

Leviticus

In 5 Minutes

12

When:

- Leviticus picks up where Exodus left off. The children of Israel are on their way through the wilderness to the Canaan land.
- According to Leviticus 8, the Tabernacle had already been erected, which would place the year at approximately 1490 B.C. (one year after the Israelites left Egypt).

Definitions:

- Turtledove - The turtledove is a small species of dove which gets its name from the sound of its call. They average around 140 grams and are smaller than the mourning dove and common pigeon.

Application:

- This chapter is relevant to the events surrounding Jesus' birth.
- Luke 2:22-24 appears to suggest that after giving birth to Jesus, Mary went to Jerusalem to offer two birds as sacrifices for her purification.
- Jesus didn't come from a wealthy family.
- Isn't it amazing that God came to earth and chose a place amongst the poor?!
- "What a glimpse into our Master's humiliation! He owned the cattle on a thousand hills, yet He so emptied Himself that His parents were compelled to bring the poorest offering the law allowed. He stooped that we might rise; emptied Himself that we might be full; became poor that we might be made rich" (F.B. Meyer).

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Outline:

- THE DAYS OF PURIFICATION FOR A WOMAN WHO BORE A SON (12:1-4):
 - + If a woman bore a male child, she was considered unclean for 7 days.
 - + On the eighth day, her son was to be circumcised.
 - + She was then to complete 33 more days of “purifying” before she was allowed to touch anything holy or come to the Tabernacle.
- THE DAYS OF PURIFICATION FOR A WOMAN WHO BORE A DAUGHTER (12:5):
 - + If a woman bore a female child, she was considered unclean for 14 days.
 - + Following the 14 days, she was to complete 66 days of purification.
- SACRIFICES FOLLOWING THE DAYS OF PURIFICATION (12:6-8):
 - + When the days of purification were complete the woman was to bring a year-old lamb to the Tabernacle for a burnt offering and a pigeon or turtle dove for a sin offering.
 - + The sacrifices would act as an atonement for her and the purification process would be complete.
 - + If the woman came from a poor family, she was allowed to bring two turtle doves or two pigeons (a bird in place of the lamb).

