Study Notes and Questions for Leviticus 17-20

- Why was it necessary for God to give Israel a completely different set of moral standards?
- Why is it important to understand the difference in these chapters between universal moral commands and issues related to the covenant that God made with Israel?
- Why did God tell the people of Israel that they were not to sacrifice animals without the participation of the priests?
- What kind of sacrifices were the people doing? (See 17:7)
- What command did God give to His people about "eating blood"?
- Reread 17:14. How does this verse help the Israelites to understand God's commands concerning blood?
- Read Leviticus 18:3. Explain why this is the theme of this chapter.
- What did God tell the Israelites about sexual relations with close family members?
- Read 18:30. What does this verse tell you about what the Issraelites had witnessed while in Egypt?
- Read 19:2. Explain what it means to "be holy" and why this verse is a key to this entire study.
- What provisions did God give in chapter 19 to help the poor?
- Explain why 19:18 is a really important verse?
- Why did God give commands about tattoos in 19:28?
- Chapter 20 outlines the punishments meted out for violations. Why was this important for the Jews to know and what does it say to us today?
- In 20:24 the Lord says, "I am the LORD your God, who has separated you from the peoples." How did He do that?
- What is the biggest takeaway from this study for Christians today?