

## Worksheet

What do you think is the underlying creation-oriented rationale for the following OT laws?

- 1 Lev 26:3-12: If you follow my statutes and keep my commandments and observe them faithfully, I will give you your rains in their season, and the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. Your threshing shall overtake the vintage, and the vintage shall overtake the sowing; you shall eat your bread to the full, and live securely in your land. And I will grant peace in the land, and you shall lie down, and no one shall make you afraid; I will remove dangerous animals from the land, and no sword shall go through your land. You shall give chase to your enemies, and they shall fall before you by the sword ... I will look with favour upon you and make you fruitful and multiply you; I will place my dwelling in your midst, and I shall not abhor you. And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and you shall be my people
- 2 Exod 20:8 Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work ... For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day.
- 3 Any priest who is physically deformed is not allowed to minister (Lev 21:16-24): Any priest who has a blemish - 'one who is blind, or lame, or one who has a mutilated face or a limb too long, or one who has a broken foot or a broken hand, or a hunchback, or a dwarf, or a man with a blemish in his eyes or an itching disease or scabs or crushed testicles.'
- 4 Lev 21:10-12: The high priest 'shall not go where there is a dead body' even for his father or mother.
- 5 Lev 12: A mother's Period of Purification after childbirth – *during which time she is prevented from entering the temple* (cf. laws of menstruation in Lev 15:19-30).
- 6 Ezek. 44:18 'They shall have linen turbans on their heads, and linen undergarments on their loins; *they shall not bind themselves with anything that causes sweat.*'
- 7 Lev 19:28: 'you shall not make any gashes in your flesh for the dead ...'.
- 8 Lev. 21:10 The priest who is exalted above his fellows, on whose head the anointing oil has been poured and who has been consecrated to wear the vestments, *shall not dishevel (or uncover) his hair, nor tear his vestments.*

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<http://marpleparish.co.uk/Resources/theology2.htm>