

CENTERPIECE

The Chiastic Structure of Leviticus 19-26

A Holiness in Daily Life (19)

Idols (19:4)

Crops (19:9-10; 23-25)

Sabbath & Sanctuary (19:30)

→ Slaves, Aliens, Poor, Disadvantaged (19:10-34)

B Death Penalty for Violations (20)

cursing parents, adultery, incest, etc.
any Israelite or alien

C Priestly Holiness (21-22)

eating holy sacrifices

D Calendar: 7 Holy Times (23)

C' Priests tending lamps (24:1-9)

eating holy bread

B' Death Penalty for Violations (24:10-23)

blasphemy, murder
same law for alien as for native

A' Holiness in Daily Life (25:1-26:2)

Crops (25:3-22)

→ Slaves, aliens, poor, disadvantaged (25:6-55)

Idols (26:1)

Sabbath & Sanctuary (26:2)

Covenantal blessings & curses (26:3-46)

Adapted from D. Dorsey, *The Literary Structure of the Old Testament*, 2004.

Endtime Parables (Matthew 25)

Virgins:	Watch		50%
Talents:	Work		30%
Sheep/Goats:	Welfare		50%

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)

- A test (again) - context: eternal life!
- "As he journeyed" ... (v33)
- "And when he saw him, he had compassion (v33)
- "Whatever more" (v35)
- Jesus' Mission 🌍!

"The greatest of these is love" (1 Cor 13)

QUOTES

"Through Moses the Lord had said, "Thou shalt not hate . . . love thy neighbor as thyself." The truths which Christ presented were the same that had been taught by the prophets, but they had become obscured through hardness of heart and love of sin" (MB 55).

"Both these commandments are an expression of the principle of love. The first cannot be kept and the second broken, nor can the second be kept while the first is broken. . . . Thus Christ taught His hearers that the law of God is not so many separate precepts, some of which are of great importance, while others are of small importance and may with impunity be ignored. Our Lord presents the first four and the last six commandments as a divine whole, and teaches that love to God will be shown by obedience to all his commandments" (DA 607).

"The lesson is no less needed in the world today than when it fell from the lips of Jesus. Selfishness and cold formality have well-nigh extinguished the fire of love, and dispelled the graces that should make fragrant the character. . . . Unless there is practical self-sacrifice for the good of others, in the family circle, in the neighborhood, in the church, and wherever we may be, then whatever our profession, we are not Christians" (DA 504).

"Gospel religion is Christ in the life - a living, active principle. It is the grace of Christ revealed in character and wrought out in good works. The principles of the gospel cannot be disconnected from any department of practical life. Every line of Christian experience and labor is to be a representation of the life of Christ. Love is the basis of godliness. Whatever the profession, no man has pure love to God unless he has unselfish love for his brother" (COL 384).

"Those who love God cannot harbor hatred or envy. When the heavenly principle of eternal love fills the heart, it will flow out to others, not merely because favors are received of them, but because love is the principle of action and modifies the character, governs the impulses, controls the passions, subdues enmity, and elevates and ennobles the affections. This love is not contracted so as merely to include "me and mine," but is as broad as the world and as high as heaven, and is in harmony with that of the angel workers. This love cherished in the soul sweetens the entire life and sheds a refining influence on all around. Possessing it, we cannot but be happy, let fortune smile or frown. If we love God with all the heart, we must love His children also. This love is the spirit of God. It is the heavenly adorning that gives true nobility and dignity to the soul and assimilates our lives to that of the Master. No matter how many good qualities we may have, however honorable and refined we may consider ourselves, if the soul is not baptized with the heavenly grace of love to God and one another, we are deficient in true goodness and unfit for heaven, where all is love and unity" (4T 223.2).

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

The Second Highest Commandment



DO YOU LOVE?

Leviticus 19:34 "The stranger who dwells among you shall be to you as one born among you, and you shall love him as yourself; for you were strangers in the land of Egypt: I am the LORD your God." 🙎🏻🙎🏻

Deuteronomy 6:5-9 "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. 6 "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. 7 You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. 8 You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. 9 You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." *Heart, Home & Community* ❤️🏠🌐

Matthew 5:43-48 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you, 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so? **48 Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.**" 🙎🏻

Matthew 6:12: "Forgive us as we forgive them!" (Only indicative = human-based reality in Lord's Prayer!)
→ Mt 18:21-23 → Dan 9:24-27: 70x7=490!

Matthew 7:11-12 "You, being evil . . . Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets." 🔄

Ephesians 5:28-29 "So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church." 🙎🏻🙎🏻

1 John 4 7 "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 He who does not love does not know God, **for God is love.** 9 In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." 20 "If someone says, 'I love God,' and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? 21 And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God *must* love his brother also."

" LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR! "

Jesus: direct response, without parable, counter question, or story:

"You shall love the LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' 38 This is the first and great commandment.

39 And the second is like it: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets"" (Mt 22:37-39).

CONTEXT

Lev 16: Day of Atonement
Lev 18:30 "And the LORD spoke to Moses"
Lev 19:16 "You shall not go about as a talebearer among your people; nor shall you take a stand against the life of your neighbor:
I am the LORD.
17 You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him.
18 You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, **but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.**
34 → strangers!
Lev 20:1 "And the LORD spoke to Moses"

- 🚫 gossip
- 🚫 "failure to render aid"
- 🚫 hate
- ✅ rebuke
- 🚫 vengeance
- 🚫 grudge
- ✅ love



Do you love like that?!

OBSERVATIONS

וְאָהַבְתָּ לְרֵעֶךָ כְּמוֹךָ אֲנִי יְהוָה:

- **Innocent party** addressed in detail!
It is insufficient to be right - it is imperative to be righteous!
- **Assumption:** Neighbor's Guilt!
- **Approach:** Attitude & Action
- **Actual Command:** only 3 words!
simplicity to prevent complexity
- **Absolute prohibition**
Hebrew: lō' + Qal Imperfect: incidental normally אהב + direct object; here + ל (→ Lev 19:34; 2 Chron 19:2)
- **Acceptance:** "As yourself"
- **Alert:** Rebuke, or risk of reciprocity: 🔄
their sin becomes yours!
- **Apex:** "I am the LORD"

vertical relationship



horizontal reconciliation

Negative Action
Positive Reaction!