

Leviticus 24- Tabernacle, Blasphemy, Justice.

1. (1-4) Care of the Tabernacle Lamps.

The Lamp in the Tabernacle - standing on the solid gold lampstand – was the only source of light in the Tabernacle. They had to be tended to continually, supplied with pure Olive Oil and trimmed wicks, so they would continually give light.

John 8:12 – *Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.”*

Matthew 5:14-16 - *“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. “Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*

2. (5-9) Tabernacle Bread.

This Bread of the Tabernacle speaks of a continuous fellowship and communion with God.

John 6:33-35 - *“For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” Then they said to Him, “Lord, give us this bread always.” And Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.*

3. (10-16, 23) Blasphemy Punished.

He committed the crime of *blasphemy*, which is to speak against God’s Person and character.

Deuteronomy 17:6-7 - *“Whoever is deserving of death shall be put to death on the testimony of two or three witnesses; he shall not be put to death on the testimony of one witness.*

Revelation 13:6 - *Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.*

4. (17-22) Provisions for Law and Order.

God Himself instituted the death penalty as punishment against murder.

If one killed an animal they had to restore with another animal.

If one causes any harm or loss (fracture, eye, tooth) against another, in return they had to suffer the same. The victim was not supposed to revenge, the Judges/Priests were the only ones with that authority.

Leviticus 19:18 - *'You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.*

- Revenge extends the conflict. Revenge doesn't put the issue to rest. It causes the issue to continue. Imagine if the other person then seeks his own retribution. Where does it end?
- Revenge won't make you feel better in the long run. Revenge is satisfying for a few minutes, but nothing has really changed. Whatever was done to upset you still exists. You can't go back in time and alter the course of your history.
- Revenge isn't free. There is always a cost. The subsequent actions of the other person may cost you. You can lose sleep, your self-respect, or even your freedom if you take things too far.
- Revenge prolongs the pain. Time can heal all wounds, but only if you don't reopen them. Allow your wounds to heal by moving on. Giving the situation too much attention only makes you more miserable and prolongs your misery.

Matthew 5:38-42 - *"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. 'If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. 'And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. 'Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.*

Romans 12:17-21 - Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, "*Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*" says the Lord. Therefore "*If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.*" Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.