Do this.) In the book of Leviticus, God says, "Love your neighbor." If we really love other people, we will not lie to them. We will not steal from them. If we truly love our mother and our father, we will honor them. If we love others, we cannot hate.

Moses listened in the tabernacle to all that God told him. Then Moses told the people what God said in His law. The people thought about themselves, just as they would look into a mirror. It was as if they looked inside as they listened to God's laws. They learned that they were sinners because they knew that there were times they had disobeyed God.

Then God told them what to do about their sins: "Come to the altar." (Draw a square where the altar would go outside the front gate of the tabernacle.) "Bring a bullock or a lamb or a goat or a pigeon or a dove, whichever of these you can bring. Be sure that your offering is a good one. The lamb or the bullock or the goat or the pigeon or the dove must be healthy. It cannot be sick. It must not have any sores on it. It must be very strong. It must not have anything wrong at all. Bring your offering to the altar. Tell the man, called the priest, what sins you have committed. Let the priest kill your offering. Let the blood of your offering come out onto the altar and at

the base of the altar. Let the offering be burned with fire. Then I will forgive your sins.” That is what the people had to do. Moses told them they had to do that because God told him they had to do that.

We look into God’s mirror and see that we have sinned, but we do not have men called priests, and we do not kill animals on an altar and burn them anymore. Our sins are forgiven because we have trusted that Jesus took the punishment for our disobedience. Jesus died on the cross. He was God’s offering for us, and this offering was much, much better than any Old Testament offering. Now we tell Jesus about our sins; He will forgive us and wash us clean from them. We should still remember to do right. If we should happen to do wrong, then we should tell Jesus about the sins that we have committed and ask Him to forgive us. He will forgive us of our sins.

There is a lot in the book of Leviticus for us to know! Let us remember the first few words of the book of Leviticus.

LEARN OUR BIBLE VERSE: Leviticus 1:1, “And the LORD called unto Moses, and spake unto him out of the tabernacle of the congregation....”