

Handout 1: Leviticus Lesson 13

The ten blessings for covenant obedience:

1. Rain will come at the right time needed to grow crops.
2. The soil will be fertile and yield crops and fruit trees will yield fruit.
3. Harvests will be plentiful and they will always have enough to eat.
4. They will live secure in the land and will have peace.
5. God will rid the land of beasts of prey.
6. Enemy armies will not conquer the land.
7. When Israel fights her enemies she will be victorious.
8. The numbers of their people will increase.
9. God will uphold His covenant.
10. God will continue to dwell among His people.

Recalling the events in the Book of Genesis has been a major theme in the book of Leviticus. God's promised protection against the sufferings that are part of a sinful world recall the conditions of divine protection Adam and Eve experienced in Eden. There are seven points of comparison:

Blessings for Obedience to the Sinai Covenant	God's Original Blessings in Genesis
1. <i>I shall give you the rain you need at the right time (Lev 26:4a)</i>	<i>... water flowed out of the ground and watered all the surface of the soil (Gen 2:6)</i>
2. <i>... the soil will yield its produce and the trees of the countryside their fruit (Lev 26:4)</i>	<i>From the soil, Yahweh God caused to grow every kind of tree, enticing to look at and good to eat ... (Gen 2:9)</i>
3. <i>You will eat your fill of bread and live secure in your land (Lev 26:5b).</i>	<i>Look, to you I give all the seed-bearing plants everywhere on the surface of the earth, and all the trees with seed-bearing fruit; this will be your food (Gen 1:29). Then Yahweh God gave man this command, 'You are free to eat of all the trees in the garden. But the tree of knowledge of good and evil you are not to eat ... (Gen 2:16-17).</i>
4. <i>I shall give you peace in the land ... I shall rid the land of savage beasts of prey (Lev 26:6).</i>	<i>... and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild animals and all the creatures that creep along the ground (Gen 1:26).</i>
5. <i>... I shall make you fertile and make your numbers grow... (Lev 26:9).</i>	<i>God blessed them, saying to them, 'Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and subdue it (Gen 1:28).</i>
6. <i>I will fix my home [dwelling] among you and never reject you (Lev 26:11).</i>	<i>God planted a garden in Eden ... and there he put the man he had fashioned (Gen 2:8).</i>
7. <i>I shall live [walk] among you; I shall be your God and you will be my people ... (Lev 26:12).</i>	<i>The man and his wife heard the sound of Yahweh God walking in the garden ... (Gen 3:8).</i>
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Handout 2: Leviticus Lesson 13

The Fulfillment of the Five Woes of Leviticus 26 Biblically and Historically		
The Five Woes of Leviticus Chapter 26:14-46	The Covenant Judgments of Leviticus 26 Fulfilled	Jesus' Prophecy of the Destruction of Jerusalem and the Prophecy Fulfilled in 70 AD
Woe #1: Disease, raids by the enemy, war	War with Philistines (1 Sam); civil war (1 Kng 12); Egyptian invasion (1 Kng 14:25-26); Moabite war (1 Kng 3:4-27); Aramaean wars (2 Kng 6-13)	Mt 24:6: <i>You will hear of wars and rumours of wars... For nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.</i>
Woe #2: No rain, no crops, famine	Famine, no rain or crops (Ruth 1:1; 2 Sam 21:1; 1 Kng 17:1, 18:2; 2 Kng 6:25-7:20; 8:1; Amos 8:11; etc.)	Mt 24:7: <i>There will be famines</i>
Woe #3: Wild beasts in the land, no trade	Wild beasts in Israel (1 Kng 17:25-26; Jer 27:6)	
Woe #4: War, pestilence, conquest.	Assyrian wars of conquest; Israel becomes a vassal state (2 Kng 15:29-31)	-Mt 24:6-7; Jews massacred in Caesarea and Alexandria; Jewish revolt against Rome begins in 66 AD
Woe #5: War, death, cities destroyed, -Enemies living in your country will be appalled -Cannibalism -Sanctuary destroyed; conquest by another nation -The people exiled and scattered among the nations of the earth -The country will rest	-Aramaean wars -Assyrian conquest of Israel in 722 BC -Immigrants came to inhabit Israel (1 Kng 17:24) -Cannibalism during the siege of Samaria (2 Kng 6:26-30) The "yoke" of Babylonian conquest (Jer 27:6-11) -Temple destroyed 9 th of Ab 587/6 BC by Babylonians -The people of Israel scattered among the nations; Judah exiled to Babylon -No Judeans or immigrants inhabited Judah after the Babylonian conquest; land at rest (Jer 43:4-7; 52:28-30; 2 Chr 36:21)	-Mt 24:6-7; Mk 7-8, 13:12-13 (wars) -Romans sent four legions against Judea 68-70 AD -People ate their children during the siege of Jerusalem in the spring of 70 AD (<i>The War of the Jews</i> 6.3.4). -Mt 24:2; Mk 13:2; Temple destroyed by Romans 9 th of Ab 70 AD -Romans enslaved Jews and sent them into the nations of the Roman Empire (Josephus, <i>The Wars of the Jews</i> 6.5.3).
Conclusion: The promise of restoration All blessings and judgments in Lev 26 are temporal	-No restoration of Northern Israel; Judah restored when Cyrus of Persia allowed the exiles to return to their ancestral lands in 538 BC (2 Chr 36:22-23; Ezra 1:1-4) -The United Nations recreated the secular nation of Israel in 1947; Jews scattered across the earth begin migrating to the modern state of Israel.	The spiritual restoration of the new Israel is the (universal) Catholic Church in which Jews and Gentiles become one people in Christ (the progeny of Abraham) in the New Covenant based on eternal blessings and eternal judgments.
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