Leviticus

1 Then the LORD called to Moses and spoke to
him from the Tent of Meeting, saying,
2 “Speak to the Israelites and tell them: When
any of you brings an offering to the LORD, you
may bring as your offering an animal from the
herd or the flock.
3 If his offering is a burnt offering from the
herd, he is to present an unblemished male. He
must bring it to the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting for its acceptance before the LORD.
4 He is to lay his hand on the head of the burnt
offering, so it can be accepted on his behalf to
make atonement for him.
5 And he shall slaughter the young bull before
the LORD, and Aaron’s sons the priests are to
present the blood and splatter it on all sides of
the altar at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.
6 Next, he is to skin the burnt offering and cut
it into pieces.
7 The sons of Aaron the priest shall put a fire
on the altar and arrange wood on the fire.
8 Then Aaron’s sons the priests are to arrange
the pieces, including the head and the fat, atop
the burning wood on the altar.
9 The entrails and legs must be washed with
water, and the priest shall burn all of it on the
altar as a burnt offering, a food offering, a
pleasing aroma to the LORD.

10 If, however, one's offering is a burnt
offering from the flock—from the sheep or
goats—he is to present an unblemished male.
11 He shall slaughter it on the north side of the
altar before the LORD, and Aaron's sons the
priests are to splatter its blood against the altar
on all sides.
12 He is to cut the animal into pieces, and the
priest shall arrange them, including the head
and fat, atop the burning wood that is on the
altar.
13 The entrails and legs must be washed with
water, and the priest shall present all of it and
burn it on the altar; it is a burnt offering, a food
offering, a pleasing aroma to the LORD.

14 If, instead, one's offering to the LORD is a
burnt offering of birds, he is to present a
turtledove or a young pigeon.
15 Then the priest shall bring it to the altar,
twist off its head, and burn it on the altar; its
blood should be drained out on the side of the
altar.
16 And he is to remove the crop with its
contents* and throw it to the east side of the
altar, in the place for ashes.
17 He shall tear it open by its wings, without
dividing the bird completely. And the priest is to
burn it on the altar atop the burning wood. It is
a burnt offering, a food offering, a pleasing
aroma to the LORD.

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* **1:16 1:16** Or *the crop and feathers*

2

1 “When anyone brings a grain offering to the
LORD, his offering must consist of fine flour. He
is to pour olive oil on it, put frankincense on it,
2 and bring it to Aaron’s sons the priests. The
priest shall take a handful of the flour and oil,
together with all the frankincense, and burn this
as a memorial portion on the altar, a food
offering, a pleasing aroma to the LORD.
3 The remainder of the grain offering shall
belong to Aaron and his sons; it is a most holy
part of the food offerings to the LORD.
4 Now if you bring an offering of grain baked
in an oven, it must consist of fine flour, either
unleavened cakes mixed with oil or unleavened
wafers coated with oil.
5 If your offering is a grain offering prepared
on a griddle,* it must be unleavened bread
made of fine flour mixed with oil.
6 Crumble it and pour oil on it; it is a grain
offering.
7 If your offering is a grain offering cooked in
a pan,† it must consist of fine flour with oil.
8 When you bring to the LORD the grain
offering made in any of these ways, it is to be
presented to the priest, and he shall take it to the
altar.
9 The priest is to remove the memorial portion
from the grain offering and burn it on the altar
as a food offering, a pleasing aroma to the LORD.

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* **2:5 2:5** That is, a shallow pan for baking or frying † **2:7 2:7** That is, a deep pan or stew pan

10 But the remainder of the grain offering shall
belong to Aaron and his sons; it is a most holy
part of the food offerings to the LORD.
11 No grain offering that you present to the
LORD may be made with leaven, for you are not
to burn any leaven or honey as a food offering
to the LORD.
12 You may bring them to the LORD as an
offering of firstfruits, but they must not go up on
the altar as a pleasing aroma.
13 And you shall season each of your grain
offerings with salt. You must not leave the salt of
the covenant of your God out of your grain
offering; you are to add salt to each of your
offerings.
14 If you bring a grain offering of firstfruits to
the LORD, you shall offer crushed heads of new
grain roasted on the fire.
15 And you are to put oil and frankincense on
it; it is a grain offering.
16 The priest shall then burn the memorial
portion of the crushed grain and the oil,
together with all its frankincense, as a food
offering to the LORD.

3

1 "If one's offering is a peace offering and he
offers an animal from the herd, whether male or
female, he must present it without blemish
before the LORD.
2 He is to lay his hand on the head of the
offering and slaughter it at the entrance to the

Tent of Meeting. Then Aaron's sons the priests
shall splatter the blood on all sides of the altar.
3 From the peace offering he is to bring a food
offering to the LORD: the fat that covers the
entrails, all the fat that is on them,
4 both kidneys with the fat on them near the
loins, and the lobe of the liver, which he is to
remove with the kidneys.
5 Then Aaron's sons are to burn it on the altar
atop the burnt offering that is on the burning
wood, as a food offering, a pleasing aroma to the
LORD.
6 If, however, one's peace offering to the LORD
is from the flock, he must present a male or
female without blemish.
7 If he is presenting a lamb for his offering, he
must present it before the LORD.
8 He is to lay his hand on the head of his
offering and slaughter it in front of the Tent of
Meeting. Then Aaron's sons shall splatter its
blood on all sides of the altar.
9 And from the peace offering he shall bring a
food offering to the LORD consisting of its fat:
the entire fat tail cut off close to the backbone,
the fat that covers the entrails, all the fat that is
on them,
10 both kidneys with the fat on them near the
loins, and the lobe of the liver, which he is to
remove with the kidneys.
11 Then the priest is to burn them on the altar
as food, a food offering to the LORD.
12 If one's offering is a goat, he is to present it
before the LORD.

13 He must lay his hand on its head and
slaughter it in front of the Tent of Meeting. Then
Aaron's sons shall splatter its blood on all sides
of the altar.
14 And from his offering he shall present a
food offering to the LORD: the fat that covers the
entrails, all the fat that is on them,
15 both kidneys with the fat on them near the
loins, and the lobe of the liver, which he is to
remove with the kidneys.
16 Then the priest is to burn the food on the
altar as a food offering, a pleasing aroma. All the
fat is the LORD's.
17 This is a permanent statute for the
generations to come, wherever you live: You
must not eat any fat or any blood."

4

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Tell the Israelites to do as follows with one
who sins unintentionally against any of the
LORD's commandments and does what is
forbidden by them:

3 If the anointed priest sins, bringing guilt on
the people, he must bring to the LORD a young
bull without blemish as a purification offering*
for the sin he has committed.
4 He must bring the bull to the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting before the LORD, lay his hand
on the bull's head, and slaughter it before the
LORD.

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* **4:3 4:3** Or *sin offering*; here and throughout Leviticus

5 Then the anointed priest shall take some of
the bull's blood and bring it into the Tent of
Meeting.
6 The priest is to dip his finger in the blood
and sprinkle some of it seven times before the
LORD, in front of the veil of the sanctuary.
7 The priest must then put some of the blood
on the horns of the altar of fragrant incense that
is before the LORD in the Tent of Meeting. And
he is to pour out the rest of the bull's blood at
the base of the altar of burnt offering at the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting.
8 Then he shall remove all the fat from the bull
of the purification offering—the fat that covers
the entrails, all the fat that is on them,
9 both kidneys with the fat on them near the
loins, and the lobe of the liver, which he is to
remove with the kidneys—
10 just as the fat is removed from the ox of the
peace offering. Then the priest shall burn them
on the altar of burnt offering.
11 But the hide of the bull and all its flesh, with
its head and legs and its entrails and dung—
12 all the rest of the bull—he must take outside
the camp to a ceremonially clean place where
the ashes are poured out, and there he must
burn it on a wood fire on the ash heap.
13 Now if the whole congregation of Israel
strays unintentionally and the matter escapes
the notice of the assembly so that they violate
any of the LORD's commandments and incur
guilt by doing what is forbidden,
14 when they become aware of the sin they

have committed, then the assembly must bring a
young bull as a purification offering and present
it before the Tent of Meeting.
15 The elders of the congregation are to lay
their hands on the bull's head before the LORD,
and it shall be slaughtered before the LORD.
16 Then the anointed priest is to bring some of
the bull's blood into the Tent of Meeting,
17 and he is to dip his finger in the blood and
sprinkle it seven times before the LORD in front
of the veil.
18 He is also to put some of the blood on the
horns of the altar that is before the LORD in the
Tent of Meeting, and he must pour out the rest
of the blood at the base of the altar of burnt
offering at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting.
19 And he is to remove all the fat from it and
burn it on the altar.
20 He shall offer this bull just as he did the bull
for the purification offering; in this way the
priest will make atonement on their behalf, and
they will be forgiven.
21 Then he is to take the bull outside the camp
and burn it, just as he burned the first bull. It is
the purification offering for the assembly.

22 When a leader sins unintentionally and does
what is prohibited by any of the commandments
of the LORD his God, he incurs guilt.
23 When he becomes aware of the sin he has
committed, he must bring an unblemished male
goat as his offering.
24 He is to lay his hand on the head of the goat
and slaughter it at the place where the burnt

offering is slaughtered before the LORD. It is a purification offering.
25 Then the priest is to take some of the blood of the purification offering with his finger, put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and pour out the rest of the blood at the base of the altar.
26 He must burn all its fat on the altar, like the fat of the peace offerings; thus the priest will make atonement for that man's sin, and he will be forgiven.

27 And if one of the common people sins unintentionally and does what is prohibited by any of the LORD's commandments, he incurs guilt.
28 When he becomes aware of the sin he has committed, he must bring an unblemished female goat as his offering for that sin.
29 He is to lay his hand on the head of the purification offering and slaughter it at the place of the burnt offering.
30 Then the priest is to take some of its blood with his finger, put it on the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and pour out the rest of the blood at the base of the altar.
31 Then he is to remove all the fat, just as it is removed from the peace offering, and the priest is to burn it on the altar as a pleasing aroma to the LORD. In this way the priest will make atonement for him, and he will be forgiven.

32 If, however, he brings a lamb as a purification offering, he must bring an unblemished female.

33 And he is to lay his hand on the head of the
purification offering and slaughter it as a
purification offering at the place where the
burnt offering is slaughtered.
34 Then the priest is to take some of the blood
of the purification offering with his finger, put it
on the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and
pour out the rest of its blood at the base of the
altar.
35 And he shall remove all the fat, just as the
fat of the lamb is removed from the peace
offerings, and he shall burn it on the altar along
with the food offerings to the LORD. In this way
the priest will make atonement for him for the
sin he has committed, and he will be forgiven.

5

1 “If someone sins by failing to testify when he
hears a public charge about something he has
witnessed, whether he has seen it or learned of
it, he shall bear the iniquity.
2 Or if a person touches anything
unclean—whether the carcass of any unclean
wild animal or livestock or crawling
creature—even if he is unaware of it, he is
unclean and guilty.
3 Or if he touches human
uncleanness—anything by which one becomes
unclean—even if he is unaware of it, when he
realizes it, he is guilty.
4 Or if someone swears thoughtlessly with his
lips to do anything good or evil—in whatever
matter a man may rashly pronounce an

oath—even if he is unaware of it, when he realizes it, he is guilty in the matter.

5 If someone incurs guilt in one of these ways,
he must confess the sin he has committed,
6 and he must bring his guilt offering to the
LORD for the sin he has committed: a female
lamb or goat from the flock as a purification
offering. And the priest will make atonement for
him concerning his sin.

7 If, however, he cannot afford a lamb, he may
bring to the LORD as restitution for his sin two
turtledoves or two young pigeons—one as a
purification offering and the other as a burnt
offering.
8 He is to bring them to the priest, who shall
first present the one for the purification
offering. He is to twist its head at the front of its
neck without severing it;
9 then he is to sprinkle some of the blood of
the purification offering on the side of the altar,
while the rest of the blood is drained out at the
base of the altar. It is a purification offering.
10 And the priest must prepare the second bird
as a burnt offering according to the ordinance.
In this way the priest will make atonement for
him for the sin he has committed, and he will be
forgiven.

11 But if he cannot afford two turtledoves or
two young pigeons, he may bring a tenth of an
ephah of fine flour* as a purification offering.

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* **5:11 5:11** *A tenth of an ephah* is approximately 2 dry quarts or 2.2 liters (probably about 2.6 pounds or 1.2 kilograms of flour).

He must not put olive oil or frankincense on it,
because it is a purification offering.
12 He is to bring it to the priest, who shall take
a handful from it as a memorial portion and
burn it on the altar atop the food offerings to the
LORD; it is a purification offering.
13 In this way the priest will make atonement
for him for any of these sins he has committed,
and he will be forgiven. The remainder will
belong to the priest, like the grain offering."
14 Then the LORD said to Moses,
15 "If someone acts unfaithfully and sins
unintentionally against any of the LORD's holy
things, he must bring his guilt offering to the
LORD: an unblemished ram from the flock or its
equivalence† in silver shekels according to the
sanctuary shekel;‡ it is a guilt offering.
16 Regarding any holy thing he has harmed, he
must make restitution by adding a fifth of its
value to it and giving it to the priest, who will
make atonement on his behalf with the ram as a
guilt offering, and he will be forgiven.
17 If someone sins and violates any of the
LORD's commandments even though he was
unaware, he is guilty and shall bear his
punishment.
18 He is to bring to the priest an unblemished
ram of proper value from the flock as a guilt
offering. Then the priest will make atonement
on his behalf for the wrong he has committed in
ignorance, and he will be forgiven.

† **5:15 5:15** Or *flock, of proper value* ‡ **5:15 5:15** *A shekel* is approximately 0.4 ounces or 11.4 grams of silver.

19 It is a guilt offering; he was certainly guilty§
before the LORD."
20 And the LORD said to Moses,
21 "If someone sins and acts unfaithfully
against the LORD by deceiving his neighbor in
regard to a deposit or security entrusted to him
or stolen, or if he extorts his neighbor
22 or finds lost property and lies about it and
swears falsely, or if he commits any such sin that
a man might commit—
23 once he has sinned and becomes guilty, he
must return what he has stolen or taken by
extortion, or the deposit entrusted to him, or the
lost property he found,
24 or anything else about which he has sworn
falsely.
He must make restitution in full, add a fifth of
the value, and pay it to the owner on the day he
acknowledges his guilt.
25 Then he must bring to the priest his guilt
offering to the LORD: an unblemished ram of
proper value from the flock.
26 In this way the priest will make atonement
for him before the LORD, and he will be forgiven
for anything he may have done to incur guilt."

6

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Command Aaron and his sons that this is the
law of the burnt offering: The burnt offering is
to remain on the hearth of the altar all night,

§ **5:19 5:19** Or *he has paid full compensation*

until morning, and the fire must be kept burning
on the altar.
3 And the priest shall put on his linen robe and
linen undergarments, and he shall remove from
the altar the ashes of the burnt offering that the
fire has consumed and place them beside it.
4 Then he must take off his garments, put on
other clothes, and carry the ashes outside the
camp to a ceremonially clean place.
5 The fire on the altar shall be kept burning; it
must not be extinguished. Every morning the
priest is to add wood to the fire, arrange the
burnt offering on it, and burn the fat portions of
the peace offerings on it.
6 The fire shall be kept burning on the altar
continually; it must not be extinguished.
7 Now this is the law of the grain offering:
Aaron's sons shall present it before the LORD in
front of the altar.
8 The priest is to remove a handful of fine
flour and olive oil, together with all the
frankincense from the grain offering, and burn
the memorial portion on the altar as a pleasing
aroma to the LORD.
9 Aaron and his sons are to eat the remainder.
It must be eaten without leaven in a holy place;
they are to eat it in the courtyard of the Tent of
Meeting.
10 It must not be baked with leaven; I have
assigned it as their portion of my food offerings.
It is most holy, like the purification offering and
the guilt offering.

11 Any male among the sons of Aaron may eat
it. This is a permanent portion from the food
offerings to the LORD for the generations to
come. Anything that touches them will become
holy."
12 Then the LORD said to Moses,
13 "This is the offering that Aaron and his sons
must present to the LORD on the day he is
anointed: a tenth of an ephah of fine flour* as a
regular grain offering, half of it in the morning
and half in the evening.
14 It shall be prepared with oil on a griddle;†
you are to bring it well-kneaded and present it
as a grain offering baked‡ in pieces, a pleasing
aroma to the LORD.
15 The priest, who is one of Aaron's sons and
will be anointed to take his place, is to prepare
it. As a permanent portion for the LORD, it must
be burned completely.
16 Every grain offering for a priest shall be
burned completely; it is not to be eaten."
17 And the LORD said to Moses,
18 "Tell Aaron and his sons that this is the law
of the purification offering: In the place where
the burnt offering is slaughtered, the
purification offering shall be slaughtered before
the LORD; it is most holy.
19 The priest who offers it shall eat it; it must
be eaten in a holy place, in the courtyard of the

* **6:13 6:13** *A tenth of an ephah* is approximately 2 dry quarts or 2.2 liters (probably about 2.6 pounds or 1.2 kilograms of flour). † **6:14 6:14** That is, a shallow pan for baking or frying ‡ **6:14 6:14** Or *broken*

Tent of Meeting.
20 Anything that touches its flesh will become
holy, and if any of the blood is spattered on a
garment, you must wash it in a holy place.

21 The clay pot in which the purification
offering is boiled must be broken; if it is boiled
in a bronze pot, the pot must be scoured and
rinsed with water.
22 Any male among the priests may eat it; it is
most holy.
23 But no purification offering may be eaten if
its blood has been brought into the Tent of
Meeting to make atonement in the Holy Place; it
must be burned.

7

1 “Now this is the law of the guilt offering,
which is most holy:
2 The guilt offering must be slaughtered in the
place where the burnt offering is slaughtered,
and the priest shall splatter its blood on all sides
of the altar.
3 And all the fat from it shall be offered: the
fat tail, the fat that covers the entrails,
4 both kidneys with the fat on them near the
loins, and the lobe of the liver, which is to be
removed with the kidneys.
5 The priest shall burn them on the altar as a
food offering to the LORD; it is a guilt offering.
6 Every male among the priests may eat of it.
It must be eaten in a holy place; it is most holy.

7 The guilt offering is like the purification
offering; the same law applies to both. It belongs
to the priest who makes atonement with it.
8 As for the priest who presents a burnt
offering for anyone, the hide of that offering
belongs to him.
9 Likewise, every grain offering that is baked
in an oven or cooked in a pan* or on a griddle†
belongs to the priest who presents it,
10 and every grain offering, whether dry or
mixed with oil, belongs equally to all the sons of
Aaron.
11 Now this is the law of the peace offering
that one may present to the LORD:
12 If he offers it in thanksgiving, then along
with the sacrifice of thanksgiving he shall offer
unleavened cakes mixed with olive oil,
unleavened wafers coated with oil, and
well-kneaded cakes of fine flour mixed with oil.
13 Along with his peace offering of
thanksgiving he is to present an offering with
cakes of leavened bread.
14 From the cakes he must present one portion
of each offering as a contribution to the LORD. It
belongs to the priest who sprinkles the blood of
the peace offering.
15 The meat of the sacrifice of his peace
offering of thanksgiving must be eaten on the
day he offers it; none of it may be left until
morning.

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* **7:9 7:9** That is, a deep pan or stew pan † **7:9 7:9** That is, a shallow pan for baking or frying

16 If, however, the sacrifice he offers is a vow
or a freewill offering, it shall be eaten on the day
he presents his sacrifice, but the remainder may
be eaten on the next day.
17 But any meat of the sacrifice remaining
until the third day must be burned up.
18 If any of the meat from his peace offering is
eaten on the third day, it will not be accepted. It
will not be credited to the one who presented it;
it shall be an abomination, and the one who eats
of it shall bear his iniquity.

19 Meat that touches anything unclean must
not be eaten; it is to be burned up. As for any
other meat, anyone who is ceremonially clean
may eat it.
20 But if anyone who is unclean eats meat from
the peace offering that belongs to the LORD, that
person must be cut off from his people.
21 If one touches anything unclean, whether
human uncleanness, an unclean animal, or any
unclean, detestable thing, and then eats any of
the meat of the peace offering that belongs to
the LORD, that person must be cut off from his
people."

22 Then the LORD said to Moses,
23 "Speak to the Israelites and say, 'You are not
to eat any of the fat of an ox, a sheep, or a goat.
24 The fat of an animal found dead or mauled
by wild beasts may be used for any other
purpose, but you must not eat it.

25 If anyone eats the fat of an animal from
which a food offering may be presented to the

LORD, the one who eats it must be cut off from his people.
26 You must not eat the blood of any bird or animal in any of your dwellings.
27 If anyone eats blood, that person must be cut off from his people.' "
28 Then the LORD said to Moses,
29 "Speak to the Israelites and say, 'Anyone who presents a peace offering to the LORD must bring it as his sacrifice to the LORD.
30 With his own hands he is to bring the food offerings to the LORD; he shall bring the fat, together with the breast, and wave the breast as a wave offering before the LORD.
31 The priest is to burn the fat on the altar, but the breast belongs to Aaron and his sons.
32 And you are to give the right thigh to the priest as a contribution from your peace offering.
33 The son of Aaron who presents the blood and fat of the peace offering shall have the right thigh as a portion.
34 I have taken from the sons of Israel the breast of the wave offering and the thigh of the contribution of their peace offerings, and I have given them to Aaron the priest and his sons as a permanent portion from the sons of Israel.' "
35 This is the portion of the food offerings to the LORD for Aaron and his sons since the day they were presented to serve the LORD as priests.
36 On the day they were anointed, the LORD commanded that this be given them by the sons

of Israel. It is a permanent portion for the
generations to come.

37 This is the law of the burnt offering, the
grain offering, the purification offering, the guilt
offering, the ordination offering, and the peace
offering,
38 which the LORD gave Moses on Mount Sinai
on the day he commanded the Israelites to
present their offerings to the LORD in the
Wilderness of Sinai.

8

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Take Aaron and his sons, their garments, the
anointing oil, the bull of the purification
offering, the two rams, and the basket of
unleavened bread,
3 and assemble the whole congregation at the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting."

4 So Moses did as the LORD had commanded
him, and the assembly gathered at the entrance
to the Tent of Meeting.
5 And Moses said to them, "This is what the
LORD has commanded to be done."

6 Then Moses presented Aaron and his sons
and washed them with water.
7 He put the tunic on Aaron, tied the sash
around him, clothed him with the robe, and put
the ephod on him. He tied the woven band of
the ephod around him and fastened it to him.

8 Then he put the breastpiece on him and
placed the Urim and Thummim* in the
breastpiece.
9 Moses also put the turban on Aaron's head
and set the gold plate, the holy diadem, on the
front of the turban, as the LORD had
commanded him.
10 Next, Moses took the anointing oil and
anointed the tabernacle and everything in it;
and so he consecrated them.
11 He sprinkled some of the oil on the altar
seven times, anointing the altar and all its
utensils, and the basin with its stand, to
consecrate them.
12 He also poured some of the anointing oil on
Aaron's head and anointed him to consecrate
him.
13 Then Moses presented Aaron's sons, put
tunics on them, wrapped sashes around them,
and tied headbands on them, just as the LORD
had commanded him.
14 Moses then brought the bull near for the
purification offering, and Aaron and his sons
laid their hands on its head.
15 Moses slaughtered the bull, took some of the
blood, and applied it with his finger to all four
horns of the altar, purifying the altar. He poured
out the rest of the blood at the base of the altar
and consecrated it so that atonement could be
made on it.
16 Moses also took all the fat that was on the
entrails, the lobe of the liver, and both kidneys
and their fat, and burned it all on the altar.

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* **8:8 8:8** Literally *Lights and Perfections*

17 But the bull with its hide, flesh, and dung he
burned outside the camp, as the LORD had
commanded him.
18 Then Moses presented the ram for the burnt
offering, and Aaron and his sons laid their
hands on its head.
19 Moses slaughtered the ram and splattered
the blood on all sides of the altar.
20 He cut the ram into pieces and burned the
head, the pieces, and the fat.
21 He washed the entrails and legs with water
and burned the entire ram on the altar as a
burnt offering, a pleasing aroma, a food offering
to the LORD, just as the LORD had commanded
Moses.
22 After that, Moses presented the other ram,
the ram of ordination, and Aaron and his sons
laid their hands on its head.
23 Moses slaughtered the ram and took some
of its blood and put it on Aaron's right earlobe,
on the thumb of his right hand, and on the big
toe of his right foot.
24 Moses also presented Aaron's sons and put
some of the blood on their right earlobes, on the
thumbs of their right hands, and on the big toes
of their right feet. Then he splattered the blood
on all sides of the altar.
25 And Moses took the fat—the fat tail, all the
fat that was on the entrails, the lobe of the liver,
and both kidneys with their fat—as well as the
right thigh.
26 And from the basket of unleavened bread
that was before the LORD, he took one cake of
unleavened bread, one cake of bread made with

oil, and one wafer, and he placed them on the fat portions and on the right thigh.
27 He put all these in the hands of Aaron and his sons and waved them before the LORD as a wave offering.
28 Then Moses took these from their hands and burned them on the altar with the burnt offering. This was an ordination offering, a pleasing aroma, a food offering to the LORD.
29 He also took the breast—Moses' portion of the ram of ordination—and waved it before the LORD as a wave offering, as the LORD had commanded him.
30 Next, Moses took some of the anointing oil and some of the blood that was on the altar and sprinkled them on Aaron and his garments, and on his sons and their garments. So he consecrated Aaron and his garments, as well as Aaron's sons and their garments.
31 And Moses said to Aaron and his sons, "Boil the meat at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and eat it there with the bread that is in the basket of ordination offerings, as I commanded, saying, 'Aaron and his sons are to eat it.'
32 Then you must burn up the remainder of the meat and bread.
33 You must not go outside the entrance to the Tent of Meeting for seven days, until the days of your ordination are complete; for it will take seven days to ordain you.
34 What has been done today has been commanded by the LORD in order to make atonement on your behalf.

35 You must remain at the entrance to the Tent
of Meeting day and night for seven days and
keep the LORD's charge so that you will not die,
for this is what I have been commanded."
36 So Aaron and his sons did everything the
LORD had commanded through Moses.

9

1 On the eighth day Moses summoned Aaron
and his sons and the elders of Israel.
2 He said to Aaron, "Take for yourself a young
bull for a purification offering and a ram for a
burnt offering, both without blemish, and
present them before the LORD.
3 Then speak to the Israelites and say, 'Take a
male goat for a purification offering, a calf and a
lamb—both a year old and without blemish—for
a burnt offering,
4 an ox* and a ram for a peace offering to
sacrifice before the LORD, and a grain offering
mixed with oil. For today the LORD will appear
to you.' "
5 So they took what Moses had commanded to
the front of the Tent of Meeting, and the whole
congregation drew near and stood before the
LORD.
6 And Moses said, "This is what the LORD has
commanded you to do, so that the glory of the
LORD may appear to you."
7 Then Moses said to Aaron, "Approach the
altar and sacrifice your purification offering and
your burnt offering to make atonement for

* **9:4 9:4** Or *a bull* or *a cow*; also in verses 18 and 19

yourself and for the people. And sacrifice the
people's offering to make atonement for them,
as the LORD has commanded."
8 So Aaron approached the altar and
slaughtered the calf as a purification offering for
himself.
9 The sons of Aaron brought the blood to him,
and he dipped his finger in the blood and
applied it to the horns of the altar. And he
poured out the rest of the blood at the base of
the altar.
10 On the altar he burned the fat, the kidneys,
and the lobe of the liver from the purification
offering, as the LORD had commanded Moses.
11 But he burned up the flesh and the hide
outside the camp.
12 Then Aaron slaughtered the burnt offering.
His sons brought him the blood, and he
splattered it on all sides of the altar.
13 They brought him the burnt offering piece
by piece, including the head, and he burned
them on the altar.
14 He washed the entrails and the legs and
burned them atop the burnt offering on the altar.
15 Aaron then presented the people's offering.
He took the male goat for the people's
purification offering, slaughtered it, and offered
it for sin like the first one.
16 He presented the burnt offering and offered
it according to the ordinance.
17 Next he presented the grain offering, took a
handful of it, and burned it on the altar in
addition to the morning's burnt offering.

18 Then he slaughtered the ox and the ram as
the people's peace offering. His sons brought
him the blood, and he splattered it on all sides of
the altar.
19 They also brought the fat portions from the
ox and the ram—the fat tail, the fat covering the
entrails, the kidneys, and the lobe of the liver—
20 and placed these on the breasts. Aaron
burned the fat portions on the altar,
21 but he waved the breasts and the right thigh
as a wave offering before the LORD, as Moses
had commanded.
22 Aaron lifted up his hands† toward the
people and blessed them. And having made the
purification offering, the burnt offering, and the
peace offering, he stepped down.
23 Moses and Aaron then entered the Tent of
Meeting. When they came out, they blessed the
people, and the glory of the LORD appeared to
all the people.
24 Fire came out from the presence of the
LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the
fat portions on the altar. And when all the
people saw it, they shouted for joy and fell
facedown.

10

1 Now Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu took
their censers, put fire in them and added
incense, and offered strange* fire before the
LORD, contrary to his command.

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† **9:22 9:22** Qere; Ketiv *his hand* * **10:1 10:1** Or *unauthorized*

2 So fire came out from the presence of the
LORD and consumed them, and they died in the
presence of the LORD.
3 Then Moses said to Aaron, “This is what the
LORD meant when he said:

‘To those who come near me
I will show my holiness,
and in the sight of all the people
I will reveal my glory.’ ”
But Aaron remained silent.
4 Moses summoned Mishael and Elzaphan,†
sons of Aaron’s uncle Uzziel, and said to them,
“Come here; carry the bodies of your cousins
outside the camp, away from the front of the
sanctuary.”
5 So they came forward and carried them, still
in their tunics, outside the camp, as Moses had
directed.
6 Then Moses said to Aaron and his sons
Eleazar and Ithamar, “Do not uncover your
heads‡ and do not tear your garments, or else
you will die, and the LORD will be angry with
the whole congregation. But your brothers, the
whole house of Israel, may mourn on account of
the fire that the LORD has ignited.
7 You shall not go outside the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting, or you will die, for the LORD’s
anointing oil is on you.”
So they did as Moses instructed.
8 Then the LORD said to Aaron,

† **10:4 10:4** *Elzaphan* is a variant of *Elizaphan*; see Numbers 3:30.
‡ **10:6 10:6** Or *Do not let your hair become disheveled*

9 “You and your sons are not to drink wine or
strong drink when you enter the Tent of
Meeting, or else you will die; this is a permanent
statute for the generations to come.
10 You must distinguish between the holy and
the common, between the clean and the
unclean,
11 so that you may teach the Israelites all the
statutes that the LORD has given them through
Moses.”
12 And Moses said to Aaron and his remaining
sons, Eleazar and Ithamar, “Take the grain
offering that remains from the food offerings to
the LORD and eat it without leaven beside the
altar, because it is most holy.
13 You shall eat it in a holy place, because it is
your share and your sons’ share of the food
offerings to the LORD; for this is what I have
been commanded.
14 And you and your sons and daughters may
eat the breast of the wave offering and the thigh
of the contribution in a ceremonially clean
place, because these portions have been
assigned to you and your children from the
peace offerings of the sons of Israel.
15 They are to bring the thigh of the
contribution and the breast of the wave offering,
together with the fat portions of the food
offerings, to wave as a wave offering before the
LORD. It will belong permanently to you and
your children, as the LORD has commanded.”
16 Later, Moses searched carefully for the goat
of the purification offering, and behold, it had

been burned up. He was angry with Eleazar and
Ithamar, Aaron's remaining sons, and asked,
17 "Why didn't you eat the purification offering
in the holy place? For it is most holy; it was
given to you to take away the guilt of the
congregation by making atonement for them
before the LORD.
18 Since its blood was not brought inside the
holy place, you should have eaten it in the
sanctuary area, as I commanded."
19 But Aaron replied to Moses, "Behold, this
very day they presented their purification
offering and their burnt offering before the
LORD. Since these things have happened to me,
if I had eaten the purification offering today,
would it have been acceptable in the sight of the
LORD?"
20 And when Moses heard this explanation, he
was satisfied.

11

1 The LORD spoke again to Moses and Aaron,
telling them,
2 "Say to the Israelites, 'Of all the beasts of the
earth, these ones you may eat:
3 You may eat any animal that has a split hoof
completely divided and that chews the cud.
4 But of those that only chew the cud or only
have a divided hoof, you are not to eat the
following:*

* **11:4 11:4** The precise identification of some of the birds and animals in this chapter is uncertain.

The camel, though it chews the cud, does not
have a divided hoof; it is unclean for you.
5 The rock badger,† though it chews the cud,
does not have a divided hoof; it is unclean
for you.
6 The rabbit, though it chews the cud, does not
have a divided hoof; it is unclean for you.
7 And the pig, though it has a split hoof
completely divided, does not chew the cud;
it is unclean for you.
8 You must not eat their meat or touch their
carcasses; they are unclean for you.
9 Of all the creatures that live in the water,
whether in the seas or in the streams, you may
eat anything with fins and scales.
10 But the following among all the teeming life
and creatures in the water are detestable to you:
everything in the seas or streams that does not
have fins and scales.
11 They shall be an abomination to you; you
must not eat their meat, and you must detest
their carcasses.
12 Everything in the water that does not have
fins and scales shall be detestable to you.
13 Additionally, you are to detest the following
birds, and they must not be eaten because they
are detestable:

the eagle, the bearded vulture, the black
vulture,
14 the kite, any kind of falcon,
15 any kind of raven,

† **11:5 11:5** Or *The coney* or *The hyrax*

16 the ostrich,‡ the screech owl, the gull, any
kind of hawk,
17 the little owl, the cormorant, the great owl,
18 the white owl, the desert owl, the osprey,
19 the stork, any kind of heron,
the hoopoe, and the bat.
20 All flying insects that walk on all fours are
detestable to you.
21 However, you may eat the following kinds of
flying insects that walk on all fours: those
having§ jointed legs above their feet for hopping
on the ground.
22 Of these you may eat any kind of locust,
katydid, cricket, or grasshopper.
23 All other flying insects that have four legs
are detestable to you.
24 These creatures will make you unclean.
Whoever touches their carcasses will be unclean
until evening,
25 and whoever picks up one of their carcasses
must wash his clothes, and he will be unclean
until evening.
26 Every animal with hooves not completely
divided* or that does not chew the cud is
unclean for you. Whoever touches any of them
will be unclean.
27 All the four-footed animals that walk on
their paws are unclean for you; whoever
touches their carcasses will be unclean until
evening,

‡ **11:16 11:16** Literally *the daughter of the ostrich* or *the daughter of the owl* § **11:21 11:21** Qere; Ketiv *not having* * **11:26 11:26** Literally *a split hoof not completely divided*

28 and anyone who picks up a carcass must
wash his clothes, and he will be unclean until
evening. They are unclean for you.
29 The following creatures that move along the
ground are unclean for you: the mole, the
mouse, any kind of great lizard,
30 the gecko, the monitor lizard, the common
lizard, the skink, and the chameleon.
31 These animals are unclean for you among
all the crawling creatures. Whoever touches
them when they are dead shall be unclean until
evening.
32 When one of them dies and falls on
something, that article becomes unclean; any
article of wood, clothing, leather, sackcloth, or
any implement used for work must be rinsed
with water and will remain unclean until
evening; then it will be clean.
33 If any of them falls into a clay pot,
everything in it will be unclean; you must break
the pot.
34 Any food coming into contact with water
from that pot will be unclean, and any drink in
such a container will be unclean.
35 Anything upon which one of their carcasses
falls will be unclean. If it is an oven or cooking
pot, it must be smashed; it is unclean and will
remain unclean for you.
36 Nevertheless, a spring or cistern containing
water will remain clean, but one who touches a
carcass in it will be unclean.
37 If a carcass falls on any seed for sowing, the
seed is clean;

38 but if water has been put on the seed and a
carcass falls on it, it is unclean for you.

39 If an animal that you may eat dies, anyone
who touches the carcass will be unclean until
evening.
40 Whoever eats from the carcass must wash
his clothes and will be unclean until evening,
and anyone who picks up the carcass must wash
his clothes and will be unclean until evening.

41 Every creature that moves along the ground
is detestable; it must not be eaten.
42 Do not eat any creature that moves along
the ground, whether it crawls on its belly or
walks on four or more feet; for such creatures
are detestable.

43 Do not defile yourselves by any crawling
creature; do not become unclean or defiled by
them.
44 For I am the LORD your God; consecrate
yourselves, therefore, and be holy, because I am
holy. You must not defile yourselves by any
creature that crawls along the ground.
45 For I am the LORD, who brought you up out
of the land of Egypt so that I would be your God;
therefore be holy, because I am holy.

46 This is the law regarding animals, birds, all
living creatures that move in the water, and all
creatures that crawl along the ground.
47 You must distinguish between the unclean
and the clean, between animals that may be
eaten and those that may not.' "

12

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 “Say to the Israelites, ‘A woman who becomes
pregnant and gives birth to a son will be
unclean for seven days, as she is during the days
of her menstruation.
3 And on the eighth day the flesh of the boy’s
foreskin is to be circumcised.
4 The woman shall continue in purification
from her bleeding for thirty-three days. She
must not touch anything sacred or go into the
sanctuary until the days of her purification are
complete.
5 If, however, she gives birth to a daughter, the
woman will be unclean for two weeks as she is
during her menstruation. Then she must
continue in purification from her bleeding for
sixty-six days.
6 When the days of her purification are
complete, whether for a son or for a daughter,
she is to bring to the priest at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting a year-old lamb for a burnt
offering and a young pigeon or a turtledove for
a purification offering.
7 And the priest will present them before the
LORD and make atonement for her; and she
shall be ceremonially cleansed from her flow of
blood. This is the law for a woman giving birth,
whether to a male or to a female.
8 But if she cannot afford a lamb, she shall
bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons, one
for a burnt offering and the other for a

purification offering. Then the priest will make atonement for her, and she will be clean.' "

13

1 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
2 "When someone has a swelling or rash or bright spot on his skin that may be an infectious skin disease,* he must be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons who is a priest.
3 The priest is to examine the infection on his skin, and if the hair in the infection has turned white and the sore appears to be deeper than the skin, it is a skin disease. After the priest examines him, he must pronounce him unclean.
4 If, however, the spot on his skin is white and does not appear to be deeper than the skin, and the hair in it has not turned white, the priest shall isolate the infected person for seven days.
5 On the seventh day the priest is to reexamine him, and if he sees that the infection is unchanged and has not spread on the skin, the priest must isolate him for another seven days.
6 The priest will examine him again on the seventh day, and if the sore has faded and has not spread on the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean; it is a rash. The person must wash his clothes and be clean.
7 But if the rash spreads further on his skin after he has shown himself to the priest for his

* **13:2 13:2** Forms of the Hebrew *tzaraath*, traditionally translated as *leprosy*, were used for various skin diseases; here and throughout verses 3–46.

cleansing, he must present himself again to the
priest.
8 The priest will reexamine him, and if the
rash has spread on the skin, the priest must
pronounce him unclean; it is a skin disease.

9 When anyone develops a skin disease, he
must be brought to the priest.
10 The priest will examine him, and if there is
a white swelling on the skin that has turned the
hair white, and there is raw flesh in the swelling,
11 it is a chronic skin disease and the priest
must pronounce him unclean. He need not
isolate him, for he is unclean.

12 But if the skin disease breaks out all over
his skin so that it covers all the skin of the
infected person from head to foot, as far as the
priest can see,
13 the priest shall examine him, and if the
disease has covered his entire body, he is to
pronounce the infected person clean. Since it
has all turned white, he is clean.

14 But whenever raw flesh appears on
someone, he will be unclean.
15 When the priest sees the raw flesh, he must
pronounce him unclean. The raw flesh is
unclean; it is a skin disease.
16 But if the raw flesh changes and turns
white, he must go to the priest.
17 The priest will reexamine him, and if the
infection has turned white, the priest is to
pronounce the infected person clean; then he is
clean.

18 When a boil appears on someone's skin and
it heals,
19 and a white swelling or a reddish-white spot
develops where the boil was, he must present
himself to the priest.
20 The priest shall examine it, and if it appears
to be beneath the skin and the hair in it has
turned white, the priest shall pronounce him
unclean; it is a diseased infection that has
broken out in the boil.
21 But when the priest examines it, if there is
no white hair in it, and it is not beneath the skin
and has faded, the priest shall isolate him for
seven days.
22 If it spreads any further on the skin, the
priest must pronounce him unclean; it is an
infection.
23 But if the spot remains unchanged and does
not spread, it is only the scar from the boil, and
the priest shall pronounce him clean.

24 When there is a burn on someone's skin and
the raw area of the burn becomes reddish-white
or white,
25 the priest must examine it. If the hair in the
spot has turned white and the spot appears to be
deeper than the skin, it is a disease that has
broken out in the burn. The priest must
pronounce him unclean; it is a diseased
infection.
26 But if the priest examines it and there is no
white hair in the spot, and it is not beneath the
skin but has faded, the priest shall isolate him
for seven days.

27 On the seventh day the priest is to
reexamine him, and if it has spread further on
the skin, the priest must pronounce him
unclean; it is a diseased infection.
28 But if the spot is unchanged and has not
spread on the skin but has faded, it is a swelling
from the burn, and the priest is to pronounce
him clean; for it is only the scar from the burn.

29 If a man or woman has an infection on the
head or chin,
30 the priest shall examine the infection, and if
it appears to be deeper than the skin and the
hair in it is yellow and thin, the priest must
pronounce him unclean; it is a scaly outbreak,
an infectious disease of the head or chin.

31 But if the priest examines the scaly infection
and it does not appear to be deeper than the
skin, and there is no black hair in it, the priest
shall isolate the infected person for seven days.
32 On the seventh day the priest is to
reexamine the infection, and if the scaly
outbreak has not spread and there is no yellow
hair in it, and it does not appear to be deeper
than the skin,
33 then the person must shave himself except
for the scaly area. Then the priest shall isolate
him for another seven days.
34 On the seventh day the priest shall examine
the scaly outbreak, and if it has not spread on
the skin and does not appear to be deeper than
the skin, the priest is to pronounce him clean.
He must wash his clothes, and he will be clean.

35 If, however, the scaly outbreak spreads
further on the skin after his cleansing,
36 the priest is to examine him, and if the scaly
outbreak has spread on the skin, the priest need
not look for yellow hair; the person is unclean.

37 If, however, in his sight the scaly outbreak is
unchanged and black hair has grown in it, then
it has healed. He is clean, and the priest is to
pronounce him clean.

38 When a man or a woman has white spots on
the skin,
39 the priest shall examine them, and if the
spots are dull white, it is a harmless rash that
has broken out on the skin; the person is clean.

40 Now if a man loses his hair and is bald, he is
still clean.
41 Or if his hairline recedes and he is bald on
his forehead, he is still clean.
42 But if there is a reddish-white sore on the
bald head or forehead, it is an infectious disease
breaking out on it.
43 The priest is to examine him, and if the
swelling of the infection on his bald head or
forehead is reddish-white like a skin disease,
44 the man is diseased; he is unclean. The
priest must pronounce him unclean because of
the infection on his head.

45 A diseased person must wear torn clothes
and uncover his head,† and he must cover his
mouth and cry out, 'Unclean, unclean!'

† **13:45 13:45** Or *let his hair hang loose*

46 As long as he has the infection, he remains
unclean. He must live alone in a place outside
the camp.

47 If any fabric is contaminated with
mildew‡—any wool or linen garment,
48 any weave or knit of linen or wool, or any
article of leather—
49 and if the mark in the fabric, leather, weave,
knit, or leather article is green or red, then it is
contaminated with mildew and must be shown
to the priest.
50 And the priest is to examine the mildew and
isolate the contaminated fabric for seven days.

51 On the seventh day the priest shall
reexamine it, and if the mildew has spread in
the fabric, weave, knit, or leather, then
regardless of how it is used, it is a harmful
mildew; the article is unclean.
52 He is to burn the fabric, weave, or knit,
whether the contaminated item is wool or linen
or leather. Since the mildew is harmful, the
article must be burned up.

53 But when the priest reexamines it, if the
mildew has not spread in the fabric, weave, knit,
or leather article,
54 the priest is to order the contaminated
article to be washed and isolated for another
seven days.

‡ **13:47 13:47** Forms of the Hebrew *tzaraath*, traditionally translated as *leprosy* regarding skin diseases, are translated as *mildew* regarding blemishes on garments, utensils, or buildings; here and throughout the remainder of this chapter.

55 After it has been washed, the priest is to
reexamine it, and if the mildewed article has not
changed in appearance, it is unclean. Even
though the mildew has not spread, you must
burn it, whether the rot is on the front or back.
56 If the priest examines it and the mildew has
faded after it has been washed, he must cut the
contaminated section out of the fabric, leather,
weave, or knit.
57 But if it reappears in the fabric, weave, or
knit, or on any leather article, it is spreading.
You must burn the contaminated article.
58 If the mildew disappears from the fabric,
weave, or knit, or any leather article after
washing, then it is to be washed again, and it
will be clean.
59 This is the law concerning a mildew
contamination in wool or linen fabric, weave, or
knit, or any leather article, for pronouncing it
clean or unclean."

14

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "This is the law for the one afflicted with a
skin disease* on the day of his cleansing, when
he is brought to the priest.
3 The priest is to go outside the camp to
examine him, and if the skin disease of the
afflicted person has healed,

* **14:2 14:2** Forms of the Hebrew *tzaraath*, traditionally translated as *leprosy*, were used for various skin diseases; also in verses 3, 7, 32, 54, and 57.

4 the priest shall order that two live clean
birds, cedar wood, scarlet yarn, and hyssop be
brought for the one to be cleansed.

5 Then the priest shall command that one of
the birds be slaughtered over fresh water† in a
clay pot.
6 And he is to take the live bird together with
the cedar wood, scarlet yarn, and hyssop, and
dip them into the blood of the bird that was
slaughtered over the fresh water.
7 Seven times he shall sprinkle the one to be
cleansed of the skin disease. Then he shall
pronounce him clean and release the live bird
into the open field.

8 The one being cleansed must wash his
clothes, shave off all his hair, and bathe with
water; then he will be ceremonially clean.
Afterward, he may enter the camp, but he must
remain outside his tent for seven days.
9 On the seventh day he must shave off all his
hair—his head, his beard, his eyebrows, and the
rest of his hair. He must wash his clothes and
bathe himself with water, and he will be clean.

10 On the eighth day he is to bring two
unblemished male lambs, an unblemished ewe
lamb a year old, a grain offering of three-tenths
of an ephah of fine flour‡ mixed with olive oil,

† **14:5 14:5** Or *flowing water* or *living water*; here and in verses 6, 50, 51, and 52 ‡ **14:10 14:10** *Three-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 6 dry quarts or 6.6 liters (probably about 7.6 pounds or 3.5 kilograms of flour).

and one log of olive oil.§
11 The priest who performs the cleansing shall
present the one to be cleansed, together with
these offerings, before the LORD at the entrance
to the Tent of Meeting.
12 Then the priest is to take one of the male
lambs and present it as a guilt offering, along
with the log of olive oil; and he must wave them
as a wave offering before the LORD.
13 Then he is to slaughter the lamb in the
sanctuary area where the purification offering
and burnt offering are slaughtered. Like the
purification offering, the guilt offering belongs
to the priest; it is most holy.
14 The priest is to take some of the blood from
the guilt offering and put it on the right earlobe
of the one to be cleansed, on the thumb of his
right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot.
15 Then the priest shall take some of the log of
olive oil, pour it into his left palm,
16 dip his right forefinger into the oil in his left
palm, and sprinkle some of the oil with his
finger seven times before the LORD.
17 And the priest is to put some of the oil
remaining in his palm on the right earlobe of
the one to be cleansed, on the thumb of his right
hand, and on the big toe of his right foot, on top
of the blood of the guilt offering.
18 The rest of the oil in his palm, the priest is to
put on the head of the one to be cleansed, to

§ **14:10 14:10** Or *one log of oil*; that is, approximately 0.33 quarts or 0.31 liters; also in verses 12, 15, 21, and 24

make atonement for him before the LORD.
19 Then the priest is to sacrifice the
purification offering and make atonement for
the one to be cleansed from his uncleanness.
After that, the priest shall slaughter the burnt
offering
20 and offer it on the altar, with the grain
offering, to make atonement for him, and he will
be clean.
21 If, however, the person is poor and cannot
afford these offerings, he is to take one male
lamb as a guilt offering to be waved to make
atonement for him, along with a tenth of an
ephah of fine flour* mixed with olive oil for a
grain offering, a log of olive oil,
22 and two turtledoves or two young pigeons,
whichever he can afford, one to be a purification
offering and the other a burnt offering.
23 On the eighth day he is to bring them for his
cleansing to the priest at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting before the LORD.
24 The priest shall take the lamb for the guilt
offering, along with the log of olive oil, and
wave them as a wave offering before the LORD.
25 And after he slaughters the lamb for the
guilt offering, the priest is to take some of the
blood of the guilt offering and put it on the right
earlobe of the one to be cleansed, on the thumb
of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right
foot.

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* **14:21 14:21** *A tenth of an ephah* is approximately 2 dry quarts or 2.2 liters (probably about 2.6 pounds or 1.2 kilograms of flour).

26 Then the priest is to pour some of the oil
into his left palm
27 and sprinkle with his right forefinger some
of the oil in his left palm seven times before the
LORD.
28 The priest shall also put some of the oil in
his palm on the right earlobe of the one to be
cleansed, on the thumb of his right hand, and on
the big toe of his right foot—on the same places
as the blood of the guilt offering.
29 The rest of the oil in his palm, the priest is to
put on the head of the one to be cleansed, to
make atonement for him before the LORD.
30 Then he must sacrifice the turtledoves or
young pigeons, whichever he can afford,
31 as he is able to afford,† one as a purification
offering and the other as a burnt offering,
together with the grain offering. In this way the
priest will make atonement before the LORD for
the one to be cleansed.
32 This is the law for someone who has a skin
disease and cannot afford the cost of his
cleansing."
33 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
34 "When you enter the land of Canaan, which
I am giving you as your possession, and I put a
contamination of mildew‡ into a house in that
land,

† **14:31 14:31** LXX and Syriac omit *as he is able to afford* ‡ **14:34 14:34** Forms of the Hebrew *tzaraath*, traditionally translated as *leprosy* regarding skin diseases, are translated as *mildew* regarding blemishes on garments, utensils, or buildings; here and throughout the remainder of this chapter.

35 the owner of the house shall come and tell
the priest, ‘Something like mildew has appeared
in my house.’
36 The priest must order that the house be
cleared before he enters it to examine the
mildew, so that nothing in the house will
become unclean. After this, the priest shall go in
to inspect the house.
37 He is to examine the house, and if the
mildew on the walls consists of green or red
depressions that appear to be beneath the
surface of the wall,
38 the priest shall go outside the doorway of
the house and close it up for seven days.
39 On the seventh day the priest is to return
and inspect the house. If the mildew has spread
on the walls,
40 he must order that the contaminated stones
be pulled out and thrown into an unclean place
outside the city.
41 And he shall have the inside of the house
scraped completely and the plaster that is
scraped off dumped into an unclean place
outside the city.
42 So different stones must be obtained to
replace the contaminated ones, as well as
additional mortar to replaster the house.
43 If the mildew reappears in the house after
the stones have been torn out and the house has
been scraped and replastered,
44 the priest must come and inspect it.
If the mildew has spread in the house, it is a
destructive mildew; the house is unclean.

45 It must be torn down with its stones, its
timbers, and all its plaster, and taken outside the
city to an unclean place.
46 Anyone who enters the house during any of
the days that it is closed up will be unclean until
evening.
47 And anyone who sleeps in the house or eats
in it must wash his clothes.
48 If, however, the priest comes and inspects it,
and the mildew has not spread after the house
has been replastered, he shall pronounce the
house clean, because the mildew is gone.
49 He is to take two birds, cedar wood, scarlet
yarn, and hyssop to purify the house;
50 and he shall slaughter one of the birds over
fresh water in a clay pot.
51 Then he shall take the cedar wood, the
hyssop, the scarlet yarn, and the live bird, dip
them in the blood of the slaughtered bird and
the fresh water, and sprinkle the house seven
times.
52 And he shall cleanse the house with the
bird's blood, the fresh water, the live bird, the
cedar wood, the hyssop, and the scarlet yarn.
53 Finally, he is to release the live bird into the
open fields outside the city. In this way he will
make atonement for the house, and it will be
clean.
54 This is the law for any infectious skin
disease, for a scaly outbreak,
55 for mildew in clothing or in a house,
56 and for a swelling, rash, or spot,

57 to determine when something is clean or
unclean. This is the law regarding skin diseases
and mildew.§”

15

1 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,
2 “Say to the Israelites, ‘When any man has a
bodily discharge, the discharge is unclean.
3 This uncleanness is from his discharge,
whether his body allows the discharge to flow or
blocks it. So his discharge will bring about
uncleanness.
4 Any bed on which the man with the
discharge lies will be unclean, and any furniture
on which he sits will be unclean.
5 Anyone who touches his bed must wash his
clothes and bathe with water, and he will be
unclean until evening.
6 Whoever sits on furniture on which the man
with the discharge was sitting must wash his
clothes and bathe with water, and he will be
unclean until evening.
7 Whoever touches the body of the man with a
discharge must wash his clothes and bathe with
water, and he will be unclean until evening.
8 If the man with the discharge spits on one
who is clean, that person must wash his clothes
and bathe with water, and he will be unclean
until evening.
9 Any saddle on which the man with the
discharge rides will be unclean.

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§ **14:57 14:57** The Hebrew translated here as *skin diseases and mildew* is one singular term; see the footnotes for verses 2 and 34.

10 Whoever touches anything that was under
him will be unclean until evening, and whoever
carries such things must wash his clothes and
bathe with water, and he will be unclean until
evening.
11 If the man with the discharge touches
anyone without first rinsing his hands with
water, the one who was touched must wash his
clothes and bathe with water, and he will be
unclean until evening.
12 Any clay pot that the man with the
discharge touches must be broken, and any
wooden utensil must be rinsed with water.
13 When the man has been cleansed from his
discharge, he must count off seven days for his
cleansing, wash his clothes, and bathe himself in
fresh water,* and he shall be clean.
14 On the eighth day he is to take two
turtledoves or two young pigeons, come before
the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting,
and give them to the priest.
15 The priest is to sacrifice them, one as a
purification offering and the other as a burnt
offering. In this way the priest will make
atonement for the man before the LORD
because of his discharge.
16 When a man has an emission of semen, he
must bathe his whole body with water, and he
will be unclean until evening.
17 Any clothing or leather on which there is an
emission of semen must be washed with water,
and it will remain unclean until evening.

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* **15:13 15:13** Or *flowing water* or *living water*

18 If a man lies with a woman and there is an
emission of semen, both must bathe with water,
and they will remain unclean until evening.

19 When a woman has a discharge consisting
of blood from her body, she will be unclean due
to her menstruation for seven days, and anyone
who touches her will be unclean until evening.
20 Anything on which she lies or sits during
her menstruation will be unclean,
21 and anyone who touches her bed must
wash his clothes and bathe with water, and he
will be unclean until evening.

22 Whoever touches any furniture on which
she was sitting must wash his clothes and bathe
with water, and he will be unclean until evening.
23 And whether it is a bed or furniture on
which she was sitting, whoever touches it will
be unclean until evening.

24 If a man lies with her and her menstrual
flow touches him, he will be unclean for seven
days, and any bed on which he lies will become
unclean.

25 When a woman has a discharge of her
blood for many days at a time other than her
menstrual period, or if it continues beyond her
period, she will be unclean all the days of her
unclean discharge, just as she is during the days
of her menstruation.
26 Any bed on which she lies or any furniture
on which she sits during the days of her
discharge will be unclean, like her bed during
her menstrual period.

27 Anyone who touches these things will be
unclean; he must wash his clothes and bathe
with water, and he will be unclean until evening.

28 When a woman is cleansed of her
discharge, she must count off seven days, and
after that she will be ceremonially clean.
29 On the eighth day she is to take two
turtledoves or two young pigeons and bring
them to the priest at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting.
30 The priest is to sacrifice one as a purification
offering and the other as a burnt offering. In
this way the priest will make atonement for her
before the LORD for her unclean discharge.

31 You must keep the children of Israel
separate from their uncleanness, so that they do
not die in their uncleanness by defiling my
tabernacle, which is among them.

32 This is the law of him who has a discharge,
of the man who has an emission of semen
whereby he is unclean,
33 of a woman in her menstrual period, of any
male or female who has a discharge, and of a
man who lies with an unclean woman.' "

16

1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses after the
death of two of Aaron's sons when they
approached the presence of the LORD.
2 And the LORD said to Moses: "Tell your
brother Aaron not to enter freely into the Holy

Place* behind the veil in front of the cover† on
the ark, or else he will die, because I appear in
the cloud above the cover.
3 This is how Aaron is to enter the Holy Place:
with a young bull for a purification offering and
a ram for a burnt offering.
4 He is to wear the sacred linen tunic, with
linen undergarments. He must tie a linen sash
around him and put on the linen turban. These
are holy garments, and he must bathe himself
with water before he wears them.
5 And he shall take from the congregation of
Israel two male goats for a purification offering
and one ram for a burnt offering.
6 Aaron is to present the bull for his
purification offering and make atonement for
himself and his household.
7 Then he shall take the two goats and present
them before the LORD at the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting.
8 After Aaron casts lots for the two goats, one
for the LORD and the other for Azazel,‡
9 he shall present the goat chosen by lot for the
LORD and sacrifice it as a purification offering.
10 But the goat chosen by lot for Azazel shall
be presented alive before the LORD to make
atonement by sending it into the wilderness to
Azazel.

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* **16:2 16:2** Or *the Most Holy Place*; also in verses 16, 17, 20, 23, and 27 † **16:2 16:2** Or *atonement cover* or *mercy seat*; Hebrew *kapporet*; here and throughout this chapter ‡ **16:8 16:8** Or *the other for the scapegoat*; the Hebrew also has *Azazel* twice in verse 10 and once in verse 26

11 When Aaron presents the bull for his
purification offering and makes atonement for
himself and his household, he is to slaughter the
bull for his own purification offering.
12 Then he must take a censer full of burning
coals from the altar before the LORD, and two
handfuls of finely ground fragrant incense, and
take them inside the veil.
13 He is to put the incense on the fire before
the LORD, and the cloud of incense will conceal
the cover above the Testimony,§ so that he will
not die.
14 And he is to take some of the bull's blood
and sprinkle it with his finger on the east side of
the cover; then he shall sprinkle some of it with
his finger seven times before the cover.

15 Aaron shall then slaughter the goat for the
purification offering for the people and bring its
blood behind the veil, and with its blood he
must do as he did with the bull's blood: He is to
sprinkle it against the cover and in front of it.

16 So he shall make atonement for the Holy
Place because of the impurities and rebellious
acts of the Israelites in regard to all their sins.
He is to do the same for the Tent of Meeting
which abides among them in the midst of their
impurities.
17 No one may be in the Tent of Meeting from
the time Aaron goes in to make atonement in the
Holy Place until he leaves, after he has made

§ **16:13 16:13** *The Testimony* refers to the stone tablets in the ark of the covenant inscribed with the Ten Commandments.

atonement for himself, his household, and the
whole assembly of Israel.

18 Then he shall go out to the altar that is
before the LORD and make atonement for it. He
is to take some of the bull's blood and some of
the goat's blood and put it on all the horns of the
altar.
19 He is to sprinkle some of the blood on it
with his finger seven times to cleanse it and
consecrate it from the uncleanness of the
Israelites.
20 When Aaron has finished purifying the Holy
Place, the Tent of Meeting, and the altar, he is to
bring forward the live goat.
21 Then he is to lay both hands on the head of
the live goat and confess over it all the iniquities
and rebellious acts of the Israelites in regard to
all their sins. He is to put them on the goat's
head and send it away into the wilderness by
the hand of a man appointed for the task.
22 The goat will carry on itself all their
iniquities into a solitary place, and the man will
release it into the wilderness.
23 Then Aaron is to enter the Tent of Meeting,
take off the linen garments he put on before
entering the Holy Place, and leave them there.
24 He is to bathe himself with water in a holy
place and put on his own clothes. Then he must
go out and sacrifice his burnt offering and the
people's burnt offering to make atonement for
himself and for the people.
25 He is also to burn the fat of the purification
offering on the altar.

26 The man who released the goat for Azazel
must wash his clothes and bathe himself with
water; afterward he may reenter the camp.
27 The bull for the purification offering and
the goat for the purification offering, whose
blood was brought into the Holy Place to make
atonement, must be taken outside the camp; and
their hides, flesh, and dung must be burned up.
28 The one who burns them must wash his
clothes and bathe himself with water, and
afterward he may reenter the camp.
29 This is to be a permanent statute for you:
On the tenth day of the seventh month, you shall
deny yourselves* and not do any
work—whether the native or the foreigner who
resides among you—
30 because on this day atonement will be made
for you to cleanse you, and you will be clean
from all your sins before the LORD.
31 It is a Sabbath of complete rest for you, that
you may deny yourselves; it is a permanent
statute.
32 The priest who is anointed and ordained to
succeed his father as priest shall make
atonement. He will put on the sacred linen
garments
33 and make atonement for the Holy
Sanctuary,† the Tent of Meeting, and the altar,
and for the priests and all the people of the
assembly.

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* **16:29 16:29** Or *afflict your souls* or *humble yourselves*; also in verse 31 † **16:33 16:33** Or *the Most Holy Place*

34 This is to be a permanent statute for you, to
make atonement once a year for the Israelites
because of all their sins."
And he did as the LORD had commanded
Moses.‡

17

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Speak to Aaron, his sons, and all the
Israelites and tell them this is what the LORD
has commanded:
3 'Anyone from the house of Israel who
slaughters an ox,* a lamb, or a goat in the camp
or outside of it
4 instead of bringing it to the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting to present it as an offering to the
LORD before his tabernacle—that man shall
incur bloodguilt. He has shed blood and must be
cut off from among his people.
5 For this reason the Israelites will bring to the
LORD the sacrifices they have been offering in
the open fields. They are to bring them to the
priest at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting and
offer them as sacrifices of peace offerings to the
LORD.
6 The priest will then splatter the blood on the
altar of the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of
Meeting and burn the fat as a pleasing aroma to
the LORD.
7 They must no longer offer their sacrifices to
the goat demons† to which they have prostituted

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‡ **16:34 16:34** LXX *And it was done*
* **17:3 17:3** Or *a bull* or *a cow*
† **17:7 17:7** Or *goat idols*

themselves. This will be a permanent statute for
them for the generations to come.'
8 Tell them that if anyone from the house of
Israel or any foreigner living among them offers
a burnt offering or a sacrifice
9 but does not bring it to the entrance to the
Tent of Meeting to sacrifice it to the LORD, that
man must be cut off from his people.
10 If anyone from the house of Israel or a
foreigner living among them eats any blood, I
will set my face against that person and cut him
off from among his people.
11 For the life‡ of the flesh is in the blood, and I
have given it to you to make atonement for your
lives upon the altar; for it is the blood that
makes atonement for the life.
12 Therefore I say to the Israelites, 'None of
you may eat blood, nor may any foreigner living
among you eat blood.'
13 And if any Israelite or foreigner living
among them hunts down a wild animal or bird
that may be eaten, he must drain its blood and
cover it with dirt.
14 For the life of all flesh is its blood. Therefore
I have told the Israelites, 'You must not eat the
blood of any living thing, because the life of all
flesh is its blood; whoever eats it must be cut off.'
15 And any person, whether native or
foreigner, who eats anything found dead or
mauled by wild beasts must wash his clothes
and bathe with water, and he will be unclean
until evening; then he will be clean.

‡ **17:11 17:11** Literally *the soul*; also in verse 14

16 But if he does not wash his clothes and
bathe himself, then he shall bear his iniquity."

18

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Speak to the Israelites and tell them: I am
the LORD your God.
3 You must not follow the practices of the land
of Egypt, where you used to live, and you must
not follow the practices of the land of Canaan,
into which I am bringing you. You must not
walk in their customs.
4 You are to practice my judgments and keep
my statutes by walking in them. I am the LORD
your God.
5 Keep my statutes and my judgments, for the
man who does these things will live by them.* I
am the LORD.
6 None of you are to approach any close
relative to have sexual relations.† I am the
LORD.
7 You must not expose the nakedness of your
father by having sexual relations with your
mother. She is your mother; you must not have
sexual relations with her.
8 You must not have sexual relations with your
father's wife; it would dishonor your father.
9 You must not have sexual relations with your
sister, either your father's daughter or your
mother's daughter, whether she was born in the
same home or elsewhere.

* **18:5 18:5** See also Ezekiel 20:11, 13, and 21. † **18:6 18:6** Literally *to uncover (their) nakedness*; here and throughout this chapter

10 You must not have sexual relations with
your son's daughter or your daughter's
daughter, for that would shame your family.
11 You must not have sexual relations with the
daughter of your father's wife, born to your
father; she is your sister.
12 You must not have sexual relations with
your father's sister; she is your father's close
relative.
13 You must not have sexual relations with
your mother's sister, for she is your mother's
close relative.
14 You must not dishonor your father's brother
by approaching his wife to have sexual relations
with her; she is your aunt.
15 You must not have sexual relations with
your daughter-in-law. She is your son's wife;
you are not to have sexual relations with her.
16 You must not have sexual relations with
your brother's wife; that would shame your
brother.
17 You must not have sexual relations with
both a woman and her daughter. You are not to
marry her son's daughter or her daughter's
daughter and have sexual relations with her.
They are close relatives; it is depraved.
18 You must not take your wife's sister as a
rival wife and have sexual relations with her
while your wife is still alive.
19 You must not approach a woman to have
sexual relations with her during her menstrual
period.
20 You must not lie carnally with your
neighbor's wife and thus defile yourself with her.

21 You must not give any of your children to be
sacrificed‡ to Molech, for you must not profane
the name of your God. I am the LORD.
22 You must not lie with a man as with a
woman; that is an abomination.
23 You must not lie carnally with any animal,
thus defiling yourself with it; a woman must not
stand before an animal to mate with it; that is a
perversion.
24 Do not defile yourselves by any of these
practices, for by all these things the nations I am
driving out before you have defiled themselves.
25 Even the land has become defiled, so I am
punishing it for its sin, and the land will vomit
out its inhabitants.
26 But you are to keep my statutes and
ordinances, and you must not commit any of
these abominations—neither your native-born
nor the foreigner who lives among you.
27 For the men who were in the land before
you committed all these abominations, and the
land has become defiled.
28 So if you defile the land, it will vomit you
out as it spewed out the nations before you.
29 Therefore anyone who commits any of these
abominations must be cut off from among his
people.
30 You must keep my charge not to practice
any of the abominable customs that were
practiced before you, so that you do not defile
yourselves by them. I am the LORD your God.”

‡ **18:21 18:21** Hebrew *to make them pass through (the fire)*

19

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 “Speak to the whole congregation of Israel
and tell them: Be holy because I, the LORD your
God, am holy.
3 Each of you must respect his mother and
father, and you must keep my Sabbaths. I am the
LORD your God.
4 Do not turn to idols or make for yourselves
molten gods. I am the LORD your God.
5 When you sacrifice a peace offering to the
LORD, you shall offer it for your acceptance.
6 It shall be eaten on the day you sacrifice it, or
on the next day; but what remains on the third
day must be burned up.
7 If any of it is eaten on the third day, it is
tainted and will not be accepted.
8 Whoever eats it will bear his iniquity, for he
has profaned what is holy to the LORD. That
person must be cut off from his people.
9 When you reap the harvest of your land, you
are not to reap to the very edges of your field or
gather the gleanings of your harvest.
10 You must not strip your vineyard bare or
gather its fallen grapes. Leave them for the poor
and the foreigner. I am the LORD your God.
11 You must not steal. You must not lie or
deceive one another.
12 You must not swear falsely by my name and
so profane the name of your God. I am the
LORD.
13 You must not defraud your neighbor or rob
him.

You must not withhold until morning the
wages due a hired hand.
14 You must not curse the deaf or place a
stumbling block before the blind, but you shall
fear your God. I am the LORD.
15 You must not pervert justice; you must not
show partiality to the poor or favoritism to the
rich; you are to judge your neighbor fairly.
16 You must not go about spreading slander
among your people.
You must not endanger the life* of your
neighbor. I am the LORD.
17 You must not harbor hatred against your
brother in your heart. Directly rebuke your
neighbor, so that you will not incur guilt on
account of him.
18 Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge
against any of your people, but love your
neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.
19 You are to keep my statutes. You shall not
crossbreed two different kinds of livestock; you
shall not sow your fields with two kinds of seed;
and you shall not wear clothing made of two
kinds of material.
20 If a man lies carnally with a slave woman
promised to another man but who has not been
redeemed or given her freedom, there must be
due punishment. But they are not to be put to
death, because she had not been freed.
21 The man, however, must bring a ram to the
entrance to the Tent of Meeting as his guilt
offering to the LORD.

* **19:16 19:16** Literally *blood*

22 The priest shall make atonement on his
behalf before the LORD with the ram of the guilt
offering for the sin he has committed, and he
will be forgiven the sin he has committed.

23 When you enter the land and plant any kind
of tree for food, you shall regard the fruit as
forbidden.† For three years it will be forbidden
to you and must not be eaten.
24 In the fourth year all its fruit must be
consecrated as a praise offering to the LORD.
25 But in the fifth year you may eat its fruit;
thus your harvest will be increased. I am the
LORD your God.

26 You must not eat anything with blood still in
it.

You must not practice divination or sorcery.

27 You must not cut off the hair at the sides of
your head or clip off the edges of your beard.

28 You must not make any cuts in your bodies
for the dead or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I
am the LORD.
29 You must not defile your daughter by
making her a prostitute, or the land will be
prostituted and filled with depravity.

30 You must keep my Sabbaths and have
reverence for my sanctuary. I am the LORD.

31 You must not turn to mediums or spiritists;
do not seek them out, or you will be defiled by
them. I am the LORD your God.

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† **19:23 19:23** Hebrew *as uncircumcised*; twice in this verse

32 You are to rise in the presence of the elderly,
honor the aged, and fear your God. I am the
LORD.
33 When a foreigner resides with you in your
land, you must not oppress him.
34 You must treat the foreigner living among
you as native-born and love him as yourself, for
you were foreigners in the land of Egypt. I am
the LORD your God.
35 You must not act unjustly in judgment or in
measures of length, weight, or volume.
36 You shall maintain honest scales and
weights, an honest ephah,‡ and an honest hin.§ I
am the LORD your God, who brought you out of
the land of Egypt.
37 You must keep all my statutes and all my
ordinances and follow them. I am the LORD."

20

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Tell the Israelites, 'Any Israelite or foreigner
living in Israel who gives any of his children to
Molech must be put to death. The people of the
land are to stone him.
3 And I will set my face against that man and
cut him off from his people, because by giving
his offspring to Molech, he has defiled my
sanctuary and profaned my holy name.

‡ **19:36 19:36** *An ephah* is a dry measure of approximately 20 dry quarts or 22 liters. § **19:36 19:36** *A hin* is a liquid measure of approximately 0.97 gallons or 3.67 liters.

4 And if the people of the land ever hide their
eyes and fail to put to death the man who gives
one of his children to Molech,
5 then I will set my face against that man and
his family and cut off from among their people
both him and all who follow him in prostituting
themselves with Molech.
6 Whoever turns to mediums or spiritists to
prostitute himself with them, I will also set my
face against that person and cut him off from his
people.
7 Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be
holy, because I am the LORD your God.
8 And you shall keep my statutes and practice
them. I am the LORD who sanctifies you.
9 If anyone reviles* his father or mother, he
must be put to death. He has reviled his father
or mother; his blood shall be upon him.
10 If a man commits adultery with another
man's wife—with the wife of his neighbor—both
the adulterer and the adulteress must surely be
put to death.
11 If a man lies with his father's wife, he has
uncovered his father's nakedness. Both must
surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.
12 If a man lies with his daughter-in-law, both
must surely be put to death. They have acted
perversely; their blood is upon them.
13 If a man lies with a man as with a woman,
they have both committed an abomination.

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* **20:9 20:9** Or *dishonors* or *curses*; similarly again in this verse

They must surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.
14 If a man marries both a woman and her mother, it is depraved. Both he and they must be burned in the fire, so that there will be no depravity among you.
15 If a man lies carnally with an animal, he must be put to death. And you are also to kill the animal.
16 If a woman approaches any animal to mate with it, you must kill both the woman and the animal. They must surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.
17 If a man marries his sister, whether the daughter of his father or of his mother, and they have sexual relations,† it is a disgrace. They must be cut off in the sight of their people. He has uncovered the nakedness of his sister; he shall bear his iniquity.
18 If a man lies with a menstruating woman and has sexual relations with her,‡ he has exposed the source of her flow, and she has uncovered the source of her blood. Both of them must be cut off from among their people.
19 You must not have sexual relations with the sister of your mother or your father, for it is exposing one's own kin; both shall bear their iniquity.
20 If a man lies with his uncle's wife, he has uncovered the nakedness of his uncle. They will bear their sin; they shall die childless.

† **20:17 20:17** Literally *and he sees her nakedness and she sees his nakedness* ‡ **20:18 20:18** Literally *uncovers her nakedness*; similarly in verse 19

21 If a man marries his brother's wife, it is an
act of impurity. He has uncovered the
nakedness of his brother; they shall be childless.
22 You are therefore to keep all my statutes
and ordinances and carry them out, so that the
land where I am bringing you to live will not
vomit you out.
23 You must not follow the statutes of the
nations I am driving out before you. Because
they did all these things, I abhorred them.
24 But I have told you that you will inherit
their land, since I will give it to you as an
inheritance—a land flowing with milk and
honey. I am the LORD your God, who has set you
apart from the peoples.
25 You are therefore to distinguish between
clean and unclean animals and birds. Do not
become contaminated by any animal or bird, or
by anything that crawls on the ground; I have
set these apart as unclean for you.
26 You are to be holy to me because I, the
LORD, am holy, and I have set you apart from
the nations to be my own.
27 A man or a woman who is a medium or
spiritist must surely be put to death. They shall
be stoned; their blood is upon them.' "

21

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Speak to
Aaron's sons, the priests, and tell them that a
priest is not to defile himself for a dead person
among his people,

2 except for his immediate family—his mother,
father, son, daughter, or brother,
3 or his unmarried sister who is near to him,
since she has no husband.
4 He is not to defile himself for those related to
him by marriage, and so profane himself.
5 Priests must not make bald spots on their
heads, shave off the edges of their beards, or
make cuts in their bodies.
6 They must be holy to their God and not
profane the name of their God. Because they
present to the LORD the food offerings, the food
of their God, they must be holy.
7 A priest must not marry a woman defiled by
prostitution or divorced by her husband, for the
priest is holy to his God.
8 You are to regard him as holy, since he
presents the food of your God. He shall be holy
to you, because I the LORD am holy—I who set
you apart.
9 If a priest's daughter defiles herself by
prostituting herself, she profanes her father; she
must be burned in the fire.
10 The priest who is highest among his
brothers, who has had the anointing oil poured
on his head and has been ordained to wear the
priestly garments, must not uncover his head*
or tear his garments.
11 He must not go near any dead body; he must
not defile himself, even for his father or mother.
12 He must not leave or desecrate the
sanctuary of his God, for the consecration of the

* **21:10 21:10** Or *must not let his hair hang loose*

anointing oil of his God is on him. I am the
LORD.
13 The woman he marries must be a virgin.
14 He is not to marry a widow, a divorced
woman, or one defiled by prostitution. He is to
marry a virgin from his own people,
15 so that he does not defile his offspring
among his people, for I am the LORD who
sanctifies him."
16 Then the LORD said to Moses,
17 "Say to Aaron, 'For the generations to come,
none of your descendants who has a physical
defect may approach to offer the food of his God.
18 No man who has any defect may
approach—no man who is blind, lame,
disfigured, or deformed;
19 no man who has a broken foot or hand,
20 or who is a hunchback or dwarf, or who has
an eye defect, a festering rash, scabs, or a
crushed testicle.
21 No descendant of Aaron the priest who has
a defect shall approach to present the food
offerings to the LORD. Since he has a defect, he
is not to come near to offer the food of his God.
22 He may eat the most holy food of his God as
well as the holy food,
23 but because he has a defect, he must not go
near the veil or approach the altar, so as not to
desecrate my sanctuaries. For I am the LORD
who sanctifies them.' "
24 Moses told this to Aaron and his sons and to
all the Israelites.

22

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 “Tell Aaron and his sons to treat with respect
the sacred offerings that the Israelites have
consecrated to me, so that they do not profane
my holy name. I am the LORD.
3 Tell them that for the generations to come, if
any of their descendants in a state of
uncleanness approaches the sacred offerings
that the Israelites consecrate to the LORD, that
person must be cut off from my presence. I am
the LORD.
4 If a descendant of Aaron has a skin disease*
or a discharge, he may not eat the sacred
offerings until he is clean. Whoever touches
anything defiled by a corpse or by a man who
has an emission of semen,
5 or whoever touches a crawling creature or a
person that makes him unclean, whatever the
uncleanness may be—
6 the man who touches any of these will
remain unclean until evening. He must not eat
from the sacred offerings unless he has bathed
himself with water.
7 When the sun has set, he will become clean,
and then he may eat from the sacred offerings,
for they are his food.
8 He must not eat anything found dead or torn
by wild animals, which would make him
unclean. I am the LORD.

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* **22:4 22:4** Forms of the Hebrew *tzaraath*, traditionally translated as *leprosy*, were used for various skin diseases; see Leviticus 13.

9 The priests must keep my charge, lest they
bear the guilt and die because they profane it. I
am the LORD who sanctifies them.

10 No one outside a priest's family may eat the
sacred offering, nor may the guest of a priest or
his hired hand eat it.
11 But if a priest buys a slave with his own
money, or if a slave is born in his household,
that slave may eat his food.

12 If the priest's daughter is married to a man
other than a priest, she is not to eat of the sacred
contributions.
13 But if a priest's daughter with no children
becomes widowed or divorced and returns to
her father's house, she may share her father's
food as in her youth. But no outsider may share
it.

14 If anyone eats a sacred offering in error, he
must add a fifth to its value and give the sacred
offering to the priest.
15 The priests must not profane the sacred
offerings that the Israelites present to the LORD
16 by allowing the people to eat the sacred
offerings and thus to bear the punishment for
guilt. For I am the LORD who sanctifies them."

17 Then the LORD said to Moses,
18 "Speak to Aaron and his sons and all the
Israelites and tell them, 'Any man of the house
of Israel or any foreign resident who presents a
gift for a burnt offering to the LORD, whether to
fulfill a vow or as a freewill offering,

19 must offer an unblemished male from the
cattle, sheep, or goats in order for it to be
accepted on your behalf.
20 You must not present anything with a defect,
because it will not be accepted on your behalf.
21 When a man presents a peace offering to
the LORD from the herd or flock to fulfill a vow
or as a freewill offering, it must be without
blemish or defect to be acceptable.
22 You are not to present to the LORD any
animal that is blind, injured, or maimed, or
anything with a running sore, a festering rash,
or a scab; you must not put any of these on the
altar as a food offering to the LORD.
23 You may present as a freewill offering an ox†
or sheep that has a deformed or stunted limb,
but it is not acceptable in fulfillment of a vow.
24 You are not to present to the LORD an
animal whose testicles are bruised, crushed,
torn, or cut; you are not to sacrifice them in
your land.
25 You must not present food to your God from
any such animal obtained from a foreigner.‡
They will not be accepted on your behalf,
because they are deformed and flawed.' "
26 Then the LORD said to Moses,
27 "When an ox,§ a sheep, or a goat is born, it
must remain with its mother for seven days.
From the eighth day on, it will be acceptable as a
food offering presented to the LORD.

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† **22:23 22:23** Or *a bull* or *a cow* ‡ **22:25 22:25** Hebrew *from the hand of a foreigner* § **22:27 22:27** Or *a calf*

28 But you must not slaughter an ox* or a
sheep on the same day as its young.
29 When you sacrifice a thank offering to the
LORD, offer it so that it may be acceptable on
your behalf.
30 It must be eaten that same day. Do not leave
any of it until morning. I am the LORD.
31 You are to keep my commandments and
practice them. I am the LORD.
32 You must not profane my holy name. I must
be acknowledged as holy among the Israelites. I
am the LORD who sanctifies you,
33 who brought you out of the land of Egypt to
be your God. I am the LORD."

23

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Speak to the Israelites and say to them,
'These are my appointed feasts, the feasts of the
LORD that you are to proclaim as sacred
assemblies.
3 For six days work may be done, but the
seventh day is a Sabbath of complete rest, a day
of sacred assembly. You must not do any work;
wherever you live, it is a Sabbath to the LORD.
4 These are the LORD's appointed feasts, the
sacred assemblies you are to proclaim at their
appointed times.
5 The Passover to the LORD begins at twilight
on the fourteenth* day of the first month.

* **22:28 22:28** Or *a cow* * **23:5 23:5** Hebrew *begins between the two evenings of the fourteenth*

6 On the fifteenth day of the same month
begins the Feast of Unleavened Bread† to the
LORD. For seven days you must eat unleavened
bread.
7 On the first day you are to hold a sacred
assembly; you are not to do any regular work.
8 For seven days you are to present a food
offering to the LORD. On the seventh day there
shall be a sacred assembly; you must not do any
regular work.' "

9 And the LORD said to Moses,
10 "Speak to the Israelites and say, 'When you
enter the land that I am giving you and you reap
its harvest, you are to bring to the priest a sheaf
of the firstfruits of your harvest.
11 And he shall wave the sheaf before the
LORD so that it may be accepted on your behalf;
the priest is to wave it on the day after the
Sabbath.
12 On the day you wave the sheaf, you shall
offer a year-old lamb without blemish as a burnt
offering to the LORD,
13 along with its grain offering of two-tenths of
an ephah of fine flour‡ mixed with oil—a food
offering to the LORD, a pleasing aroma—and its
drink offering of a quarter hin of wine.§

† **23:6 23:6** That is, the seven-day period after the Passover during which no leaven may be eaten; see Exodus 12:14–20. ‡ **23:13 23:13** *Two-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 4 dry quarts or 4.4 liters (probably about 5.1 pounds or 2.3 kilograms of flour); also in verse 17. § **23:13 23:13** *A quarter hin* is approximately 0.97 quarts or 0.92 liters of wine.

14 You must not eat any bread or roasted or
new grain until the very day you have brought
this offering to your God. This is to be a
permanent statute for the generations to come,
wherever you live.

15 From the day after the Sabbath, the day you
brought the sheaf of the wave offering, you are
to count off seven full weeks.
16 You shall count off fifty days until the day
after the seventh Sabbath, and then present an
offering of new grain to the LORD.

17 Bring two loaves of bread from your
dwellings as a wave offering, each made from
two-tenths of an ephah of fine flour, baked with
leaven, as the firstfruits to the LORD.

18 Along with the bread you are to present
seven unblemished male lambs a year old, one
young bull, and two rams. They will be a burnt
offering to the LORD, together with their grain
offerings and drink offerings—a food offering, a
pleasing aroma to the LORD.

19 You shall also prepare one male goat as a
purification offering and two male lambs a year
old as a peace offering.
20 The priest is to wave the lambs as a wave
offering before the LORD, together with the
bread of the firstfruits. The bread and the two
lambs shall be holy to the LORD for the priest.

21 On that same day you are to proclaim a
sacred assembly, and you must not do any
regular work. This is to be a permanent statute
wherever you live for the generations to come.

22 When you reap the harvest of your land, do
not reap all the way to the edges of your field or
gather the gleanings of your harvest. Leave
them for the poor and the foreign resident. I am
the LORD your God.' "
23 The LORD also said to Moses,
24 "Speak to the Israelites and say, 'On the first
day of the seventh month you are to have a day
of rest, a sacred assembly announced by
trumpet blasts.*
25 You must not do any regular work, but you
are to present a food offering to the LORD.' "
26 Again the LORD said to Moses,
27 "The tenth day of this seventh month is the
Day of Atonement. You shall hold a sacred
assembly and deny yourselves,† and present a
food offering to the LORD.
28 On this day you are not to do any work, for
it is the Day of Atonement, when atonement is
made for you before the LORD your God.
29 If anyone does not humble himself on this
day, he must be cut off from his people.
30 I will destroy from among his people
anyone who does any work on this day.
31 You are not to do any work at all. This is a
permanent statute for the generations to come,
wherever you live.
32 It will be a Sabbath of complete rest for you,
and you shall deny yourselves. From the
evening of the ninth day of the month until the

* **23:24 23:24** Or *a sacred assembly, a memorial of shouting*
† **23:27 23:27** Or *afflict your souls* or *humble yourselves*; also in verse 32

following evening you are to keep your
Sabbath."
33 And the LORD said to Moses,
34 "Speak to the Israelites and say, 'On the
fifteenth day of the seventh month the Feast of
Booths‡ to the LORD begins, and it continues for
seven days.
35 On the first day there shall be a sacred
assembly. You must not do any regular work.
36 For seven days you are to present a food
offering to the LORD. On the eighth day you are
to hold a sacred assembly and present a food
offering to the LORD. It is a solemn assembly;
you must not do any regular work.
37 These are the LORD's appointed feasts,
which you are to proclaim as sacred assemblies
for presenting food offerings to the
LORD—burnt offerings and grain offerings,
sacrifices and drink offerings, each on its
designated day.
38 These offerings are in addition to the
offerings for the LORD's Sabbaths, and in
addition to your gifts, to all your vow offerings,
and to all the freewill offerings you give to the
LORD.
39 On the fifteenth day of the seventh month,
after you have gathered the produce of the land,
you are to celebrate a feast to the LORD for

‡ **23:34 23:34** That is, Sukkot, the autumn feast of pilgrimage to Jerusalem; also translated as *the Feast of Tabernacles* or *the Feast of Shelters* and originally called *the Feast of Ingathering* (see Exodus 23:16 and Exodus 34:22).

seven days. There shall be complete rest on the
first day and also on the eighth day.
40 On the first day you are to gather the fruit of
majestic trees, the branches of palm trees, and
the boughs of leafy trees and of willows§ of the
brook. And you are to rejoice before the LORD
your God for seven days.
41 You are to celebrate this as a feast to the
LORD for seven days each year. This is a
permanent statute for the generations to come;
you are to celebrate it in the seventh month.
42 You are to dwell in booths* for seven days.
All the native-born of Israel must dwell in
booths,
43 so that your descendants may know that I
made the Israelites dwell in booths when I
brought them out of the land of Egypt. I am the
LORD your God.' "
44 So Moses announced to the Israelites the
appointed feasts of the LORD.

24

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Command the Israelites to bring you pure
oil of pressed olives for the light, to keep the
lamps burning continually.
3 Outside the veil of the Testimony* in the Tent
of Meeting, Aaron is to tend the lamps

§ **23:40** **23:40** Or *poplars* * **23:42** **23:42** Or *tabernacles* or *shelters*; twice in this verse, and also in verse 43; see the footnote for verse 34. * **24:3** **24:3** *The Testimony* refers to the stone tablets in the ark of the covenant inscribed with the Ten Commandments.

continually before the LORD from evening until
morning. This is to be a permanent statute for
the generations to come.
4 He shall tend the lamps on the pure gold
lampstand before the LORD continually.
5 You are also to take fine flour and bake
twelve loaves, using two-tenths of an ephah for
each loaf,†
6 and set them in two rows—six per row—on
the table of pure gold before the LORD.
7 And you are to place pure frankincense near
each row, so that it may serve as a memorial
portion for the bread, a food offering to the
LORD.
8 Every Sabbath day the bread is to be set out
before the LORD on behalf of the Israelites as a
permanent covenant.
9 It belongs to Aaron and his sons, who are to
eat it in a holy place; for it is to him a most holy
part of the food offerings to the LORD—his
portion forever."
10 Now the son of an Israelite mother and an
Egyptian father went out among the Israelites,
and a fight broke out in the camp between him
and an Israelite.
11 The son of the Israelite woman blasphemed
the Name with a curse. So they brought him to
Moses. (his mother's name was Shelomith
daughter of Dibri, of the tribe of Dan.)
12 They placed him in custody until the will of
the LORD should be made clear to them.

† **24:5 24:5** *Two-tenths of an ephah* is approximately 4 dry quarts or 4.4 liters (probably about 5.1 pounds or 2.3 kilograms of flour).

13 Then the LORD said to Moses,
14 “Take the blasphemer‡ outside the camp,
and have all who heard him lay their hands on
his head; then have the whole assembly stone
him.
15 And you are to tell the Israelites, ‘If anyone
curses his God, he shall bear the consequences
of his sin.
16 Whoever blasphemes the name of the LORD
must surely be put to death; the whole assembly
must surely stone him, whether he is a foreign
resident or native; if he blasphemes the Name,
he must be put to death.
17 And if a man takes the life of anyone else,
he must surely be put to death.
18 Whoever kills an animal must make
restitution—life for life.
19 If anyone injures his neighbor, whatever he
has done must be done to him:
20 fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for
tooth. Just as he injured the other person, the
same must be inflicted on him.
21 Whoever kills an animal must make
restitution, but whoever kills a man must be put
to death.
22 You are to have the same standard of law
for the foreign resident and the native; for I am
the LORD your God.’ ”
23 Then Moses spoke to the Israelites, and they
took the blasphemer outside the camp and
stoned him. So the Israelites did as the LORD
had commanded Moses.

‡ **24:14 24:14** Literally *the one who cursed*; also in verse 23

25

1 Then the LORD said to Moses on Mount Sinai,
2 “Speak to the Israelites and say to them:
When you enter the land that I am giving you,
the land itself must observe a Sabbath to the
LORD.
3 For six years you may sow your field and
prune your vineyard and gather its crops.
4 But in the seventh year there shall be a
Sabbath of complete rest for the land—a
Sabbath to the LORD.
You are not to sow your field or prune your
vineyard.
5 You are not to reap the aftergrowth of your
harvest or gather the grapes of your untended
vines. The land must have a year of complete
rest.
6 Whatever the land yields during the Sabbath
year shall be food for you—for yourself, your
male and female slave, the hired hand or
foreigner who stays with you,
7 and for your livestock and the wild animals
in your land. All its growth may serve as food.
8 And you shall count off seven Sabbaths of
years—seven times seven years—so that the
seven Sabbaths of years amount to forty-nine
years.
9 Then you are to sound the horn far and wide
on the tenth day of the seventh month, the Day
of Atonement. You shall sound it throughout
your land.
10 So you are to consecrate the fiftieth year
and proclaim liberty in the land for all its

inhabitants. It shall be your Jubilee, when each
of you is to return to his property and to his clan.
11 The fiftieth year will be a Jubilee for you;
you are not to sow the land or reap its
aftergrowth or harvest the untended vines.
12 For it is a Jubilee; it shall be holy to you. You
may eat only the crops taken directly from the
field.
13 In this Year of Jubilee, each of you shall
return to his own property.
14 If you make a sale to your neighbor or a
purchase from him, you must not take
advantage of each other.
15 You are to buy from your neighbor
according to the number of years since the last
Jubilee; he is to sell to you according to the
number of harvest years remaining.
16 You shall increase the price in proportion to
a greater number of years, or decrease it in
proportion to a lesser number of years; for he is
selling you a given number of harvests.
17 Do not take advantage of each other, but
fear your God; for I am the LORD your God.
18 You are to keep my statutes and carefully
observe my judgments, so that you may dwell
securely in the land.
19 Then the land will yield its fruit, so that you
can eat your fill and dwell in safety in the land.
20 Now you may wonder, ‘What will we eat in
the seventh year if we do not sow or gather our
produce?’

21 But I will send my blessing upon you in the
sixth year, so that the land will yield a crop
sufficient for three years.
22 While you are sowing in the eighth year,
you will be eating from the previous harvest,
until the ninth year's harvest comes in.
23 The land must not be sold permanently,
because it is mine, and you are but foreigners
and residents with me.
24 Thus for every piece of property you
possess, you must provide for the redemption of
the land.
25 If your brother becomes impoverished and
sells some of his property, his nearest of kin may
come and redeem what his brother has sold.
26 Or if a man has no one to redeem it for him,
but he prospers and acquires enough to redeem
his land,
27 he shall calculate the years since its sale,
repay the balance to the man to whom he sold it,
and return to his property.
28 But if he cannot obtain enough to repay
him, what he sold will remain in possession of
the buyer until the Year of Jubilee. In the
Jubilee, however, it is to be released, so that he
may return to his property.
29 If a man sells a house in a walled city, he
retains his right of redemption until a full year
after its sale; during that year it may be
redeemed.
30 If it is not redeemed by the end of a full
year, then the house in the walled city* is

* **25:30 25:30** Qere; Ketiv *in the city that has no wall*

permanently transferred to its buyer and his descendants. It is not to be released in the Jubilee.

31 But houses in villages with no walls around them are to be considered as open fields. They may be redeemed, and they shall be released in the Jubilee.

32 As for the cities of the Levites, the Levites always have the right to redeem their houses in the cities they possess.

33 So whatever belongs to the Levites may be redeemed—a house sold in a city they possess—and must be released in the Jubilee, because the houses in the cities of the Levites are their possession among the Israelites.

34 But the open pastureland around their cities may not be sold, for this is their permanent possession.

35 Now if your countryman becomes destitute and cannot support himself among you, then you are to help him as you would a foreigner or stranger, so that he can continue to live among you.

36 Do not take any interest or profit from him, but fear your God, that your countryman may live among you.

37 You must not lend him your silver at interest or sell him your food for profit.

38 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God.

39 If a countryman among you becomes destitute and sells himself to you, then you must

not force him into slave labor.
40 Let him stay with you as a hired worker or
temporary resident; he is to work for you until
the Year of Jubilee.
41 Then he and his children are to be released,
and he may return to his clan and to the
property of his fathers.
42 Because the Israelites are my servants,
whom I brought out of the land of Egypt, they
are not to be sold as slaves.
43 You are not to rule over them harshly, but
you shall fear your God.
44 Your male and female slaves shall come
from the nations around you, from whom you
may purchase them.
45 You may also purchase them from the
foreigners residing among you or their clans
living among you who are born in your land.
These may become your property.
46 You may leave them to your sons after you
to inherit as property; you can make them slaves
for life. But as for your brothers, the Israelites,
no man may rule harshly over his brother.
47 If a foreigner residing among you prospers,
but your countryman dwelling near him
becomes destitute and sells himself to the
foreigner or to a member of his clan,
48 he retains the right of redemption after he
has sold himself. One of his brothers may
redeem him:
49 either his uncle or cousin or any close
relative from his clan may redeem him. Or if he
prospers, he may redeem himself.

50 He and his purchaser will then count the
time from the year he sold himself up to the
Year of Jubilee. The price of his sale will be
determined by the number of years, based on
the daily wages of a hired hand.
51 If many years remain, he must pay for his
redemption in proportion to his purchase price.
52 If only a few years remain until the Year of
Jubilee, he is to calculate and pay his
redemption according to his remaining years.
53 He shall be treated like a man hired from
year to year, but a foreign owner must not rule
over him harshly in your sight.
54 Even if he is not redeemed in any of these
ways, he and his children shall be released in
the Year of Jubilee.
55 For the Israelites are my servants. They are
my servants, whom I brought out of the land of
Egypt. I am the LORD your God.

26

1 “You must not make idols for yourselves or
set up a carved image or sacred pillar; you must
not place a sculpted stone in your land to bow
down to it. For I am the LORD your God.
2 You must keep my Sabbaths and have
reverence for my sanctuary. I am the LORD.
3 If you follow my statutes and carefully keep
my commandments,
4 I will give you rains in their season, and the
land will yield its produce, and the trees of the
field will bear their fruit.

5 Your threshing will continue until the grape
harvest, and the grape harvest will continue
until sowing time; you will have your fill of food
to eat and will dwell securely in your land.
6 And I will give peace to the land, and you
will lie down with nothing to fear. I will rid the
land of dangerous animals, and no sword will
pass through your land.
7 You will pursue your enemies, and they will
fall by the sword before you.
8 Five of you will pursue a hundred, and a
hundred of you will pursue ten thousand, and
your enemies will fall by the sword before you.
9 I will turn toward you and make you fruitful
and multiply you, and I will establish my
covenant with you.
10 You will still be eating the old supply of
grain when you need to clear it out to make
room for the new.
11 And I will make my dwelling place* among
you, and I will not reject† you.
12 I will walk among you and be your God, and
you will be my people.
13 I am the LORD your God, who brought you
out of the land of Egypt so that you would no
longer be slaves to the Egyptians. I broke the
bars of your yoke and enabled you to walk in
uprightness.
14 If, however, you fail to obey me and to carry
out all these commandments,

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* **26:11 26:11** Or *my tabernacle* † **26:11 26:11** Or *despise*; also in verse 30

15 and if you reject my statutes, despise my
ordinances, and neglect to carry out all my
commandments, and so break my covenant,
16 then this is what I will do to you: I will bring
upon you sudden terror, wasting disease, and
fever that will destroy your sight and drain your
life. You will sow your seed in vain, because
your enemies will eat it.
17 And I will set my face against you, so that
you will be defeated by your enemies. Those
who hate you will rule over you, and you will
flee when no one pursues you.
18 And if after all this you will not obey me, I
will proceed to punish you sevenfold for your
sins.
19 I will break down your stubborn pride and
make your sky like iron and your land like
bronze,
20 and your strength will be spent in vain. For
your land will not yield its produce, and the
trees of the land will not bear their fruit.
21 If you walk in hostility toward me and
refuse to obey me, I will multiply your plagues
seven times, according to your sins.
22 I will send wild animals against you to rob
you of your children, destroy your livestock, and
reduce your numbers, until your roads lie
desolate.
23 And if in spite of these things you do not
accept my discipline, but continue to walk in
hostility toward me,
24 then I will act with hostility toward you, and
I will strike you sevenfold for your sins.

25 And I will bring a sword against you to
execute the vengeance of the covenant. Though
you withdraw into your cities, I will send a
plague among you, and you will be delivered
into the hand of the enemy.
26 When I cut off your supply‡ of bread, ten
women will bake your bread in a single oven
and dole out your bread by weight, so that you
will eat but not be satisfied.
27 But if in spite of all this you do not obey me,
but continue to walk in hostility toward me,
28 then I will walk in fury against you, and I,
even I, will punish you sevenfold for your sins.
29 You will eat the flesh of your own sons and
daughters.
30 I will destroy your high places, cut down
your incense altars, and heap your lifeless
bodies on the lifeless remains of your idols; and
I will reject you.
31 I will reduce your cities to rubble and lay
waste your sanctuaries, and I will refuse to
smell the pleasing aroma of your sacrifices.
32 And I will lay waste the land, so that your
enemies who dwell in it will be appalled.
33 But I will scatter you among the nations and
will draw out a sword after you as your land
becomes desolate and your cities are laid waste.
34 Then the land shall enjoy its Sabbaths all
the days it lies desolate, while you are in the
land of your enemies. At that time the land will
rest and enjoy its Sabbaths.

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‡ **26:26 26:26** Hebrew *staff*

35 As long as it lies desolate, the land will have
the rest it did not receive during the Sabbaths
when you lived in it.
36 As for those of you who survive, I will send
a faintness into their hearts in the lands of their
enemies, so that even the sound of a windblown
leaf will put them to flight. And they will flee as
one flees the sword, and fall when no one
pursues them.
37 They will stumble over one another as
before the sword, though no one is behind them.
So you will not be able to stand against your
enemies.
38 You will perish among the nations, and the
land of your enemies will consume you.
39 Those of you who survive in the lands of
your enemies will waste away in their iniquity
and will decay in the sins of their fathers.
40 But if they will confess their iniquity and
that of their fathers in the unfaithfulness that
they practiced against me, by which they have
also walked in hostility toward me—
41 and I acted with hostility toward them and
brought them into the land of their
enemies—and if their uncircumcised hearts will
be humbled and they will make amends for
their iniquity,
42 then I will remember my covenant with
Jacob and my covenant with Isaac and my
covenant with Abraham, and I will remember
the land.
43 For the land will be abandoned by them,
and it will enjoy its Sabbaths by lying desolate
without them. And they will pay the penalty for

their iniquity, because they rejected my
ordinances and abhorred my statutes.

44 Yet in spite of this, when they are in the land
of their enemies, I will not reject or despise them
so as to destroy them and break my covenant
with them; for I am the LORD their God.
45 But for their sake I will remember the
covenant with their fathers, whom I brought out
of the land of Egypt in the sight of the nations,
that I might be their God. I am the LORD."

46 These are the statutes, ordinances, and laws
that the LORD established between himself and
the Israelites through Moses on Mount Sinai.

27

1 Then the LORD said to Moses,
2 "Speak to the Israelites and say to them,
'When someone makes a special vow to the
LORD involving the value of persons,
3 if the valuation concerns a male from twenty
to sixty years of age, then your valuation shall
be fifty shekels of silver,* according to the
sanctuary shekel.†
4 Or if it is a female, then your valuation shall
be thirty shekels.‡

* **27:3 27:3** *50 shekels* is approximately 1.26 pounds or 569.8 grams of silver; also in verse 16. † **27:3 27:3** *A shekel* weighed approximately 0.4 ounces or 11.4 grams; also in verse 25. ‡ **27:4 27:4** *30 shekels* is approximately 12 ounces or 342 grams of silver.

5 And if the person is from five to twenty years
of age, then your valuation for the male shall be
twenty shekels,§ and for the female ten shekels.*
6 Now if the person is from one month to five
years of age, then your valuation for the male
shall be five shekels of silver,† and for the female
three shekels of silver.‡
7 And if the person is sixty years of age or
older, then your valuation shall be fifteen
shekels§ for the male and ten shekels for the
female.
8 But if the one making the vow is too poor to
pay the valuation, he is to present the person*
before the priest, who shall set the value
according to what the one making the vow can
afford.
9 If he vows an animal that may be brought as
an offering to the LORD, any such animal given
to the LORD shall be holy.
10 He must not replace it or exchange it, either
good for bad or bad for good. But if he does
substitute one animal for another, both that
animal and its substitute will be holy.
11 But if the vow involves any of the unclean
animals that may not be brought as an offering

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§ **27:5 27:5** *20 shekels* is approximately 8 ounces or 228 grams of silver. * **27:5 27:5** *10 shekels* is approximately 4 ounces or 114 grams of silver; also in verse 7. † **27:6 27:6** *5 shekels* is approximately 2 ounces or 57 grams of silver. ‡ **27:6 27:6** *3 shekels* is approximately 1.2 ounces or 34.2 grams of silver. § **27:7 27:7** *15 shekels* is approximately 6 ounces or 171 grams of silver. * **27:8 27:8** Or *present himself*

to the LORD, the animal must be presented
before the priest.
12 The priest shall set its value, whether high
or low; as the priest values it, the price will be
set.
13 If, however, the owner decides to redeem
the animal, he must add a fifth to its value.
14 Now if a man consecrates his house as holy
to the LORD, then the priest shall value it either
as good or bad. The price will stand just as the
priest values it.
15 But if he who consecrated his house
redeems it, he must add a fifth to the assessed
value, and it will belong to him.
16 If a man consecrates to the LORD a parcel of
his land, then your valuation shall be
proportional to the seed required for it—fifty
shekels of silver for every homer of barley seed.†
17 If he consecrates his field during the Year of
Jubilee, the price will stand according to your
valuation.
18 But if he consecrates his field after the
Jubilee, the priest is to calculate the price in
proportion to the years left until the next Year of
Jubilee, so that your valuation will be reduced.
19 And if the one who consecrated the field
decides to redeem it, he must add a fifth to the
assessed value, and it shall belong to him.
20 If, however, he does not redeem the field, or
if he has sold it to another man, it may no longer
be redeemed.

† **27:16 27:16** *A homer* is a dry measure of approximately 6.24 bushels or 220 liters (probably about 291 pounds or 132 kilograms of barley seed).

21 When the field is released in the Jubilee, it
will become holy, like a field devoted to the
LORD; it becomes the property of the priests.
22 Now if a man consecrates to the LORD a
field he has purchased, which is not a part of his
own property,
23 then the priest shall calculate for him the
value up to the Year of Jubilee, and the man
shall pay the assessed value on that day as a
sacred offering to the LORD.
24 In the Year of Jubilee the field shall return
to the one from whom it was bought—the
original owner of the land.
25 Every valuation will be according to the
sanctuary shekel, twenty gerahs to the shekel.‡
26 But no one may consecrate a firstborn of the
livestock, because a firstborn belongs to the
LORD. Whether it is an ox or a sheep, it is the
LORD's.
27 But if it is among the unclean animals, then
he may redeem it according to your valuation
and add a fifth of its value. If it is not redeemed,
then it shall be sold according to your valuation.
28 Nothing that a man sets apart§ to the LORD
from all he owns—whether a man, an animal, or
his inherited land—can be sold or redeemed;
everything so devoted is most holy to the LORD.
29 No person set apart for destruction may be
ransomed; he must surely be put to death.

‡ **27:25 27:25** *20 gerahs* is equivalent to one shekel (approximately 0.4 ounces or 11.4 grams). § **27:28 27:28** Forms of the Hebrew *cherem* refer to the giving over of things or persons to the LORD; similarly in verse 29.

30 Thus any tithe from the land, whether from
the seed of the land or the fruit of the trees,
belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.
31 If a man wishes to redeem part of his tithe,
he must add a fifth to its value.
32 Every tenth animal from the herd or flock
that passes under the shepherd's rod will be
holy to the LORD.
33 He must not inspect whether it is good or
bad, and he shall not make any substitution. But
if he does make a substitution, both the animal
and its substitute shall become holy; they cannot
be redeemed.' "
34 These are the commandments that the LORD
gave to Moses for the Israelites on Mount Sinai.

Masoretic English Tanakh

The Tanakh (Law, Prophets, and Writings) of the Holy Bible in English, conformed to the Masoretic Text.

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