**Athens, TN for October 10, 2021 – Leviticus chapter 26 & the Christian**

Over the last 19 months I have realized a lot of things. The power of prayer. That most of the world needs the salvation of Jesus. There is nothing like Wednesday night Bible study with your beloved brethren! And Family Bible studies are awesome!

For a period of time when we did not have Wednesday night Bible studies last year Beth, Samantha, Jessie, David, and I studied together. We let David choose what we studied which was 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude, some of Revelation, and then Leviticus. These were all very productive studies and prompted great discussions. The surprise to me was how much I learned in studying the book of Leviticus. I want to share some of those thoughts with you this morning. Leviticus tells us what God expected and chapter 26 seems to provide a good summary.

After God revealed many things through Moses on Mt. Sinai, He provides some concluding thoughts in Leviticus chapter 26.

* **Leviticus 26:1-13 (verses 1-9)** – God tells them He will be with them if they obey Him.
* **Leviticus 26:14-39 (verses 14, 18, 21, 23, and 27)** – God tells them He will not be with them if they do not obey Him.
* **Leviticus 26:40-46 (verses 40-42)** – God tells them if do not obey Him, but they confess their iniquities to Him, they will be granted mercy; even though they do not deserve it and would not have earned it.

Illustration: Rules for driving. Obey you have privileges and freedoms. Disobey you lose those privileges. Then there is mercy. Dan wrecked my new car. He paid about the $1,000 for it. Samantha wrecked our van with over $4,000 of damage and she paid the $500 deductible. Years later when Dan was married I gave him $500 out of the blue and he asked me why? I told him I thought later he should not have to pay more than Samantha. I did not have to and Dan acknowledged that, but I felt it was appropriate and merciful. And I also knew Dan and Blake could use the money.

Not much different for Christians today:

* **Ephesians 1:3**
* **James 4:1-4**
* **Titus 2:11-3:8, and Hebrews 4:16**

Close

* Just because a person was born an Israelite, does not mean they would be faithful to God!
* Just because a person becomes a disciple of Christ, does not mean they remain faithful to God!
* There are conditions we Christians must maintain to be pleasing to God (**2 Peter 3:17-18**)

If we hear & do what the Lord tells us, we will be rewarded eternally (**Luke 6:20-23, 35-36, James 1:12**)!