

**The Book of Leviticus:
Why It Matters to Christians**

**“Laws Concerning Vows and
Redemption”**

Leviticus 27



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

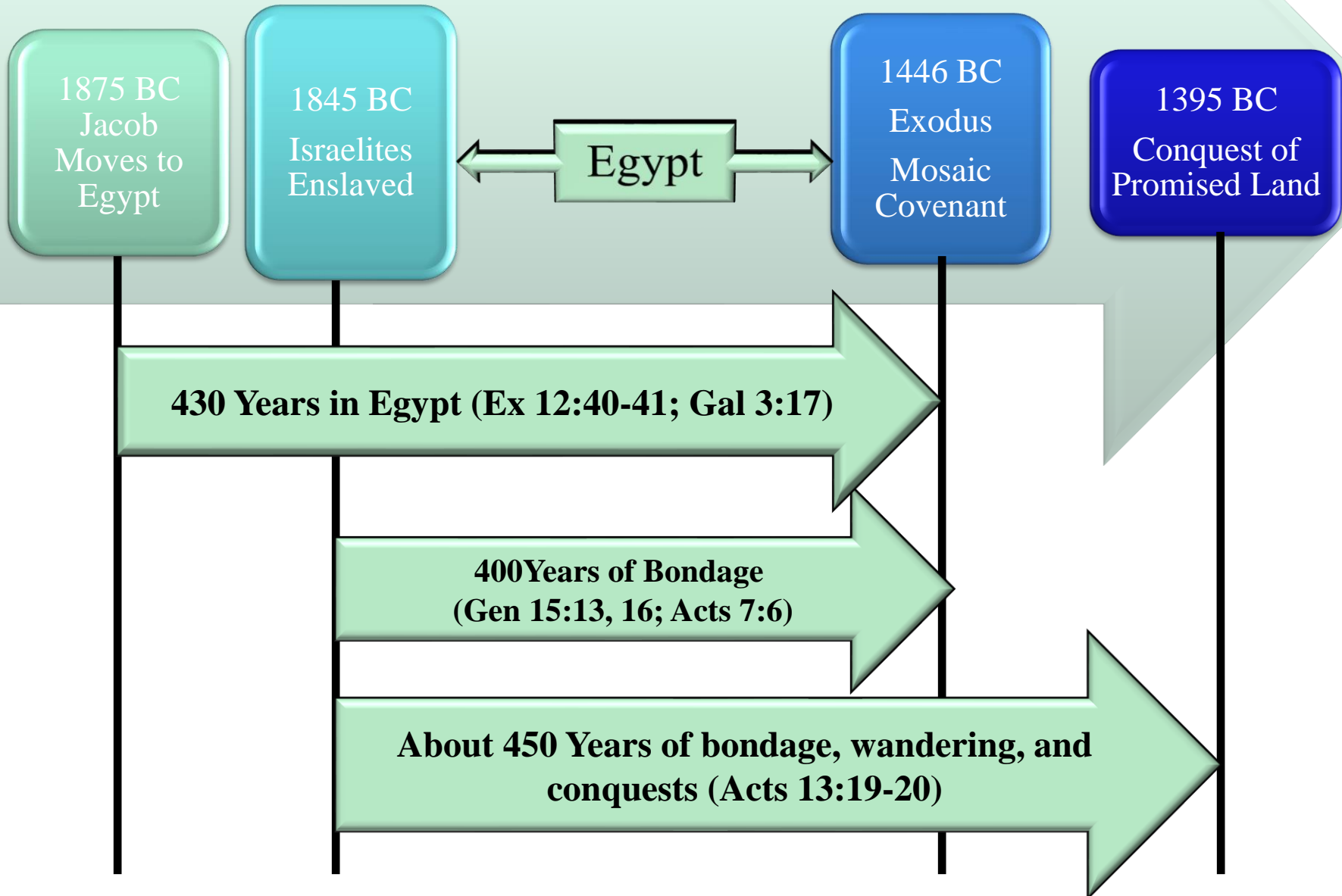
- The last chapter of the book of Leviticus deals with matters of vowing and redeeming things vowed or tithed
- This chapter serves as a supplement to the preceding laws, since these laws deal with voluntary rather than obligatory matters
- There are seven areas covered regarding vows and redemption of tithes

Previous Class – 17 Nov 10

- Reviewed last week's lesson
- Learned that God's blessing to Israel was conditioned upon obedience to His word
- Learned that 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



Early Israelite Timeline



Overview of Chapter 27

- Redemption of a vowed slave (1-8)
- Redemption of a vowed beast (9-13)
- Redemption of a vowed house (14-15)
- Redemption of a vowed field (16-25)
- Prohibition on vowing a firstborn beast (26-27)
- Prohibition on ransoming a devoted thing (28-29)
- Redemption of a tithe (30-33)

Redemption of a Vowed slave (1-8)

- The nature of the vow addresses the dedication of an individual to the Lord
 - As we progress through the text we shall understand this valuation
 - Remember Hannah dedicated Samuel to the Lord
 - This valuation was not based on the worth of people, but upon:
 - their potential work or income
 - A shekel represented one month's pay
 - Thus, you can see how much money was put out to redeem someone

Redemption of a vowed beast (9-13)

- If one decided to redeem that which had been given to the Lord
- Then that person could pay the valuation price, plus one-fifth

Redemption of vowed property (14-25)

- If anyone dedicates their house
 - The priest will judge its quality as good or bad
Whatever value the priest then sets, so it will remain
 - If they wish to redeem it, they must add a fifth to its value, and the house will again become theirs
- If someone did not want to redeem land that was dedicated to the Lord, or
- If it had been sold, it would not revert to the original owner
 - What would happen to it?
 - It stayed perpetually devoted to the Lord, and
 - became the priest's possession

Prohibition on vowing a firstborn beast (26-27)

- Why could firstborn animals not be dedicated in a vow?
- It truly did not belong to the owner, because the firstborn belong to the Lord
- An “unclean” animal in this context must be a clean animal that was deemed unclean because of a defect or something that the owner had not noticed

Prohibition on ransoming a devoted thing and redemption of tithes (28-33)

- But nothing that a person owns and devotes to the LORD—whether a human being or an animal or family land—may be sold or redeemed; everything so devoted is most holy to the LORD
- No person devoted to destruction may be ransomed; they are to be put to death.
- A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD

Review

- Reviewed last weeks lesson concerning the Sabbath and the year of jubilee
- The last chapter of the book of Leviticus deals with matters of vowing and redeeming things vowed or tithed
- This chapter serves as a supplement to the preceding laws, since these laws deal with voluntary rather than obligatory matters
- We covered seven areas regarding vows and redemption of tithes