

LEVITICUS 21 vs 1

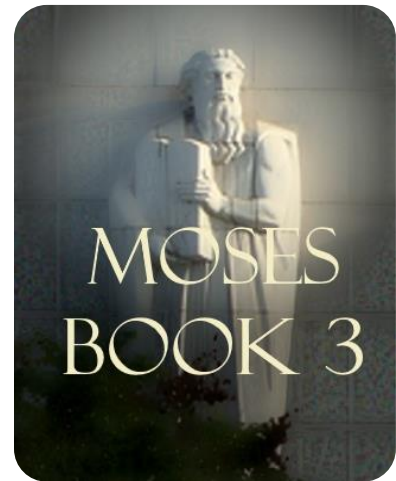
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The book of Leviticus ends with building the first temple in Jerusalem. More than 50 times in this book, we read the Lord spoke to Moses; and they built the temple according to the pattern God gave to Moses. And what is written here is for the benefit of all Israel, literally all who are ruled by God.

Regulations for Conduct of Priests

¹ And the Lord said to Moses, Speak to the priests, the sons of Aaron, and say to them: None will defile himself for the dead among his people, ²except for his relatives who are nearest to him: his mother, his father, his son, his daughter, and his brother; ³also his virgin sister who is near to him, who has had no husband, for her he may defile himself. ⁴Otherwise he will not defile himself, being a chief man among his people, to profane himself.



⁵ They will not make any bald place on their heads, nor will they shave the edges of their beards nor make any cuttings in their flesh. ⁶They will be holy to their God and not profane the name of their God, for they offer the offerings of the Lord made by fire, and the bread of their God; therefore they will be holy. ⁷They will not take a wife who is a prostitute or a defiled woman, nor will they take a woman divorced from her husband; for the priest is holy to his God. ⁸Therefore you will consecrate him, for he offers the bread of your God. He will be holy to you, for I the Lord, who sanctify you, am holy. ⁹The daughter of any priest, if she profanes herself by whoring around, she profanes her father. She will be burned with fire.

¹⁰He who is the high priest among his brethren, on whose head the anointing oil was poured and who is consecrated to wear the garments, will not expose his head nor tear his clothes; ¹¹nor will he go near any dead body, nor defile himself for his father or his mother; ¹²nor will he go out of the sanctuary, nor profane the sanctuary of his God; for the consecration of the anointing oil of his God is upon him: I am the Lord. ¹³And he will take a wife in her virginity. ¹⁴A widow or a divorced woman or a defiled woman or a harlot -- these he will not marry; but he will take a virgin of his own people as wife.

¹⁵Nor will he profane his posterity among his people, for I the Lord sanctify him. ¹⁶And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ¹⁷Speak to Aaron, saying: No man of your descendants in succeeding generations, who has any defect, may approach to offer the bread of his God. ¹⁸For any man who has a defect will not approach: a man blind or lame, who has a marred face or any limb too long, ¹⁹a man who has a broken foot or broken hand, ²⁰or is a hunchback or a dwarf, or a man who has a defect in his eye, or eczema or scab, or is a eunuch. ²¹No man of the descendants of Aaron the priest, who has a defect, will come near to offer the offerings made by fire to the Lord. He has a defect; he will not come near to offer the bread of his God.

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²² He may eat the bread of his God, both the most holy and the holy; ²³ only he will not go near the veil or approach the altar, because he has a defect, lest he profane My sanctuaries; for I the Lord sanctify them. ²⁴ And Moses told it to Aaron and his sons, and to all the children of Israel.

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