

## Leviticus 16-27 Reflection

### Starting Questions:

- What do you think the original author was trying to get across?
- What does the passage say about God/man?
- How does the passage inform my response to God?

These are some of our starting questions, but when we approach Scripture we are often left with additional questions of our own. This is a good thing! Here are a few questions we had while reading. Feel free to answer them, or come up with a few of your own:

 The second half of Leviticus seems to focus much more on practical laws. So we especially want to keep asking good questions that help our minds hunt for the heart of every practice. A good question to always ask is, "What is the underlying principle communicated by this law"?

 Why do some sections of text seem to fit randomly in with their surrounding sections? Notice that the structure of Leviticus is extremely symmetrical for literary contextualization to the ancient culture and because it was meant to contain many elements of a covenant document. When the structure seems random, question it more, because it is probably trying to convey something significant about the heart of the Law.

### Literary Elements (Themes and Repetition):

 **Humility vs. Pride-** Specifically within Leviticus, look for the ways in which God desires complete loyalty to the Lord, which requires a heart of humility. Also, pay attention to the serious measures taken against human pride and arrogance. These laws are all pointing to a need for proper heart posture of worshiping God for who he is.

 **Sabbath rest-** When we trace the Sabbath's original purpose back to the creation story in Genesis 2:1-3, the ESV Study Bible helps make a profound connection: "As reflected in various ancient Near Eastern accounts, divine rest is associated with temple building. God's purpose for the earth is that it should become his dwelling place; it is not simply made to house his creatures." (pg. 52) As you read, keep in mind God's intended completeness of dwelling on earth that will be perfectly satisfied in Jesus.

 **Prayer:** God, thank you for being a God who desires both our heart posture and our actions to align in holiness. God, we pray that in both ways, we would look more like your Son who is the complete reflection of your own holiness. God, I pray that you would lead us to more and more dependence on you in every aspect of our lives.