



# ~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

**Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing**



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## Worship Music

[Safe and Sound-  
Kina Grannis](#)

[World In Front Of Me-  
Kina Grannis](#)

[The Goldfish Song-Kina  
Grannis \(becoming a  
butterfly\)](#)

[Sounds Of Silence-  
Kina Grannis](#)

[Above All-  
Lenny LeBlanc](#)

[All For Love-  
Lenny LeBlanc](#)

## Radio Stations

[KWVE ...Calvary Chapel](#)

[KLOV](#)

## Bible Study Sites

[Chuck Smith  
Through The Bible](#)

[Bob Coy/Teachings](#)

[Mike MacIntosh](#)

[Jon Courson](#)

[Biblos.com](#)

[Billy Graham](#)

[Charles Stanley](#)

[David Wilkerson](#)

[Greg Laurie](#)

[Virtue for Women-  
Cathe Laurie](#)

## Prayer

Lord, if I ever turn my devotion to the world, please move on the scene like a Divine Lover who has come to defend and rescue that relationship You hold so dear. Help me never to forget that You are preoccupied with me and want to possess me totally. I know that You want my desires and affection to be set on You, so if I begin to walk and talk like an unbeliever and give my life to the things of this world, please nudge me and bring conviction to my heart to change. And if I refuse to listen, I ask You to please move with divine malice toward those things that have usurped Your role in my life, in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Scripture

Leviticus Introductio (KJV)

“I am the Lord who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.”

Leviticus 11:45

“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord .”

Leviticus 19:18

**Laws Concerning Sacrifices, the Priesthood, and Sacred Feasts****Various Laws**

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**Leviticus 19:18**

The title of this book comes from the Septuagint, the ancient Greek translation of the Old Testament. The word Leviticus means "about, or relating to, the Levites."

The Levites are all those who belong to the tribe of Levi, one of the 12 tribes of Israel. Because God spared the firstborn of Israel in the last plague that came over Egypt ( Exodus 11:4–12:13 ), all firstborn sons and firstborn animals belonged to God. The animals were sacrificed while the men were redeemed. To be redeemed, the family paid a price to the priest instead of giving their firstborn over to the service of the temple. God appointed the Levites to take the place of the firstborn to serve God. One clan or family of the Levites, the family of Aaron, was set apart to be priests. The rest of the Levites were to be assistants to the priests. Their duties were the care of the tabernacle, and later the care of the temple; and to be teachers, scribes, musicians, officers, and judges. (See on 1 Chronicles 23. Duties of the Levites .)

The tribe of Levi was the only tribe that did not get its own land after the Israelites conquered Canaan; instead, they received 48 cities, scattered throughout the country ( Numbers 35:7 ; Joshua 21:19 ). Since they did not receive land, they could not support themselves; they were supported by the tithes of the rest of Israel.

The book of Leviticus contains the bulk of the system of laws under which the Hebrew nation lived, laws that were administered by the Levitical priesthood. These laws were given mostly at Mount Sinai, with additions, repetitions, and explanations throughout the desert wanderings. (Halley's Bible Handbook; Henry Halley; 2000; Zondervan; Bible History and Commentaries; pages

God's laws are in place for our good. He has established them so that we can enjoy His blessings.

Serious consequences result when we do not obey God.

God calls us to live holy lives and to have purity and integrity in every aspect of our everyday lives.

**Introduction**

The basic message of Leviticus is: "If you obey God, you will be blessed. If you don't, you won't." The laws and instructions we find in Leviticus, and the commands to obey, all have one purpose: blessing. God knows that sin and disobedience will separate us from Him, so He gives us guidelines for living so we can stay close to Him and live under His blessing. God requires our obedience so we can stay in fellowship with Him and live in His favor.

In addition to showing us the need to obey the laws of God so we can be blessed, Leviticus also calls us to holiness in our everyday lives. The Israelites' idea of holiness was based on laws and rituals; our concept of holiness is much different because of what Jesus did on the cross. While there are certain actions we can take to express holiness, actions alone do not make us holy. Holiness begins in our hearts with faith in Jesus, and He leads us to desire to obey God in everything we do.

I hope you will look beyond the animal sacrifices and elaborate rituals in Leviticus and see the rich symbolism in this book. I hope it will stir you to live a more holy life in the midst of your everyday circumstances and bring about greater obedience in your heart so you can live in greater and greater blessing. The Everyday Life Bible.

Since Adam and Eve sinned, something had to be done about the law in order for God to restore man into fellowship. Thus, God established in the Old Testament this system of sacrifices where the animal became man's substitute and where the animal was slain for man's sin. The people would lay their hands on the animal, transferring their sin to it, and the animal would die in their place. It became their substitute. And through the death of the animal, their sin was covered, and they could have fellowship with God—until they sinned again, and then they had to sacrifice another animal.

The book of Leviticus, which means "pertaining to Levites," concerns how the Levitical priests conducted the sacrifices and supervised the worship of the nation of Israel. This system is foreign to us, because this covenant has now been set aside that God might establish a better covenant with us. This covenant of the sacrifice of the animals could never make anything perfect; it can only point ahead to the one and only sacrifice, Jesus, whereby we could be brought into full perfection before the Lord.

The offerings that were given to the Lord were divided into the sweet savor offerings and the sin offerings. There were three basic sweet savor offerings. 1. The burnt offering, which was for consecration. 2. The meal offering is translated as "meat," however it was

made of fine flour and oil, which was a sacrifice of service unto God. 3. The peace offering, which was for fellowship and communion with God. Then there were the two sin offerings; 1. The sin offering. 2. The trespass offering. Paul tells the Ephesians that they are to be followers of God as dear children. " Walk in love as Christ also hath loved us and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor" (Ephesians 5: 2). Christ is more than just our sin offering. He is also the sweet savor offering. (Old Testament Study Guide; The Word For Today; 2005; Chuck Smith; Commentaries; pages 45-46)

#### **A Guaranteed Way To Infuriate the Holy Spirit!**

**James 4:5**

I know you want to please the Spirit of God with your life, so today I want to tell you about something that is guaranteed not to please Him. By knowing this, you can avoid grieving Him and can concentrate your attention on doing those things that are sure to bring Him pleasure.

James 4:5 says, "Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, the spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy?" I want to draw your attention to the word "envy" in this verse. But first I want to back up and speak to you about the "lust" that the Holy Spirit feels for you and me.

I noted in the February 14 Sparkling Gem that the word "lust" is the Greek word *epitheo*, a word that portrays an intense desire; a craving; a hunger; an ache; a yearning for something; a longing or pining for something. Usually this word is used to indicate an intense yearning for something that is morally wrong and sinful. But in James 4:5, this Greek word describes the intense yearning that the Holy Spirit possesses to have us entirely for Himself. Because the word *epitheo* is used to depict the Spirit's longing to have us, it expresses the deep love and affection that the Spirit of God has for every believer.

However, James goes on to tell us that in addition to this intense yearning for us, the Holy Spirit also experiences "envy" regarding you and me. The word "envy" in James 4:5 is the Greek word *phthnos*, a word that describes a person who is jealous about something; a person who feels rivalry or envy; or a person who holds a grudge because of someone else's behavior. It also carries the idea of ill will and malice.

This word *phthnos* is the very word that would have been used to illustrate the emotions a young man experiences when he discovers his spouse is being romantically pursued by someone else. Because James uses this word to depict the Holy Spirit, we need to stop and think about what it means for a few moments.

Anger, resentment, rage, envy, jealousy— these are the emotions a man feels in such a situation. He takes this threat to his marital relationship very personally and holds a grudge against the pursuer. Every time the husband thinks about what that romantic bandit is trying to do, feelings of malice and ill will toward the violator rise up in his soul.

Even more significantly, a man who really loves his wife is not going to sit by and watch his wife be stolen! The envy and jealousy he feels will move him to action— to do everything in his power to win back his wife and permanently eliminate his competitor.

Because the husband is envious, he does all he can to see his relationship with his wife restored. All of these ideas are conveyed by the Greek word *phthnos* used in James 4:5 when the Bible tells us about the "envy" of the Holy Spirit.

One scholar says the picture contained in the Greek word *phthnos* could be understood this way:

"The Spirit takes it very personally when we share our lives with the world. He wants us so entirely for Himself that if the world tries to take us away, it infuriates Him. You need to know that in these cases, the Holy Spirit will not idly sit by and watch it happen. He'll do something to change the situation!"

Not only does it infuriate the Holy Spirit when believers turn their devotion to the world, but it drives Him to intense jealousy. At this point, He will release His full rage against that unholy relationship, moving on the scene like a Divine Lover who has come to defend and rescue the relationship He holds so dear. This is something you can be sure of: If you commit more of your heart, soul, and attention to worldly things than you give to the Spirit of God, He will not take it lightly.

Never forget that the Holy Spirit is a Divine Lover. He is preoccupied with you. He wants to possess you totally, and He desires that your affection be set wholly on Him. That's why the Holy Spirit feels like a lover who has been robbed if you walk and talk like an unbeliever or give your life to the things of this world. He jealously desires His relationship with you to be restored. He has divine malice toward the worldliness that has usurped His role in your life.

The Holy Spirit is not a passive Partner. He aggressively and actively pursues you. He fiercely wants more of you. When you give part of yourself to something or someone else's control, the Holy Spirit wants to seize that part of your life and bring it back under His divine control. He even has malice toward your preoccupation with things in this natural realm.

So make your relationship with the Holy Spirit your top priority. Don't give Him a reason to feel betrayed by or envious of other things in your life that have taken His place. Get to know the Holy Spirit's voice in your spirit so He can help you set your life in order. Make sure every area of your life is under His loving control!

**QUESTIONS FOR YOU TO CONSIDER**

Is your relationship with the Holy Spirit the top priority in your life?

Have you allowed anything in your life to usurp the position that only the Holy Spirit should have?

Why not take inventory of your "love life" today, asking the Holy Spirit to show you areas in your life where you have allowed your affection to be diverted from Him to other things?

Sparkling Gems from the Greek.

**Psalm 26:1-12 (AMP)**

**1 VINDICATE ME, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity; I have [expectantly] trusted in, leaned on, and relied on the Lord without wavering and I shall not slide. 2 Examine me, O Lord, and prove me; test my heart and my mind. 3 For Your loving-kindness is before my eyes, and I have walked in Your truth [faithfully]. 4 I do not sit with false persons, nor fellowship with pretenders; 5 I hate the company of evildoers and will not sit with the wicked. 6 I will wash my hands in innocence, and go about Your altar, O Lord, 7 That I may make the voice of thanksgiving heard and may tell of all Your wondrous works. 8 Lord, I love the habitation of Your house, and the place where Your glory dwells. 9 Gather me not with sinners and sweep me not away [with them], nor my life with bloodthirsty men, 10 In whose hands is wickedness, and their right hands are full of bribes. 11 But as for me, I will walk in my integrity; redeem me and be merciful and gracious to me. 12 My foot stands on an even place; in the congregations will I bless the Lord.**

**Proverbs 17:1-28 (AMP)**

**1 BETTER IS a dry morsel with quietness than a house full of feasting [on offered sacrifices] with strife. 2 A wise servant shall have rule over a son who causes shame, and shall share in the inheritance among the brothers. 3 The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, but the Lord tries the hearts. 4 An evildoer gives heed to wicked lips; and a liar listens to a mischievous tongue. 5 Whoever mocks the poor reproaches his Maker, and he who is glad at calamity shall not be held innocent or go unpunished. 6 Children's children are the crown of old men, and the glory of children is their fathers. 7 Fine or arrogant speech does not befit [an empty-headed] fool—much less do lying lips befit a prince. 8 A bribe is like a bright, precious stone that dazzles the eyes and affects the mind of him who gives it; [as if by magic] he prospers, whichever way he turns. 9 He who covers and forgives an offense seeks love, but he who repeats or harps on a matter separates even close friends. 10 A reproof enters deeper into a man of understanding than a hundred lashes into a [self-confident] fool. 11 An evil man seeks only rebellion; therefore a stern and pitiless messenger shall be sent against him. 12 Let [the brute ferocity of] a bear robbed of her whelps meet a man rather than a [self-confident] fool in his folly [when he is in a rage]. 13 Whoever rewards evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house. 14 The beginning of strife is as when water first trickles [from a crack in a dam]; therefore stop contention before it becomes worse and quarreling breaks out. 15 He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both an abomination [exceedingly disgusting and hateful] to the Lord. 16 Of what use is money in the hand of a [self-confident] fool to buy skillful and godly Wisdom—when he has no understanding or heart for it? 17 A friend loves at all times, and is born, as is a brother, for adversity. 18 A man void of good sense gives a pledge and becomes security for another in the presence of his neighbor. 19 He who loves strife and is quarrelsome loves transgression and involves himself in guilt; he who raises high his gateway and is boastful and arrogant invites destruction. 20 He who has a wayward and crooked mind finds no good, and he who has a willful and contrary tongue will fall into calamity. 21 He who becomes the parent of a [self-confident] fool does it to his sorrow, and the father of [an empty-headed] fool has no joy [in him]. 22 A happy heart is good medicine and a cheerful mind works healing, but a broken spirit dries up the bones. 23 A wicked man receives a bribe out of the bosom (pocket) to pervert the ways of justice. 24 A man of understanding sets skillful and godly Wisdom before his face, but the eyes of a [self-confident] fool are on the ends of the earth. 25 A self-confident and foolish son is a grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him. 26 Also, to punish or fine the righteous is not good, nor to smite the noble for their uprightness. 27 He who has knowledge spares his words, and a man of understanding has a cool spirit. 28 Even a fool when he holds his peace is considered wise; when he closes his lips he is esteemed a man of understanding.**