

# Leviticus

In 5 Minutes

# 18

## 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:

- Molech – The name Molech appears several times in the Bible and Molech is called the “abomination of the Ammonites” in 1 Kings. Molech was a false god worshiped by the Canaanites. The worship of Molech involved burning children as sacrifices to him (2 Kings 23:10). Any Israelite who offered their child as a sacrifice to Molech was to be put to death by stoning (Lev 20:2).

## Application:

- Evidently, there is a tipping point of wickedness a nation must not surpass if they hope to remain successful.
- Interestingly, when God promised the country of Canaan to Abraham, He was waiting for the Canaanites to reach a level of wickedness at which He would pour out His judgement.
- God told Abraham he would give Canaan to his descendants when the “iniquity of the Amorites” was complete (Genesis 15:16).
- This gives us some insight into how God governs the nations of the world.
- As one nation is filling their cup of iniquity, God may be raising up another nation to overthrow them.
- The earth, which is under God’s direction, will eventually vomit out those who multiply perverseness on it.
- A land that once flourished for the provision and protection of a nation will grow sick of the poison of sin and vomit out the pollutants (Romans 8:19-21).
- God limits how long and how severely a nation can persist in wickedness before He humbles its leaders and its inhabitants.

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## Outline:

### - LAWS ABOUT SEXUAL RELATIONSHIPS (18:1-30):

- + The Israelite's morality wasn't to be based on that of the Egyptians or the Canaanites, rather they were to live according to God's statutes.
- + One way God wanted them to be distinct was in their sexual relationships. He didn't want the immorality of the pagan nations to be embraced by the Hebrews.
- + The Israelites were forbidden from having sexual relationships with close relatives.
- + A person was not to "uncover the nakedness" of their mother, step-mother, sister, step-sister, granddaughter, aunt, daughter-in-law, or sister-in-law.
- + A man was not to have a sexual relationship with a woman and her daughter or a woman and her granddaughter.
- + A man was not allowed to marry two sisters.
- + A man could not have sex with a woman when she was menstruating.
- + Men were not to sleep with their neighbor's wives.
- + If a child was conceived through sexual union, the Israelites were prohibited from offering the child to Molech, to do so was to profane the name of God.
- + Homosexual relationships were forbidden as an "abomination."
- + Bestiality (sexual relationship between a human and animal) was condemned as a "perversion."
- + God told the Israelites He would give them the land of Canaan and the land would vomit out its current inhabitants because they practiced all these wicked sexual sins.
- + God gave them these laws so they wouldn't make themselves unclean and suffer the same fate.

