

**The Book of Leviticus:
Why It Matters to Christians
“Promises and Warnings”
Leviticus 26**



Leviticus

Week	Date	Topic
1	Oct 1	Leviticus Introduction
2	Oct 8	Sacrifices: Leviticus 1-7
3	Oct 15	Priesthood of Aaron: Leviticus 8-10
4	Oct 22	Ritual Cleanliness: Leviticus 11-15
5	Oct 29	Day of Atonement: Leviticus 16
6	Nov 5	Holiness of Conduct: Leviticus 17-20
7	Nov 12	Holiness of Priests: Leviticus 21-22
8	Nov 19	Sabbath and Feasts: Leviticus 23
9	Nov 26	Preparation and Punishments: Leviticus 24
10	Dec 3	Sanctification of the Land: Leviticus 25
11	Dec 10	Promises and Warnings: Leviticus 26
12	Dec 17	Vows and Redemption of Tithes: Leviticus 27
13	Dec 24	Summary class

Today's Key Points

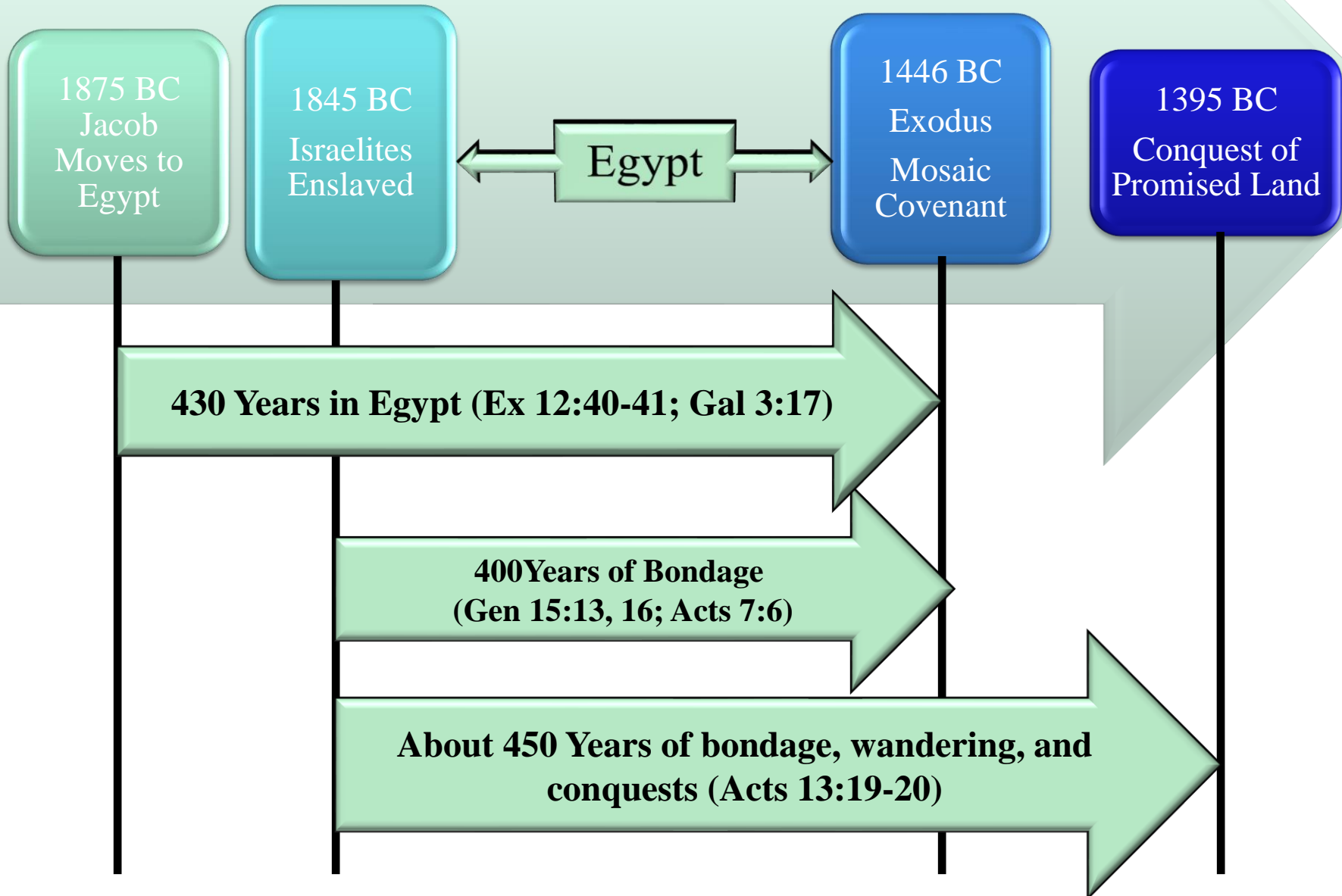
- Review last week's lesson
- God's blessing to Israel was conditioned upon obedience to His word
- Disobedience would bring divine chastisement and removal of the blessing
- Persistent disobedience would bring increasingly severe punishment
- Repentance would restore the disobedient to the divine blessing

Last week

- Reviewed previous weeks lesson concerning the lamps, bread, and retribution
- Learned about the sabbatical seventh year
- Learned about the 50th year of the jubilee and it's importance to the less fortunate in Israel
- Saw how the year of jubilee was observed
- Learned about the kinsman redeemer
- Examples of kinsman redeemers are found in the book of Ruth and Job
- Jesus as our kinsman redeemer



Early Israelite Timeline



Overview of Chapter 26

- Introduction to the final conditions of the covenant (vs. 1-2)
- Blessings for adherence to the law (vs. 3-13)
- Warnings for violating the law and various levels of punishment (vs. 14-33)
- Purpose of God's judgment as it related to the land and to the nation of Israel (vs. 34-46)

Introduction (26:1-2)

- Two fundamental commandments introduced
 - Negative – no idols or images that you worship
 - Positive – Observe the Sabbath, have reverence for God and observe the sanctuary
- Two conditions of the covenant
 - Israel first broke the covenant through idolatry
 - Sabbath was as sign of Israel's covenant relationship with God

Blessings for Obeying (26:3-13)

- Benefits of faithful obedience to the law
 - Fruitful harvest (vs. 4-5)
 - Security and peace (vs. 6)
 - Victory in battle (vs. 7-8)
 - Numerical growth as a nation (vs. 9)
- Obedience meant increased fellowship with God
 - God's dwelling place (vs. 11)
 - God's presence in the most holy place is the Hebrew word Shekinah, derived from the Hebrew word for dwelling
- Blessing portrayed two ways
 - Materially (vs. 3-10)
 - Spiritually (vs. 11-13)

Warning for Disobeying (26:14-33)

- Punishment would come to Israel if they disregarded the law (vs. 14-15)
- Moses describes five waves of punishment
 - Disease, seeds that do not produce, and defeat by enemies (vs. 16)
 - Barren land (vs. 18-20)
 - Divine extermination of cattle and children (vs. 21-22)
 - War, plagues, and famine (vs. 23-26)
 - Destruction of Israelite families, idolatrous practices, idolatrous places of worship, land and nation through dispersion
- As we read the remainder of the OT, we see all of these things happened as Israel ignored the covenant

God's Discipline (26:34-46)

- God discipline intended to drive Israel to repent
 - Israel fails to observe the Sabbatical years (vs. 34-39)
 - Repentance is accompanied by confession of sin
- God's discipline could be restrained
 - By confession through humility (vs. 40-41)
 - Apostasy and resulting judgment would not invalidate God's promises to Abraham (vs. 42-45)
 - Discipline was a stage in dealing with Abraham's seed, but he would not reject them or cut them off as a nation
 - Abrahamic Covenant was unconditional in nature
- Conclusion of all the Mosaic Covenant legislation found in Exodus 25 (vs. 46)

Leviticus 26 and the New Testament

- Hebrews 12:1-13
 - Cast off everything that hinders us
 - God disciplines those whom He loves
 - He corrects those that he accepts as His children
- Romans 11
 - God did not reject His people
 - Covenant was not invalidated by Israel's unbelief
 - Because of Israel's transgression, salvation came
 - Continued kindness to those who continue in kindness to God

Review

- Reviewed last weeks lesson concerning the Sabbath and the year of jubilee
- God's blessing to Israel were conditioned upon obedience to His word
- Disobedience would bring divine chastisement and removal of the blessing
- Persistent disobedience would bring increasingly severe punishment
- Repentance would restore the disobedient to the divine blessing
- Next week: Meet in auditorium, two weeks: Leviticus 27 and a review