

Either Or *Ray Stedman*

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Leviticus 26.
- B. This is the section of curses and blessings.
- C. These curses have been fulfilled in history.

II. The first two commandments are repeated because curses result from idolatry. Americans worship sex, war, and material.

III. Blessings come from fulfilling the fourth commandment—keeping the Sabbath holy.

- A. To work out of rest is a blessing.
- B. We are to work out of God's ability.

IV. Blessings.

- A. Fruitfulness—God meant this materially and spiritually.
- B. The people will last.
- C. There will be security.
- D. There will be increase.
- E. There will be an intimate sense of communion with God being guaranteed by the character of God.

V. God wants us to honestly and openly deal with sin—He does not expect perfection.

VI. Curses.

- A. Disease would break out on the people and there would be factions.
- B. There would be a decrease in the crop and a drought signifying depression.
- C. There would be more plagues marking enemies coming from within.
- D. There would be pestilence marking an increase of enemies from without.
- E. There would be desolation as was fulfilled among the Jews.

- 1. This has spiritual application too.

2. God however would not destroy the Jew.
3. The proof of the Bible is the Jew.
4. Sometimes God has to break our hearts before we take seriously what He says to us in Jesus Christ.
5. If you reject life then you must receive darkness—God’s love is working behind all of this to change us.

Application questions:

1. Do the blessings and curses of Leviticus apply to today? Defend your answer.

2. Does God expect absolute perfection in order to be blessed? Explain.

3. Why is spiritual desolation the greatest curse and how might this look in the believer’s life applied spiritually?
