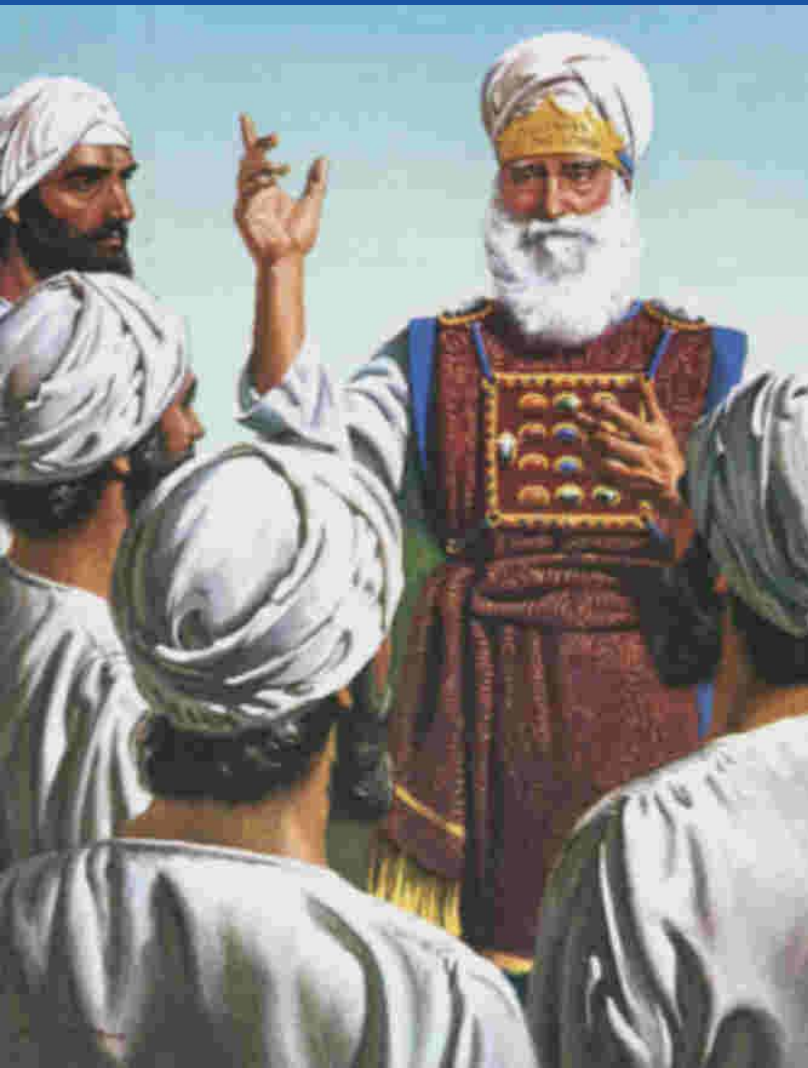


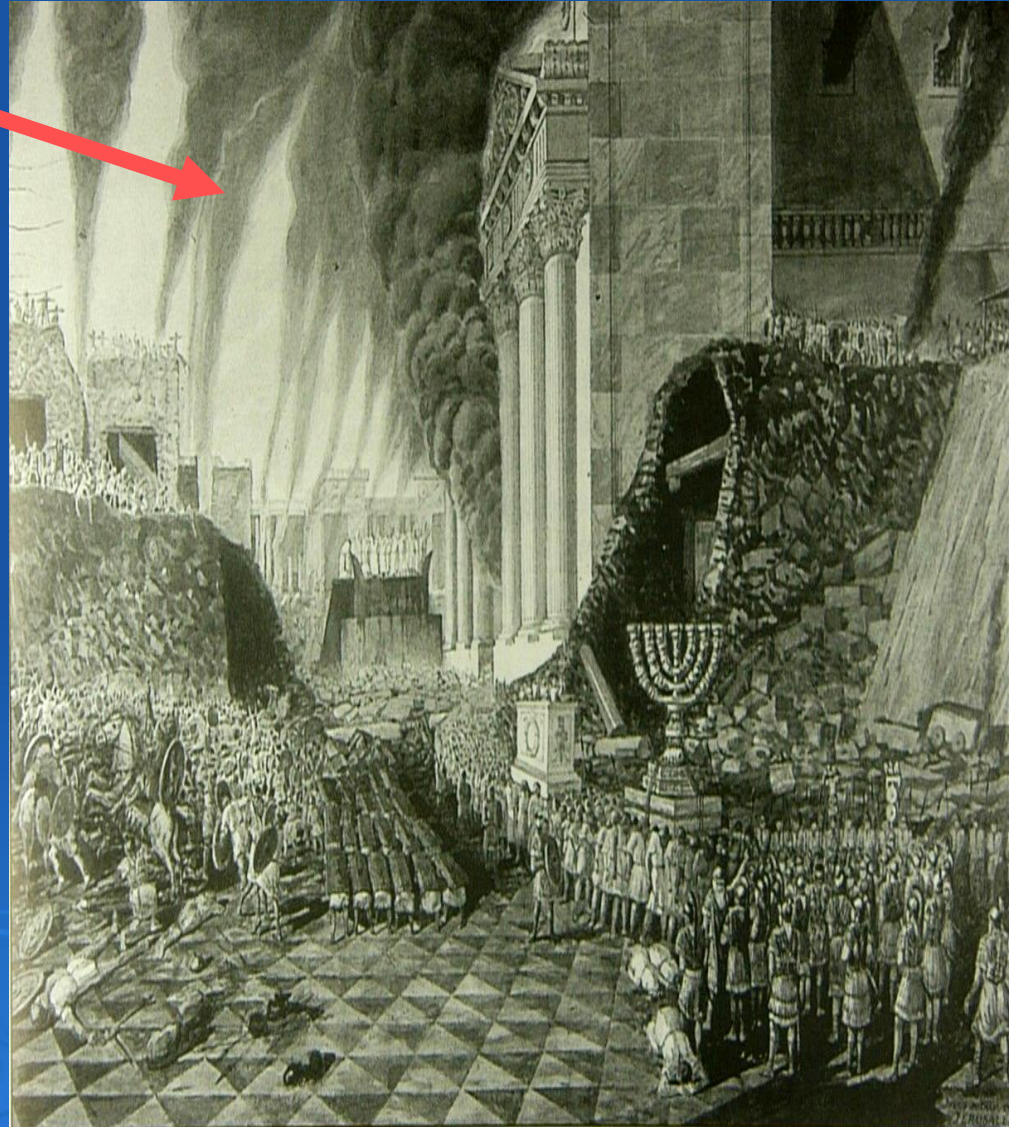
LEVITICUS: INTRODUCTION



- Named after the priest tribe, LEVI
- God divided, elected, separated Levi away from the other tribes of Israel
- Hebrews first called Leviticus, “TORAT KOHANIM”...means *priest teachings*
- Today, Hebrews call Leviticus “Vayikra” which means “*Now he called*”. These are the first words of the book.

LEVITICUS UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN LOST

- 70 AD, Temple burned by Romans, priests gone
- 2nd century A.D. Christianity becomes gentile ruled
- Middle Ages, anti-Semitic church outlaws scripture study by laymen
- Modern Era, a N.T. church, teaching consists of doctrines
- Judaism prefers Tradition to Scripture



YESHUA FULFILLED THE SACRIFICIAL SYSTEM



- Understanding Leviticus key to understanding N.T.
- In the future, Levitical sacrificing will happen again
- Substitutionary sacrifice that brings **release** is the major element of God's Justice System (Mishpat)



GOOD
CLEAN
HOLY
GOD'S
PEOPLE

EVIL
UNCLEAN
UNHOLY
ALL
OTHERS

BOUNDARIES

- Harmony vs. Individuality
- God has created distinctions

Divide

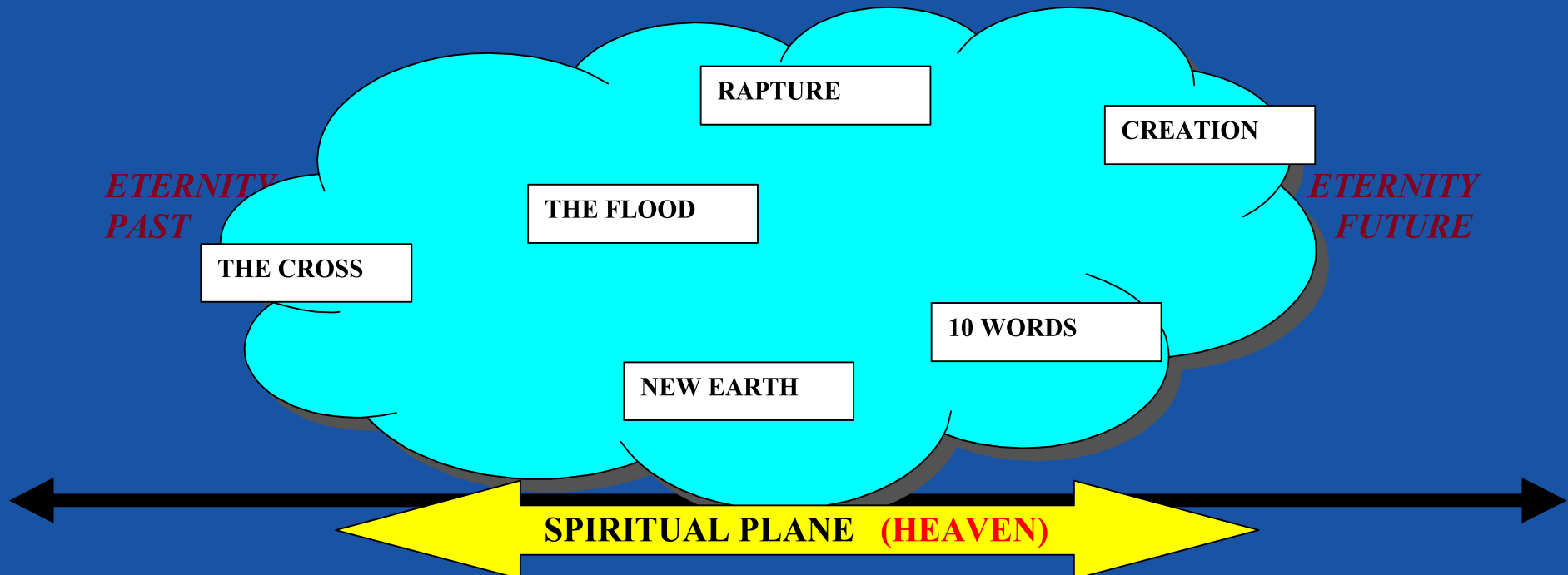
Elect

Separate

THE PRIESTLY WORLDVIEW



- Today's Believers are Yehoveh's priests
- **Revelation 1:1-6**
- *"Yeshua...who has caused us to be a kingdom of priests for God..."*
- **Romans 15:4**
- *"...written in former times...written for our learning..."*
- Gordon Wenham... "Leviticus contains BOTH history and abiding theological values...."



THE REALITY OF DUALITY



GOD'S SYSTEMS TRANSFORM

- Transform means: the nature of the underlying structure remains, but the outward appearance changes.
- Transformation via substitution
- The PHYSICAL Levitical sacrificial system is not practiced, but it's SPIRITUAL parallel continues...Yeshua
- SPIRITUALLY, where there is no time, Yeshua's death is ongoing. Yet PHYSICALLY, where there is time, it's in the past



GENESIS AND DEUTERONOMY ARE THE BOOKENDS OF TORAH

- Exodus ↔ Leviticus ↔ Numbers
- Leviticus the middle book, and the heart, of Torah
- Leviticus answers Micah's question:
"With WHAT shall I approach Yahweh?"

Leviticus 19:2

"You shall be holy, for I am holy..."

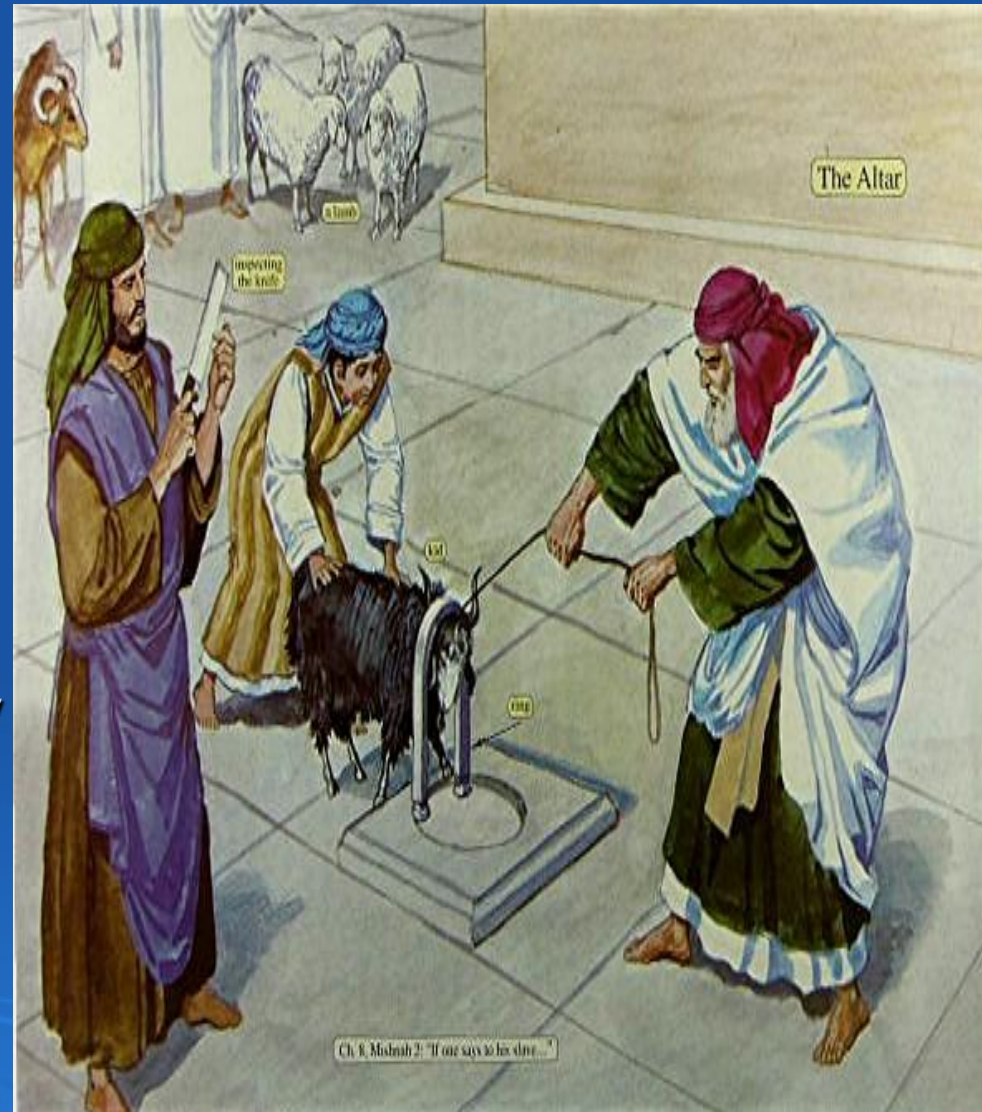
HOLINESS IS CENTRAL TO LEVITICUS



- How does one ATTAIN “holiness”?
- Priests as attendants and officiators of the holy sacrificial rituals
- Hebrew laymen performed MANY of the sacrificial rituals...including the killing of the animals
- Unlike pagan religions, Israel common folk were subject to the same taboos and regulations as the priests
- Beginning with Moses, “priestly” duties began moving from priests towards common people

ANIMAL SACRIFICE

- Began as a Godly principle
- Noah sacrificed an animal after the Flood
- Able offered animal to God
- **7 NOACHIDE LAWS:**
 - 1) No Idolatry 2) No Blasphemy
 - 3) No Murder 4) No Stealing
 - 5) No Immoral Sex
 - 6) No Drinking/Eating Blood
 - 7) Man is to establish government to administer God's Justice System.



MAN PERVERTED GOD'S HOLINESS SYSTEM



- God did NOT take a manmade sacrificial system and adapt/modify it as His own
- Yehoveh taught His holiness system FIRST to Adam... later to Noah (2nd Adam)
- Men polluted it and started pagan cults
- Nimrod patriarch of “Mystery Babylon Religions”
- Leviticus re-introduced God's holiness system to the world using Israel

LEVITICUS IS AUTHENTIC

- Documents from ancient pagan cultures show similar activities as time of Moses
- However, *terminology*, appears to have changed...agricultural terms used
- Israel only obeyed Levitical holiness system sporadically
- Only MINOR variations found in various scripture texts...but meaning and intent has remained unchanged

HOW LEVITICUS IS ORGANIZED

- CHAPTERS 1-7: Laws on ritual sacrifice
- CHAPTERS 8,9,10: Ordination of the Priesthood
- CHAPTERS 11-16: Ritual purity and cleanness
- CHAPTERS 17-27 (end): Principles and practices for every day life applications

LEVITICUS' GOAL: WHOLENESS

- Wholeness, completeness, order, and perfection are the ideal for Israel
- UNDESIRED MIXTURE, and flaws and imperfections are outlawed from God's servants and sanctuary
- Clean cannot touch Unclean, Holy cannot be present with Unholy

