

BOOK OF

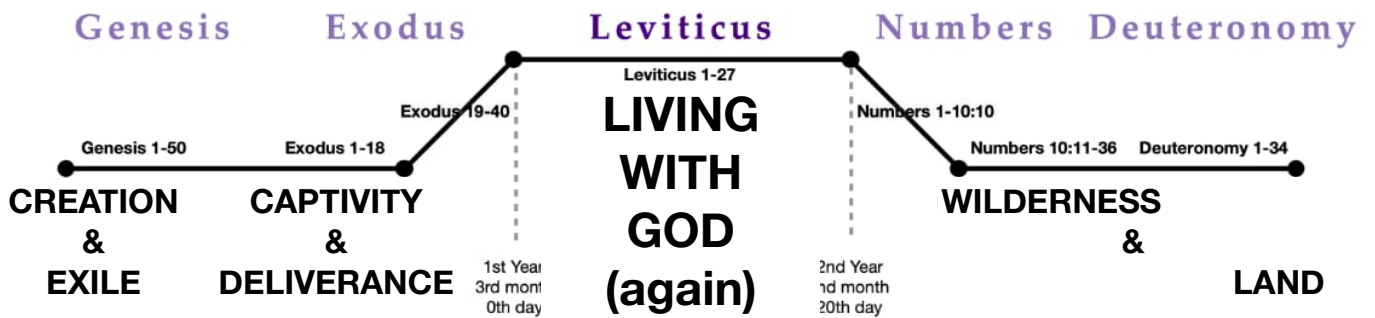
# LEVITICUS

life with God in the house of God

1

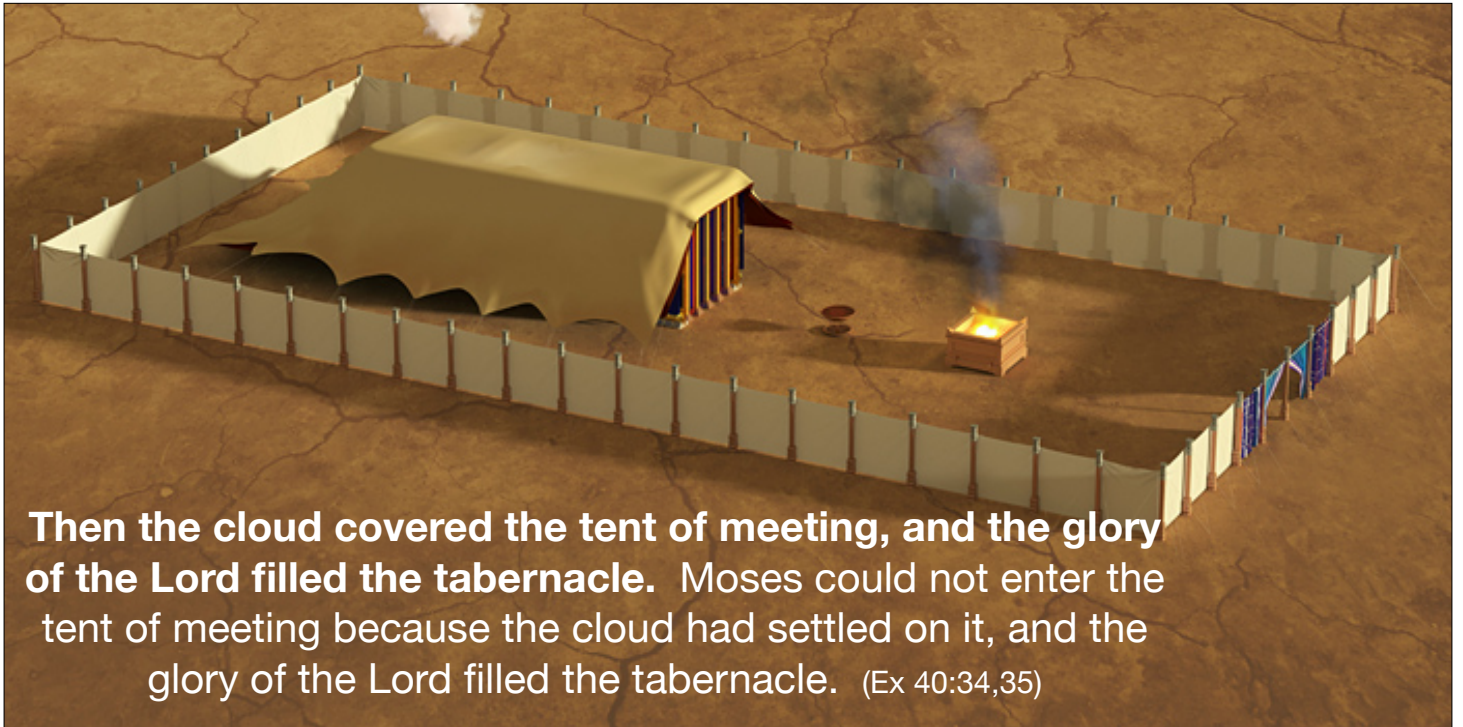
# LEVITICUS

The centre of the Pentateuch



Leviticus: life with God in the house of God

2



**Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.** Moses could not enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. (Ex 40:34,35)

### **Leviticus: life with God in the house of God**

3

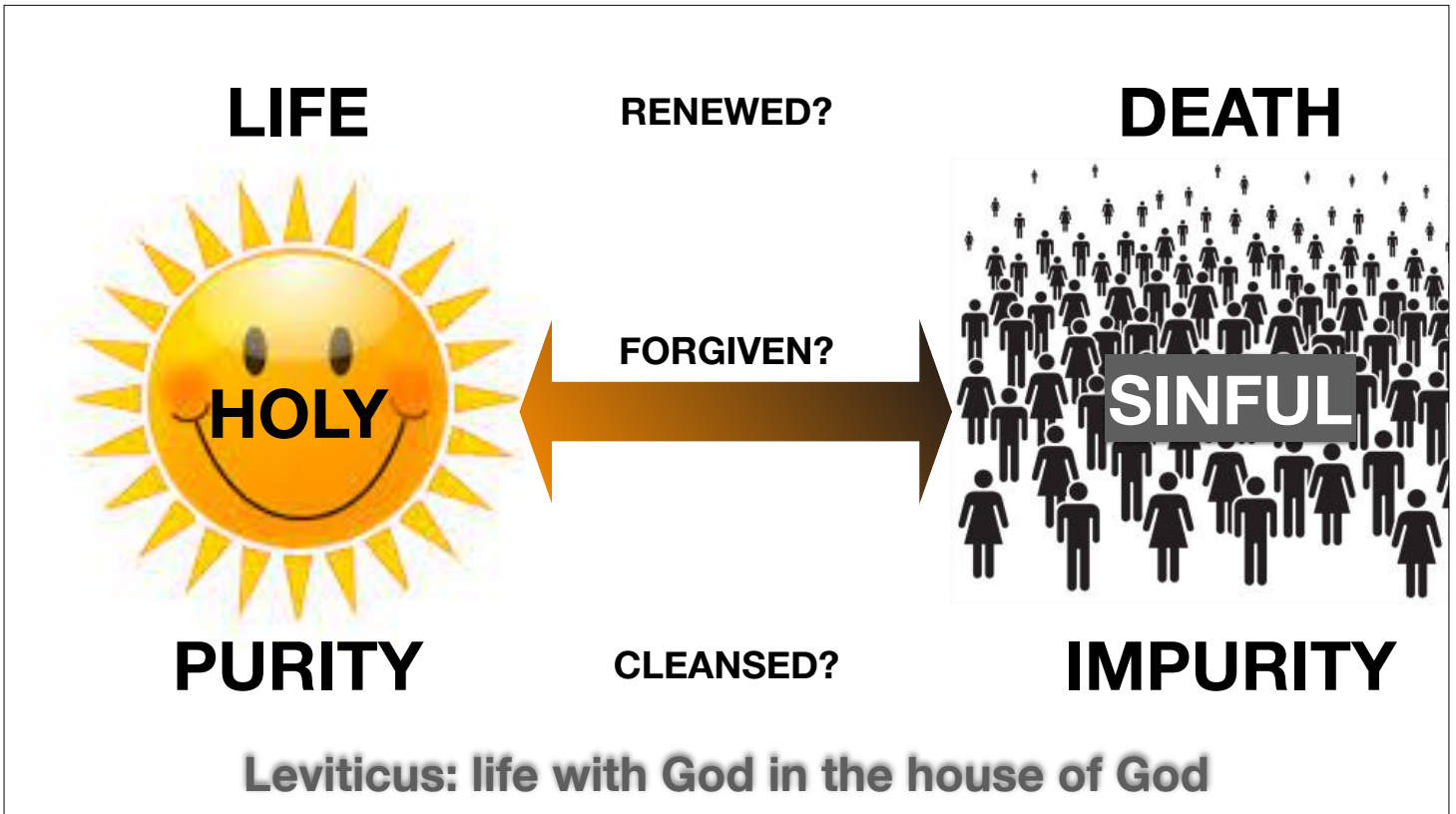


**LEVITICUS:**  
God opening up a way for humanity to dwell in his presence again

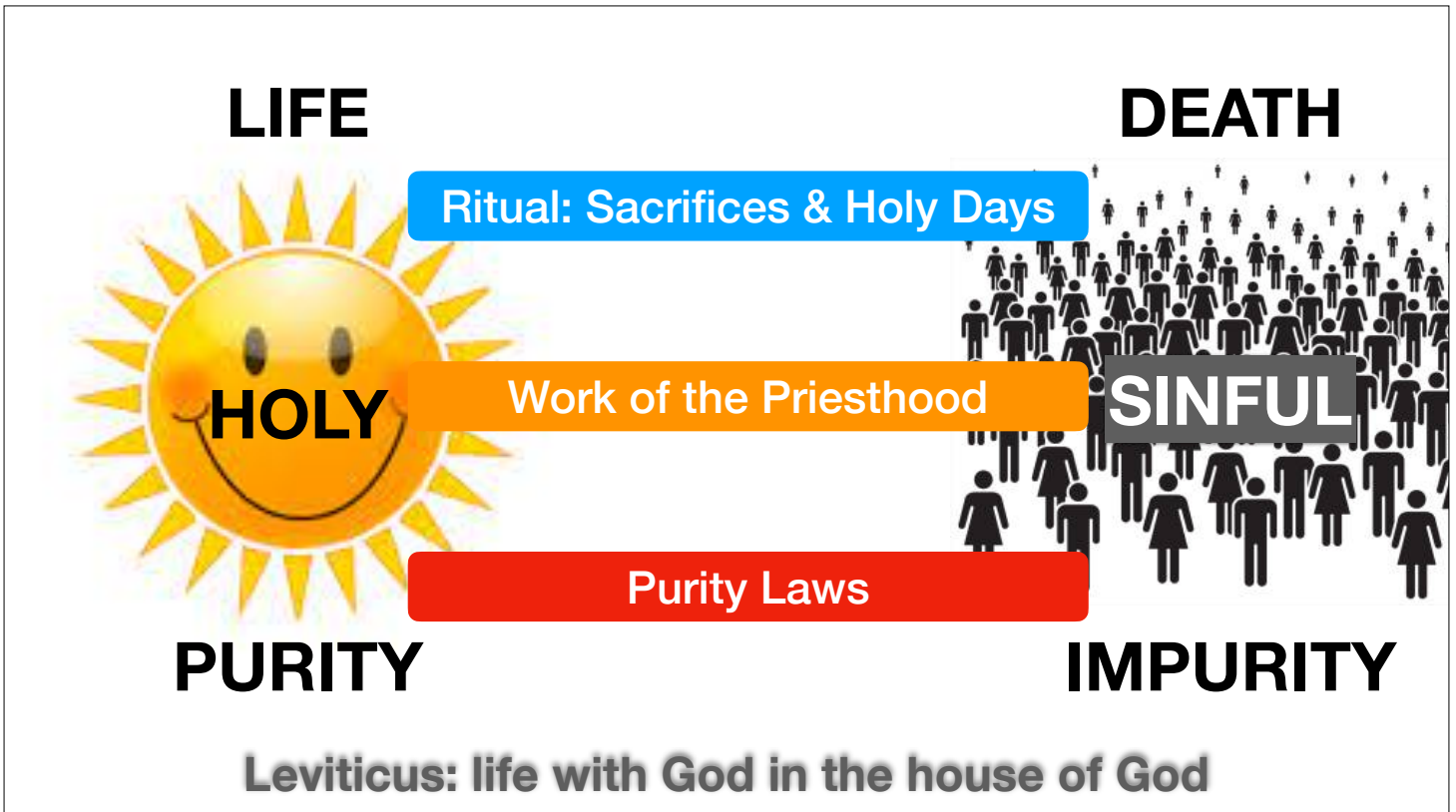
### **Leviticus: life with God in the house of God**

4

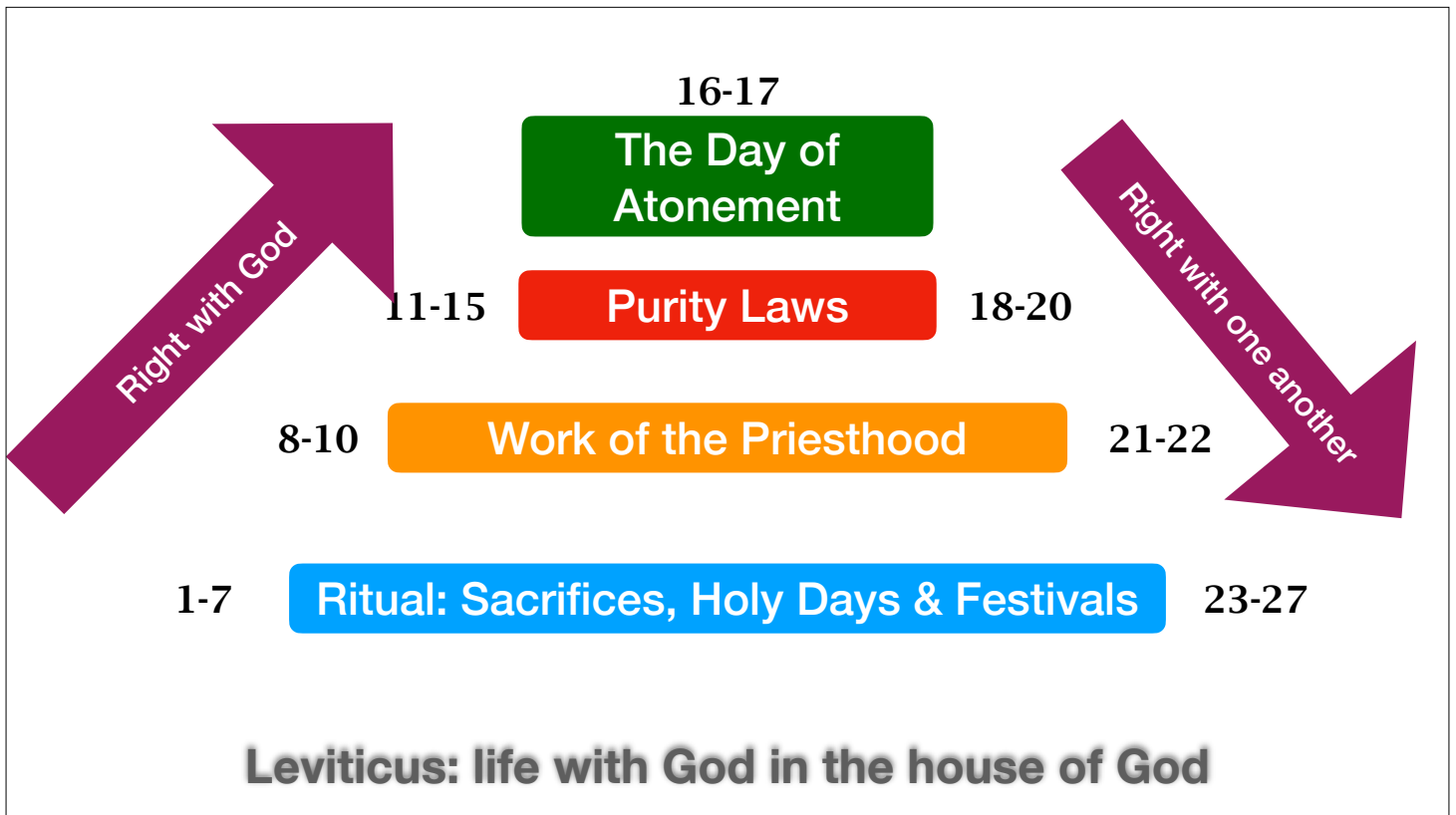




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6



7

**3 Decisive Factors:** **Ritual: Sacrifices & Holy Days**

- Burnt Offering** **V** Propitiation for sin: Complete surrender, and devotion to God  
Lev 1; 6:8-13
- Grain Offering** **V** Thanksgiving for harvest  
Lev 2: 6:14-23
- Sin Offering** **M** Unintentional sin or accidental impurity  
Lev 4:1-5:13; 12:6-8
- Guilt Offering** **M** Payment for denying another their rights, or desecrating something holy  
Lev 5:14-6:7; 14:12-18
- Peace Offering** **V** Fellowship with God: Thankfulness / making a vow  
Lev 3; 7:11-36

8

**3** Decisive  
Factors:

Ritual: Sacrifices & Holy Days

Purification

Ascension

Peace

Blood manipulation

Transformed into smoke

Eating a meal

Sin is paid for → Life is consecrated → Fellowship restored

for **the life of the body is in its blood**. I have given you **the blood on the altar** to purify you, making you right with **the Lord**. It **is the blood**, given **in exchange for a life**, that makes purification possible. Lev 17:11

Then the priest will burn the entire sacrifice on the altar as a burnt offering. It is a special gift, a **pleasing aroma** to the Lord. Lev 1:13



Priest - Worshipper - God

**3** Decisive  
Factors:

Work of the Priesthood



To distinguish between the **holy** and the **common**, and between the **clean** and the ritually **unclean**

i.e. to maintain the **boundaries** to do with the domains of the holy space, the Tabernacle

### 3 Decisive Factors:



44 For I am the Lord your God. You must consecrate yourselves and **be holy, because I am holy**. So do not defile yourselves with any of these small animals that scurry along the ground. 45 For I, the Lord, am the one who brought you up from the land of Egypt, that I might be your God.

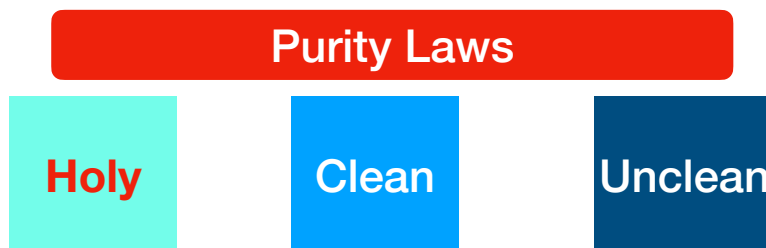
**Therefore, you must be holy because I am holy.**

Leviticus 11:44-45

The seemingly disparate laws of Leviticus that deal with the ritual, ethical, commercial, and penal aspects of life all rest on this core notion of holiness.

11

### 3 Decisive Factors:



**Ps 24: 3 - 6**

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

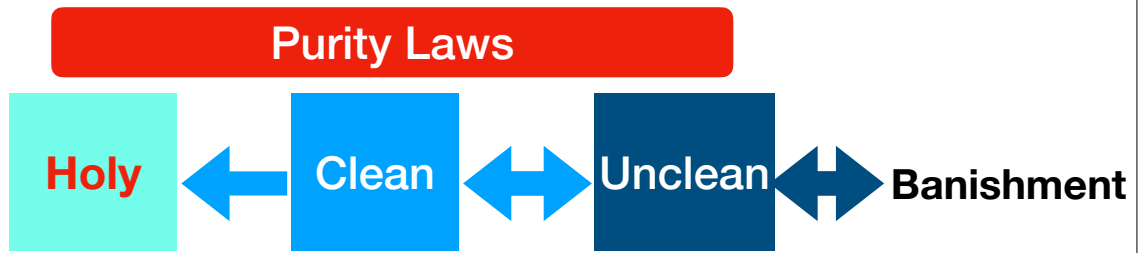
Those who have **clean hands and pure hearts**,  
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,  
and do not swear deceitfully.

They will receive blessing from the Lord,  
and vindication from the God of their salvation.

Such is the company of those who seek him,  
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

12

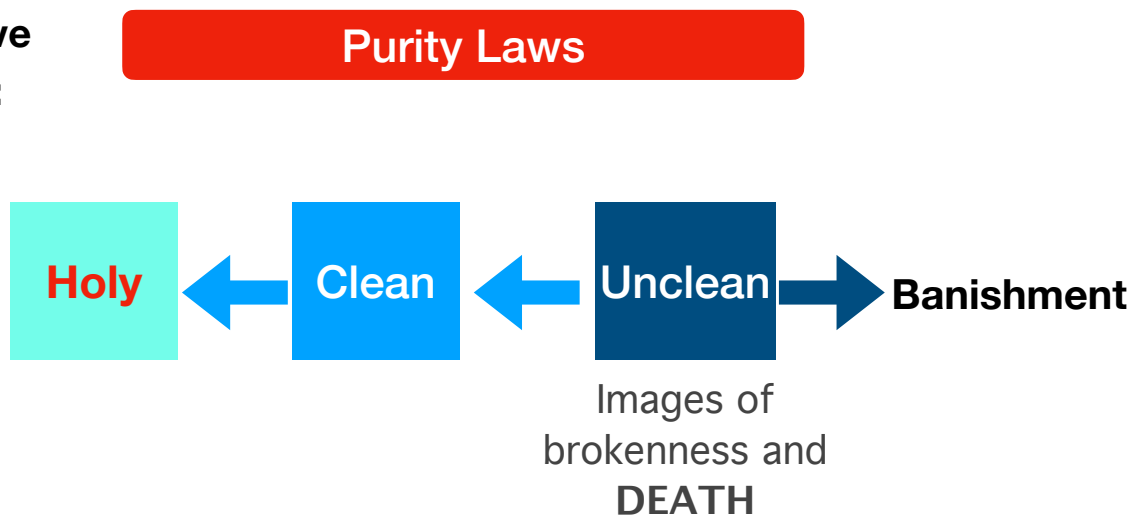
**3** Decisive  
Factors:



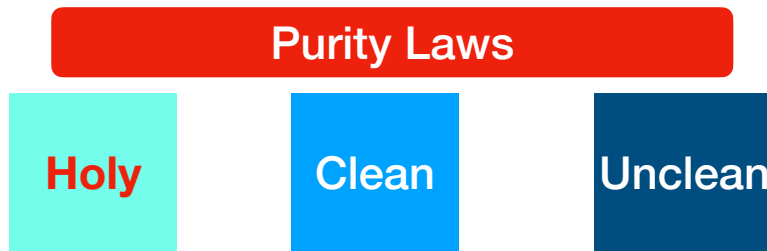
UNCLEAN from

- eating or touching the carcasses of animals classified as repulsive to eat (11:1-47)
- childbirth (12:1-8)
- 'leprosy' (tza'arat) on skin and garments (13:1-59)
- 'leprosy' on the wall of houses (14:33-57)
- bodily discharges (15:1-33)
- sin (16:1-34)

**3** Decisive  
Factors:

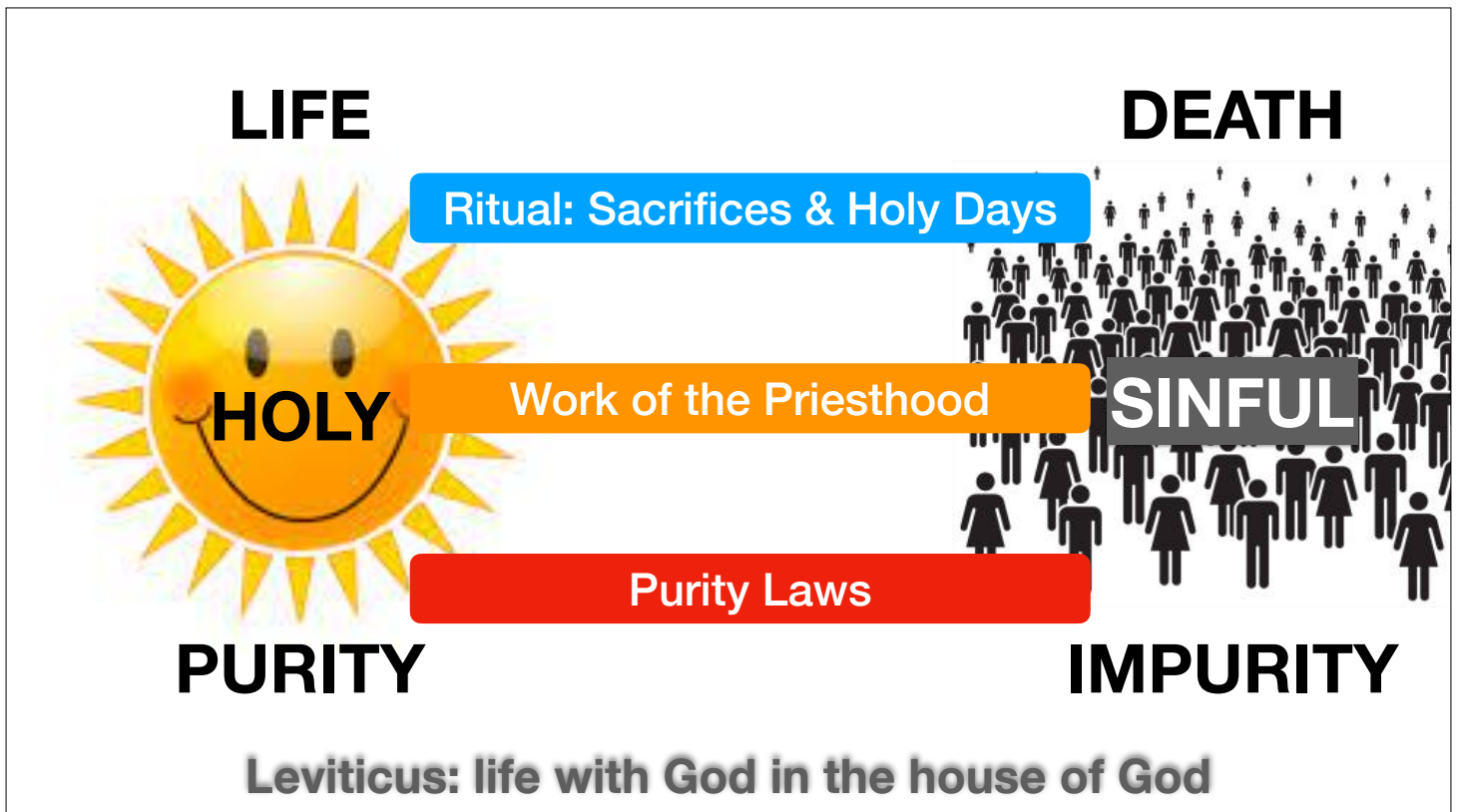


**3** Decisive  
Factors:



“It is not that God needs us to be pure if he is to be with us. On the phrase about the Tent of Meeting “which remains with the Israelites even when they are unclean” (Lev 16:16), the sages say: “Even though the Jews are unclean, the Divine Presence is among them.”

It is rather that **we need to be pure if we are to open ourselves to the Divine Presence.** The act of purification is an act of preparation from coming into the Divine Presence.” Jonathan Sacks





## The Day of Atonement



17: 33 He shall make atonement for the holy sanctuary, and he shall make atonement for the tent of meeting and for the altar, and he shall make atonement for the priests and for all the people of the assembly. 34 And this shall be a statute forever for you, that atonement may be made for the people of Israel once in the year because of all their sins.”

17

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9vn5UvsHvM>

18

## MORAL LAW

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:33

**14** So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. **15** But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. **16** For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."

1 Peter 1

**6** But now we have been released from the law, for we died to it and are no longer captive to its power. Now we can serve God, not in the old way of obeying the letter of the law, but in the new way of living in the Spirit.

Romans 7

19

Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to **redeem** us from all wickedness and to **purify** for himself a people that are his very own.

**Titus 2:14**

The **blood** of Jesus his Son **purifies** us from all sin.

**1 John 1:7**

## RITUAL LAWS



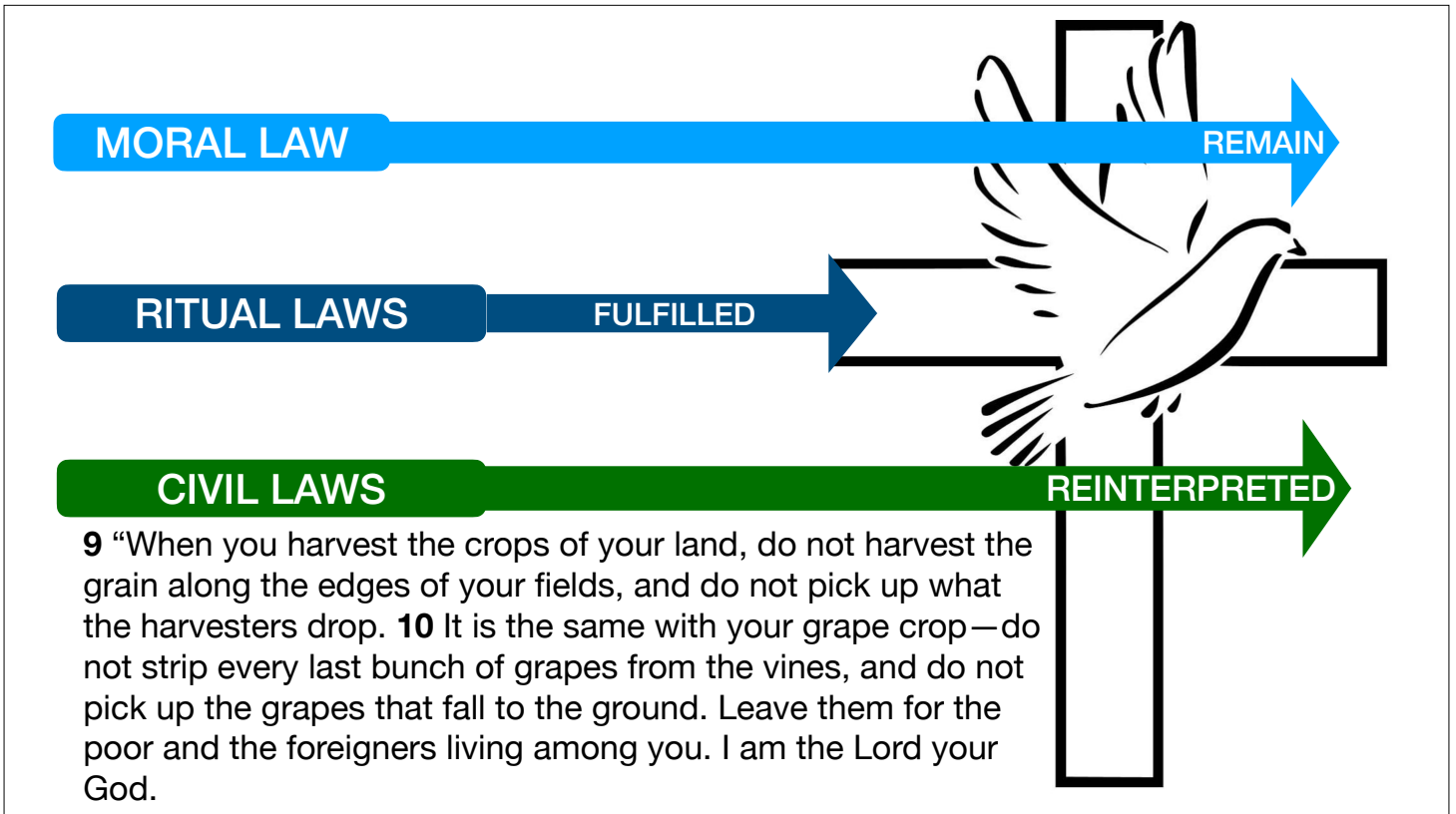
In him we have **redemption** through his **blood**, the forgiveness of sins.

**Ephesians 1:7**

God presented Christ as a **sacrifice of atonement**, through his **blood**.

**Romans 3:25**

20



19 And so, dear brothers and sisters, we can boldly enter heaven’s Most Holy Place because of the blood of Jesus. 20 By his death, Jesus opened a new and life-giving way through the curtain into the Most Holy Place. 21 And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God’s house, 22 let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ’s blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10

# LIFE



# PURITY

O the Love that drew  
salvation's plan,  
O the grace that  
brought it down to man

**O THE MIGHTY  
GULF THAT GOD  
DID SPAN  
At Calvary**

# DEATH



# IMPURITY

**Leviticus: life with God in the house of God**