

We will now begin the thirteenth lecture on the Book of Leviticus. /We will begin with Leviticus 25:27. /God told the people that they were not to sell land.

/Read verse 23. /""The land must not be sold permanently, because the land is mine and you are but aliens and my tenants.

/God said that they were not to permanently sell their land. /However, verse 25 says that they sold some of their property. /A man sold his land because he was poor.

/God said that they were not to permanently sell their land, but a man sold his land. /If he earned money, he was to re-purchase that land and redeem his property. /If he did not have money, what he sold would remain in the possession of the buyer.

/There were close relatives or brothers. /Any of them who had money would pay for the land, and the land would be restored.

/Third, what happened if there was no one pay for the land?

/Verse 28 says that he was to wait until the Year of Jubilee, and then his property would be returned to him then. /All property was returned to its owner in the Year of Jubilee.

/From verse 29, it speaks about the problem of buying and selling land. /There was a man who sold his house in a walled city. /If he retained the right of redemption within a year after he sold the house, it could be redeemed.

/What happened if it was not redeemed within one year of its sale? /Then the house would become property of the buyer. /The house would then be passed down to the buyer's descendants. /It would not be returned in the Year of Jubilee.

/In verse 31, there was a house, not inside the city, but outside the walled city. /The houses there included the land. /Houses with land /were to be returned to its owner at the Year of Jubilee.

/What were the Levites to do when buying and selling houses? /The Levites were allowed to sell their property when they became poor.

/However, even if the Levites did not redeem their property, their property would be returned to them in the Year of Jubilee. /It was returned to them in the Jubilee.

/In verse 35, what were the brothers who became poor and weak supposed to do? /The people were to help them. /We must help our brothers.

/Who are our brothers today? /Who are our closest neighbors? /The Bible says, "Love your neighbors." /Who do you consider to be your neighbors?

/First, Jesus Christ is your neighbor. /Second, who do neighbors refer to? /They refer to

brothers and sisters in Christ. /They are our neighbors.

/Next, it refers to our fleshly brothers and sisters. /Who must we help first? /We must first help the brothers in faith. /This does not mean that we must not help those who live far away.

/We have the responsibility to look after our brothers in faith who are near us. /We must help them so that they could make a living.

/When they are unable to work, not because they are lazy, /but because they are old /or ill, /or are suddenly poverty-stricken, /we must help them.

/Verse 37 says, do not accept interest from them. /God told the Israelites not to accept interest when lending and borrowing money. /“Do not take interest of any kind from him.”

/Can you do that today? /Do you not accept interest from your fellow believers? /“There are no such laws.” /“I must receive interest.”

/We can receive interest today. /We cannot say that everyone who accepts interest is wrong. /It is acceptable today to receive an amount of interest similar to bank interests.

/Still, it would be better to lend money without asking for interest. /It is the same when borrowing food. /There must not be any interest when lending and borrowing food.

/God told them to remember his guidance when they left the land of Egypt. /God gave the Israelites food to eat while they were slaves in Egypt.

/God then continued to give them food when they went through the wilderness. /How much water and bread did they need? /Let's calculate.

/There were over 2,000,000 people. /It can be calculated that the distance between the first person and the last person walking was a day's distance. /How much food would all these people have needed?

/Let's say that one person ate 500 grams of food each meal. /They ate three meals a day. /How much did they eat? /How much water did they need to drink?

/Where did God bring them water from? /God unceasingly gave them water and food for forty years. /We also did not come into this world with anything.

/It is right for us to help our brothers with love when they need help. /There was a brother who became poor and sold himself to you. /He was poor and became a slave.

/Verse 39 says that they were not to treat him like a slave. /He would return to his home at the Year of Jubilee. /He was a fellow believer and child of God. /He was to be sent

back home.

/He was not to be sold again as a slave. /He was not to be treated harshly. /We must fear God. /God sees everything. /There were male and female slaves, and where were the people to get them from?

/They were to bring male and female slaves from surrounding nations. /The people were allowed to buy male and female slaves. /However, they were to be careful when dealing with them.

/What were they to do if a temporary resident became a slave? /“They will become your property.” /This is what God said. /However, the people were not to rule over their fellow Israelite ruthlessly.

/Verse 47. /“If an alien or a temporary resident among you becomes rich and one of your countrymen becomes poor and sells himself to the alien living among you or to a member of the alien's clan,

/A man who was not an Israelites became rich. /There were many people at the time who were not Israelites. /They were people who followed the Israelites when they left Egypt.

/There were also inhabitants of Canaan who followed the Israelites. /The aliens became rich through business.

/The aliens took Israelites as their slaves. /What were they to do in such cases? /The Israelites became slaves, and the aliens became their masters.

/First, the aliens were not allowed to treat the Israelites harshly. /They were not to treat the Israelites harshly. /If there was a relative among them who could redeem them, he was to quickly redeem the Israelite slave.

/They were to pay the price for the slave. /Third, the Israelite slave was to be returned at the Year of Jubilee. /The aliens were required to keep this law because they lived among the Israelites.

/If the Israelite prospered, he could redeem himself, /or his brother or uncle could redeem him, /or ultimately, he would return at the Year of Jubilee. /1 Timothy 5:8.

/There are people who do not look after their families and relatives. /They are people who rejected their faith. /They are more wicked than unbelievers. /There are believers who do not look after their parents /or brothers.

/We must honor our parents. /We must make sure that our parents are at peace. /This is very important. /We must also help our parents with materials. /This is an unquestionable deed. /Our parents raised us. /It is natural that we repay our parents. /This is God's command.

/We will continue with chapter 26. /Here it speaks about God's commands.

/Read verse 1. /""Do not make idols or set up an image or a sacred stone for yourselves, and do not place a carved stone in your land to bow down before it. I am the LORD your God.

/"Do not make idols for yourselves." /"Do not make idols for yourselves." /Then, can we make idols for God? /That would not make sense.

/"Do not make idols." /This is included in the first commandment. /"Do not set up an image or a sacred stone for yourselves." /This is included in the second commandment. /The second commandment says, "You shall not make for yourself an idol."

/The second commandment says that we must not make idols. /It says that we must not bow before idols. /What does it mean to bow before something? /There are people who bow before idols. /The people were not to submit to this.

/They were not to be dominated by idols. /We do not serve idols today. /However, there are idols within us. /These are called spiritual idols. /They are things that we love more than God.

/We love people more than God, /and we can love our wives or husbands more than God. /We love our children more than God, /and we are more controlled by things other than God.

/There are certain powers, /people, /and jobs that dominate our lives. /If we are controlled by things other than God, they are all spiritual idols. /"Do not bow down before idols." /"I am the LORD your God."

/Verse 2 says to observe the Sabbath. /"Observe my Sabbaths." /This is the fourth commandment. /The fourth commandment is a command for this generation. /Churches around the world do not observe the fourth commandment.

/We studied the commandment about the Sabbath during our last lecture. /We must keep the Sabbath. /Why must we keep the Sabbath? /It is God's command, and it pleases God. /Someone said something like this.

/"That is a command of the Old Testament." /"Keeping the Sabbath /is legalism." /However, keeping the Sabbath is not legalism. /What is legalism?

/Legalism is the belief that one is saved by keeping the Law. /We do not observe the Sabbath, Sundays, so that we would be saved. /Today in the New Testament period, we must keep Sundays holy. Why do we observe Sundays?

/It is because it pleases God. /Let's take a look at an example. /There was a son. /He

obeyed his father well. /He was a good son. /There was another son who did not obey his father.

/The father said, “You are not my son.” /Then, does that not make him his father’s son? /He is still his father’s son. /Then what son makes his father happy? /We are God’s children.

/We are God’s children, whether we keep the commands well or don’t. /We must be children who are suitable to receive God’s grace. /We keep the commands with thanksgiving for the grace of salvation.

/1 John 5:3. /“His commands are not burdensome.” /The commands are burdensome to us because we do not love God. /Keeping the commands becomes joyful when we love God.

/Have you ever been in love with someone? /We want to give everything to the person we love. /We want to meet them even if we are tired. /We want to give them the best presents.

/Why do we do this? /It is because we love them. /We want to listen to their needs. /Do we love God? /Why don’t we listen to what God asks of us?

/Does God have the responsibility to bless us? /Is God required to bless us? /We ask God. /“Give us blessings.” /“Let us succeed.”

/“Let me become rich.” /Does God owe you anything? /What do we do for God? /We have closed up our ears. /We ignore God’s requests.

/Believers do not read the Bible. /Believers do not know what God is saying to them. /Do your churches have screens?

/There are churches that have them and churches that do not. /Even if there are screens, bring your Bibles. /If you are a pastor, /try giving your sermon without using the screens. /It is okay for churches not to have screens.

/God’s word is preached through man. /God’s word is delivered through the expressions /and words of the preacher. /Use screens for good things. /We must not be deceived by the devil’s schemes. /Many children in Sunday schools today do not bring their Bibles to church.

/Some adults do not bring their Bibles to church. /The Bible is becoming a symbolic item. /What does God tell us? /“Read the Bible.”

/Revelation 1:3. /There are blessed people. /There are people who read the Bible. /There are people who hear. /There are people who keep the Bible. /Teach God’s word to your children. /Continuously teach the Bible.

/Teach it to your children when they stand, /when they sit, /when they walk down the street. /Do you emphasize school work to your children?

/Some parents tell their children, “Read the Bible later because you are busy with school work.” /“Don’t go to school on Sunday because your exams are coming up.” /Is this right? /Are you a child of God?

/We must beat our chests and repent. /We must observe Sundays today. /“Have reverence for my sanctuary.” /“I am the LORD.” /This is written in the Old Testament. /The authority of the Old and New Testaments are alike. /The Bible is God’s word. /This applies to the New Testament period as well.

/Verses 3-4. /“If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees of the field their fruit.

/God said the following. /“If you follow my decrees /and are careful to obey my commands.” /“I will send you rain in its season.” /The “rain” symbolizes grace that God gives us.

/This can be seen as spiritual grace. /God continuously pours out his amazing grace on us. /The “rain” can also be seen as happiness that man desires.

/It means that we are satisfied with the Lord. /Our desires are fulfilled. /There is joy. /There is pleasure. /There is happiness. /God gives us such grace. /God also increases our crops.

/Everyone works hard. /I am not the only one who works hard. /You are not the only ones who work hard. /Competition in society is fierce. /God will increase our crops.

/God said that the trees in the field would bear fruit. /God would make all things well. /We can only be successful if God makes things well for us.

/Verse 5 says that God would keep us safe. /The rich are anxious. /Will robbers come? /Will thieves come? /Will someone steal my inheritance? /However, God will protect us.

/The Lord protects us. /Verse 6 says that God will grant us peace. /We will have peace when we lie down. /God will remove all savage beasts. /The “beasts” here refer to people are like beasts.

/There are people who are tough like beasts. /There are scary people around us. /God will remove all people who are like beasts. /God will also protect us so that the sword will not come near us.

/The Lord chases away all enemies, /and He makes our enemies fall. /“Five of you will chase a hundred, /and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand.” /Five people will defeat

a hundred people. /A hundred people will defeat ten thousand people.

/Is this calculation wrong? /Why do you say that a hundred people will defeat ten thousand people? /When we believe in the power of God, his power will be greatly displayed before us. /God will protect us and we will be fruitful.

/“You will increase in number.” /“You will still be eating last year’s harvest when you will have to move it out to make room for the new.” /“I will delight in you.” /“You will be my people.” /Why does God give such blessings?

/Why does God give us such blessings? /Verses 1-2. /“Do not worship idols.” /“Observe the Sabbath.” /Read Ezekiel and Jeremiah carefully.

/The Israelites were destroyed because of two sins. /I’m sure you know what they are. /The Israelites were destroyed because they worshipped idols and did not keep the Sabbath. /We must not forget this. /How frightening is this?

/Doesn’t everyone in this generation serve idols? /Anything that they love more than God /and are controlled by more than God is an idol.

/They do not keep the Sabbath. /Believers do not keep Sundays holy. /Why do you attend worship on Sundays? /We get tired /and want to rest. /“Let’s go to church to show the pastor that we came to church.”

/“I need to go to church /so that the pastors doesn’t call /or visit me.” /Sunday is the Lord’s Day. /It is a day to serve God. /We receive God’s grace /during worship.

/All our problems are solved during worship. /When the Israelites gave offerings, /their problems were solved. /Do not give up such a valuable time.

/This is the way your children can succeed. /Read chapter 26 again. /Remember verses 1-2. /These are verses that you must carve onto your hearts. /Then you will be well. /The Lord will pour out his blessings.

/God is the source of all blessings. /What happens if we disobey? /If we disobey the Lord, /do not obey his commands /and reject his regulations, /our hearts will reject the Lord’s commands and there will be calamity.

/We will be punished /if we disobey the Lord’s commands. /“There will be sudden terror.” /“You will be punished by wasting diseases and fevers.” /“Your eyes will grow dark, /and your life will be drained from you.” /“You will plant seed in vain.”

/“Your enemies will eat your seed.” /“I will set my face against you.” /“You will be defeated by your enemies.” /“Those who hate you will rule over you.”

/“You will flee even when no one is pursuing you.” /“If you will not listen to me, /I will

punish you for your sins seven times over.” /Then God said the following.

/Verse 19. /I will break down your stubborn pride and make the sky above you like iron and the ground beneath you like bronze.

/Why don’t we obey God’s word? /What do you think about yourselves? /Why do you think we do not obey God’s word? /Believers say, /“My heart wants to, but my body is weak.”

/This is understandable. /However, what does the Bible say? /We disobey God’s word because we are arrogant. /We cannot obey God’s word if we are arrogant.

/“The sky will become like iron, /and the ground beneath you will be like bronze.” /“No one will help you.” /We listen to God’s word. /We serve diligently. /We pray diligently. /We diligently sing praises.

/We serve diligently at church. /Did someone force you to do any of these things? /Did someone tell you to do any of these things? /What do you think about God’s commands? /“It is burdensome.” /“I don’t have time to do all these things.”

/Then why do you serve? /We say, “Give me blessings.” /“Please bless me.” /When we believe as we disobey, it is similar to worshipping idols. /We call this type of faith, inconsistent faith.

/We must not serve God /as if we serve idols /and like people who serve idols. /We must obey God’s word. /We must read God’s word concretely.

/Let’s say that a person you love wrote you a letter. /How much would our hearts beat when we open the letter? /“What does this person want to say to me?” /How excited would we be as we read the letter?

/We would be able to feel the person’s love. /God recorded his word. /“Read God’s recorded word.” /“Read it carefully.” /“What does God require of me?”

/“How can we make God happy?” /“If in spite of these things you do not accept my correction /but continue to be hostile toward me, /I myself will be hostile toward you and will afflict you for your sins seven times over.”

/Verse 21. /Could Israel be restored? /Why were they so stubborn? /We have children who are like the following. /There are children who are scolded by their moms, /scolded by their dads, /and do not listen even after they are punished.

/They are very stubborn. /They do not listen. /What happens to them if they grow up and continue not to listen? /We know what happens to them. /Children who do not listen to their parents will surely fail.

/Even the people of the world know this. /Such children will live however they want to. /
They will do anything they want. /They will live debauched and lazy lives.

/They will live however they want to. /What must we do as God's children? /In verse 22,
it says that God would send wild animals. /God could literally send wild animals. /God
can also send people who are like wild animals.

/They will take away our children. /They will destroy your cattle. /They will make you
few in number. /All roads will be deserted. /There will be no people or animals. /All will
disappear.

/All of Israel's inheritance will be no more. /The Israel continued to disobey God, there
would be disaster. /Verse 23. /God would strike Israel for their sins seven times over.

/God's discipline is terrifying. /Nothing in our lives happen coincidentally. /God sends
wasting diseases. /All our food will be cut off. /We will eat and not be satisfied.

/If we still do not obey after all these take place, /God will afflict us for our sins seven
times over. /Verse 29 says, "You will eat the flesh of your sons." /"You will eat the flesh
of your daughters."

/These things actually happened in history. /There was a woman who became pregnant. /
She secretly gave birth to the child. /She then secretly ate her child.

/Such terrible things happen because /people get too hungry. /God said in verse 30, "I
will destroy your high places." /"I will cut down your incense altars." /"I will pile your
dead bodies on the lifeless forms of your idols." /"I will abhor you."

/Verse 31 says, cities will turn into ruins, /and the sanctuaries will become deserted. /"I
will take no delight in the pleasing aroma of your offerings." /Those who do not obey
God will give offerings to God.

/Isaiah 1:11, 12. /God said, "The multitude of your sacrifices — what are they to
me?" /"Who has asked this of you?" /"You trample on my courts."

/Israel said that they loved God with their lips, but their hearts were far from God. /The
same can be said about us today. /"I love God." /"I love God's word."

/Obey God's word. /If you do not want to obey, /you do not love God. /That shows that
you only love God with your lips. /Verse 33 says, "I will scatter you among the nations."

/"Your land will be laid waste." /Punishments continue to be listed here. /Does God only
give punishments? /Our God does not only punish and fail to give blessings.

/God punishes us and then comforts us, and God shows mercy in the midst of his wrath. /
Therefore, we must repent of our sins, and we must obey God's commands so that we

may receive blessings.

/We will end today's studies at Leviticus 26:33. /Thank you.