


Bible Training Institute

To proactively accelerate the spiritual growth of Grace Bible Church for the purpose of knowing God more intimately and becoming more effective servants of God in the world

A scroll of parchment with the text "Leviticus Numbers" written on it. The scroll is unrolled, showing the text in the center. The parchment is yellowed and has a rough, torn edge. The background is a dark red color.

Leviticus Numbers

Introduction to Leviticus

- Title
 - Hebrew—"And he called"
 - LXX (Septuagint)—"Levitical"—should be called "Israelite-icus" or "Sons of Israel"
 - Mistitled—We don't find out about Levites until Numbers 3 - 4.
- Author—Moses
- Date of events—30 days (cf. Exod 40:2, 17 with Num 1:1)

Historical and Theological Themes

- Presence of the Lord—
 - offerings before the Lord; daily activities derived from “I am the Lord your God”
- Holiness—(see next slide)

Historical and Theological Themes

- Holiness

- The Holy:

- YHWH—(11:44, 45; 19:2; 20:6)

- Israel—(11:44, 45; 19:2; 20:6)

- Things—(2:3, 10; 4:6)

- Times—(23:2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 21, 24, 27, 35, 36, 37)

- The common/profane- in contrast to the holy

- The clean (11-15)

- The unclean (11-15)

- PROCESS of being made clean: (1) become clean and then (2) can be set apart as holy

Historical and Theological Themes

- The Sacrificial System
 - Offerings (1-7; 16)—note the personal involvement of the offerer
 - Burnt offering -pays for sin
 - Guilt offering—repairs the breach
 - Peace offering—declares restored fellowship
 - Basis of atonement
 - Basis of forgiveness
- The Priests (8-10)

Purpose of Leviticus

YHWH gave instruction that enabled Him to live among His chosen people and enabled His people to have fellowship with Him.

Literary Structure

- I. 1:1 - 16:34—The Way to a Holy God
- II. 17:1 - 27:34—The Holy Walk of YHWH's People

Interpretive Issues

- “to make atonement”
 - “to cover?”
 - “to wipe away?”
 - “to cleanse?”
 - “to ransom”
- Nature of Nadab and Abihu’s disobedience?
- Why “unclean” animals?

Introduction to Numbers

- Title
 - Hebrew = “in the wilderness,” “and he spoke”
 - LXX—”numbers”
- Author—Moses
- Date of Events—1445BC to 1406BC—beginning the second year since the Exodus from Egypt

Historical and Theological Themes

- The Wilderness
- The Rebellion of Israel—e.g., spies in 13-14
- The Wrath of God toward disobedient people (11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 25)
- Blessing of God through Balaam (23-24)
- The Numbers: Evidence of the Grace of YHWH
- The Patience of YHWH

Purpose of Numbers

The failure of Israel to obey YHWH in faith brought YHWH's discipline by death, but it did not frustrate YHWH's ultimate purpose to bless Israel.

Literary Structure

- I. Experiences of the First Generation of Israel (1:1 - 25:18)
- II. Experiences of the Second Generation of Israel (26:1 - 36:13)

Interpretive Issues

- Balaam—true or false prophet?
- Why he is false:
 - Died with the Moabites (31:8)
 - Speaks what he doesn't believe
 - Balaam behind judgments on Israel (Nu 25)
 - Donkey recognized YHWH—Balaam didn't
 - Doesn't know YHWH as God
 - Under severe limits from God