



THE BIBLE IN VERSE

... by Alvy E. Ford

LEVITICUS

CHAPTERS 1 TO 27

Chapter 1

Rules about giving the best of the herds,
Rules about giving the proper birds,
Rules about giving the choice of the flock;
Each must be sound without blemish or spot.

Chapter 2

Rules about making an offering of meat,
Or an oblation a sacrifice sweet;
Every oblation with salt must appear.
Corn must be offered as beat from the ear.

Chapter 3

Rules about making an offering of peace,
Dumping the lifeblood and burning the grease.
In all their dwellings wherever they go,
Hebrews must not use the blood that does flow.

Chapter 4

Rules: how atonement for sin must be made,
Lest bitter wrath on the sinner be laid;
Blood shall be put on the altar around;
Carcass be burned far away on the ground.

Chapter 5

Rules about him who is witness to sin;
He must confess lest himself be dragged in,
Then bring an offering fitted for sin;
Thus shall the priest make atonement for him.

Chapter 6

Rules: about trespass and telling of lies;
Bearing false witness and hiding a prize;
What must be done with the offering slain;
Also the garment which blood chance to stain.

Chapter 7

Rules about making the offering for sin:
Priest that officiates garners the skin.
Care must be taken concerning the eats,
Whether the offer be flesh or be meats.

Chapter 8

Moses now consecrates Aaron and sons.
They of the group are the sanctified ones.
Sprinkles with blood and anoints them with oil;
Seven full days are consumed with this toil.

Chapter 9

Aaron takes over his work to begin,
Offers a calf and a goat now for sin,
Blesses the people. The Glory appears.
Fire springs forth and the multitude cheers.

Chapter 10

Aaron's two sons dare to offer strange fire,
Promptly are slain the result of God's ire.
Aaron is warned to abstain from strong drink;
Thus he may live and be able to think.

Chapter 11

Listing: of flesh that is wholesome and clean;
Also the flesh that is loathsome and mean;
Fish of the sea and the fowls of the air;
Insects and creeping things sorted with care.

Chapter 12

Rules for the woman who brings forth her seed;
She shall in time from uncleanness be freed.
Boy brings uncleanness for forty full days.
Girl brings uncleanness for eighty full days.

Chapter 13

Rules for discerning the leprosy plague,
If it be spreading or if it be stayed.
All those with leprosy must be contained.
Baldness and freckles are also explained.

Chapter 14

Rules for the cleansing of lepers are here,
Placing of blood and of oil on his ear.
After a man or a house is made clean,
Then he must go to the priest to be seen.

Chapter 15

Rules for the cleansing of issues are seen.
She from an issue of blood is unclean.
He is unclean by the spilling of seed.
Both from uncleanness may rightly be freed.

Chapter 16

Rule: how to enter the holiest place.
Rule: of the scapegoat which goes in disgrace.
Rule: about burning the off'ring for sin.
Rule: about washing before coming in.

Chapter 17

Rules about killing a beast for to eat:
It must be brought as a sacrifice sweet;
None of the blood shall forever be used.
He who does otherwise must be refused.

Chapter 18

Rules for abstaining from sexual sin,
Keeping unspotted from nearest of kin,
Lying with mankind or lying with beast;
Strictly avoid it or woe is increased.

Chapter 19

Rules about worshiping idols in vain,
Leaving the corners when harvesting grain,
Stealing and lying and daring to swear,
Mixing of linens and woollens to wear.

Chapter 20

Rules about giving to Molech of seed,
Cursers of parents shall never be freed.
Every adulterer surely must die.
None with a beast or with kinfolk shall lie.

Chapter 21

Rules that shall govern the life of the priest:
Being defiled for the kinsman deceased;
Choosing a wife; also touching the dead;
None with a blemish shall offer the bread.

Chapter 22

Rules about touching the sanctified things:
No one upon whom uncleanness yet clings;
Hired help or stranger or any unclean;
Offer no beast which is broken or mean.

Chapter 23

Rules about keeping the various feasts,
Waving the firstfruits and offering beasts.
Day of atonement is honored with care;
None is required a burden to bear.

Chapter 24

People are told to bring oil for the lamp.
Man in a rage blasphemes God in the camp.
God renders judgment, denying him breath.
All who blaspheme must be beaten to death.

Chapter 25

People must honor the Sabbath of rest;
Thus shall the land and the people be blessed.
Fiftieth year is a grand jubilee;
Then shall the Hebrew's possessions go free.

Chapter 26

If all the people will honor the Lord,
Then will His bounty be richly outpoured;
But if they turn and rebel against God,
Then will He render His chastening rod.

Chapter 27

Rules about giving a singular vow,
Be it a person, a house or a cow;
He may redeem it with money instead.
These things at Sinai the Lord Himself said.