

# **Power to Do**

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## I. Introduction.

A. Text: Leviticus 19-20.

B. Leviticus is an ignored book of the Bible.

## II. Instructions.

A. God links His name to the instructions throughout this passage.

1. Jehovah means the Ever-Living One.

2. This establishes authority and resource.

a. We must establish right and wrong based on what God says.

b. All life reduces to the problem of authority.

c. God's authority is the only explanation of the universe that makes sense.

d. God is the strength by which we can be obedient to His commands. (Romans 7)

e. The problem is that we cannot do half of the things that we want to do—God gives us the ability to say we can do all things through Christ in us.

f. We do good on the supply that God provides.

g. If one is not living on the strength of God, one is not living the Christian life.

B. Types of prohibitions.

1. Acts and attitudes, which are inherently wrong and eternally binding upon the people of God.

a. These are always to be avoided.

b. This includes impartiality to the poor, slandering, taking vengeance, etc.

2. Things that are binding, but not eternally binding.

a. This includes incest, bestiality, etc.

b. The consequence was death.

c. Grace has mitigated these consequences today.

3. Rituals that are symbolic.

- a. The ritual has passed away but the meaning has not.
- b. For instance—we no longer have to obey commands about not mixing cloth, but this symbolizes the importance of not mixing certain things. (Leviticus 6)
- c. Some of the presentation practices were wrong because they were associated with pagan worship.
- d. We are not to sacrifice our children for our desires.
- e. Put in the right place, the human is stripped of his veneer of modern civility.
- f. We are to be generous with others.
- g. Give and be merciful expecting no return because this is the standard of life that God demonstrates. (Luke 6:32)

**Application questions:**

1. How would you respond to someone who says that the best way to be obedient to God is to try harder?

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2. What are the different types of prohibitions and what are their consequences?

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3. Which prohibition stood out to you? Explain.

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