Digression To Destruction

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I) Leviticus 18: A digression that leads to destruction

A) Do not the sins of the godless nations—I am the LORD your God

- Lev 18:1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,
- Lev 18:2 Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, I am the LORD your God.
- Lev 18:3 After the doings of the land of Egypt, wherein ye dwelt, shall ye not do: and after the doings of the land of Canaan, whither I bring you, shall ye not do: neither shall ye walk in their ordinances.
- Lev 18:4 Ye shall do my judgments, and keep mine ordinances, to walk therein: I am the LORD your God.
- Lev 18:5 Ye shall therefore keep my statutes, and my judgments: which if a man do, he shall live in them: I am the LORD.

B) A progression of sin

1) Incest (including abusive intra-family relationships)

- Lev 18:6 None of you shall approach to any that is near of kin to him, to uncover their nakedness: I am the LORD.
- Lev 18:7 The nakedness of thy father, or the nakedness of thy mother, shalt thou not uncover: she is thy mother; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness.
- Lev 18:8 The nakedness of thy father's wife shalt thou not uncover: it is thy father's nakedness. [mother or stepmother]
- Lev 18:9 The nakedness of thy sister, the daughter of thy father, or daughter of thy mother, whether she be born at home, or born abroad, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover. [sister or half-sister]
- Lev 18:10 The nakedness of thy son's daughter, or of thy daughter's daughter, even their nakedness thou shalt not uncover: for theirs is thine own nakedness. [granddaughters]
- Lev 18:11 The nakedness of thy father's wife's daughter, begotten of thy father, she is thy sister, thou shalt not uncover her nakedness. [half-sister]
- Lev 18:12 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy father's sister: she is thy father's near kinswoman. [aunt]
- Lev 18:13 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy mother's sister: for she is thy mother's near kinswoman. [aunt]
- Lev 18:14 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy father's brother, thou shalt not approach to his wife: she is thine aunt. [uncle or uncle's wife]
- Lev 18:15 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy daughter in law: she is thy son's wife; thou shalt not uncover her nakedness. [daughter-in-law]
- Lev 18:16 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of thy brother's wife: it is thy brother's nakedness. [sister-in-law]
- Lev 18:17 Thou shalt not uncover the nakedness of a woman and her daughter, neither shalt thou take her son's daughter, or her daughter's daughter, to uncover her nakedness; for they are her near kinswomen: it is wickedness. [daughters & granddaughters or step-daughters & step-granddaughters]
- Lev 18:18 Neither shalt thou take a wife to her sister, to vex her, to uncover her nakedness, beside the other in her life time. [wife's sister in wife's lifetime]

1a) New Testament continuation

1Co 5:1 It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

2) A woman during her time of uncleanness

- Lev 18:19 Also thou shalt not approach unto a woman to uncover her nakedness, as long as she is put apart for her uncleanness.
 - Lev 15:19 And if a woman have an issue, and her issue in her flesh be blood, she shall be put apart seven days: and whosoever toucheth her shall be unclean until the even.
 - Lev 15:25 And if a woman have an issue of her blood many days out of the time of her separation, or if it run beyond the time of her separation; all the days of the issue of her uncleanness shall be as the days of her separation: she shall be unclean.

2a) New Testament connection

- Mar 5:25 And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years,
- Mar 5:26 And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse,
- Mar 5:27 When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.
- Mar 5:30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?
- Hag 2:12 If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests answered and said, No.
- Hag 2:13 Then said Haggai, If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priests answered and said, It shall be unclean.

3) Adultery

Lev 18:20 Moreover thou shalt not lie carnally with thy neighbour's wife, to defile thyself with her.

Exo 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

3a) New Testament application

Mat 5:28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

4) The killing of innocent children

- Lev 18:21 And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.
 - Exo 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.
 - Pro 31:8 Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction.
 - Pro 31:9 Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy.

4a) New Testament commandment

Rom 13:9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Rom 13:10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

5) Homosexuality

- Lev 18:22 Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.
 - Lev 20:13 If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

5a) New Testament commandment

- Rom 1:26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:
- Rom 1:27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

6) Bestality

- Lev 18:23 Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion.
 - Lev 20:15 And if a man lie with a beast, he shall surely be put to death: and ye shall slay the beast.
 - Lev 20:16 And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them.

6a) New Testament statements

- 1Th 4:3 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication:
- 1Th 4:4 That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour;
- 1Th 4:5 Not in the lust of concupiscence, even as the Gentiles which know not God:

7) The Bible's way

- Gen 2:24 Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.
- Heb 13:4 Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.
- 1 Co 7:1 Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: It is good for a man not to touch a woman.
- 1Co 7:2 Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband.
- 1Co 7:3 Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband.
- 1Co 7:4 The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.
- 1Co 7:5 Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.
- 1 Co 7:8 I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I.
- 1Co 7:9 But if they cannot contain, let them marry: for it is better to marry than to burn.

D) The consequence against a nation that follows this digression into sin

- Lev 18:24 Defile not ye yourselves in any of these things: for in all these the nations are defiled which I cast out before you:
- Lev 18:25 And the land is defiled: therefore I do visit the iniquity thereof upon it, and the land itself vomiteth out her inhabitants
- Lev 18:26 Ye shall therefore keep my statutes and my judgments, and shall not commit any of these abominations; neither any of your own nation, nor any stranger that sojourneth among you:
- Lev 18:27 (For all these abominations have the men of the land done, which were before you, and the land is defiled;)
- Lev 18:28 That the land spue not you out also, when ye defile it, as it spued out the nations that were before you.
- Lev 18:29 For whosoever shall commit any of these abominations, even the souls that commit them shall be cut off from among their people.
- Lev 18:30 Therefore shall ye keep mine ordinance, that ye commit not any one of these abominable customs, which were committed before you, and that ye defile not yourselves therein: I am the LORD your God.

II) God destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan because of these sins

- Gen 15:16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.
- Deu 9:4 Speak not thou in thine heart, after that the LORD thy God hath cast them out from before thee, saying, For my righteousness the LORD hath brought me in to possess this land: but for the wickedness of these nations the LORD doth drive them out from before thee.
- Deu 18:12 For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

III) God's way of dealing with nations

- Gen 18:17 And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;
- Gen 18:18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?
- Gen 18:19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.
- Gen 18:20 And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;
- Gen 18:21 I will go down now, and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.
- Gen 18:22 And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.
- Gen 18:23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?
- Gen 18:24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?...
- Gen 18:32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy it for ten's sake.
- Gen 18:33 And the LORD went his way, as soon as he had left communing with Abraham: and Abraham returned unto his place.

IV) God's dealing with the 10 tribes of Israel

2Ki 17:15 And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the LORD had charged them, that they should not do like them.

- 2Ki 17:16 And they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshipped all the host of heaven, and served Baal.
- 2Ki 17:17 And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke him to anger.
- 2Ki 17:18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

V) God's dealing with the nation of Judah

- 2Ki 21:9 But they hearkened not: and Manasseh seduced them to do more evil than did the nations whom the LORD destroyed before the children of Israel.
- 2Ki 21:10 And the LORD spake by his servants the prophets, saying,
- 2Ki 21:11 Because Manasseh king of Judah hath done these abominations, and hath done wickedly above all that the Amorites did, which were before him, and hath made Judah also to sin with his idols:
- 2Ki 21:12 Therefore thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Behold, I am bringing such evil upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whosoever heareth of it, both his ears shall tingle.
- 2Ki 24:2 And the LORD sent against him bands of the Chaldees, and bands of the Syrians, and bands of the Moabites, and bands of the children of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by his servants the prophets.
- 2Ki 24:3 Surely at the commandment of the LORD came this upon Judah, to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh, according to all that he did;
- 2Ki 24:4 And also for the innocent blood that he shed: for he filled Jerusalem with innocent blood; which the LORD would not pardon.
- Psa 106:37 Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils,
- Psa 106:38 And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood.
- Psa 106:39 Thus were they defiled with their own works, and went a whoring with their own inventions.
- Psa 106:40 Therefore was the wrath of the LORD kindled against his people, insomuch that he abhorred his own inheritance.
- Psa 106:41 And he gave them into the hand of the heathen; and they that hated them ruled over them.

VI) Isaiah 5: A second progression of sins that leads to destruction

A) God's blessings to His unresponsive people

- Isa 5:1 Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill:
- Isa 5:2 And he fenced it, and gathered out the stones thereof, and planted it with the choicest vine, and built a tower in the midst of it, and also made a winepress therein: and he looked that it should bring forth grapes, and it brought forth wild grapes.
- Isa 5:5 And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard: I will take away the hedge thereof, and it shall be eaten up; and break down the wall thereof, and it shall be trodden down:
- Isa 5:6 And I will lay it waste: it shall not be pruned, nor digged; but there shall come up briers and thorns: I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it.
- Isa 5:7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for judgment, but behold oppression; for righteousness, but behold a cry.

B) Woes that bring destruction

1) Woe to covetousness

Isa 5:8 Woe unto them that join house to house, that lay field to field, till there be no place, that they may be placed alone in the midst of the earth!

2) Woe to drunken partying and endless entertainment

- Isa 5:11 Woe unto them that rise up early in the morning, that they may follow strong drink; that continue until night, till wine inflame them!
- Isa 5:12 And the harp, and the viol, the tabret, and pipe, and wine, are in their feasts

3) Woe to have sin by the wagon load

Isa 5:18 Woe unto them that draw iniquity with cords of vanity, and sin as it were with a cart rope:

4) Woe to leave God's standards

Isa 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

5) Woe to those who think they are wiser than God

Isa 5:21 Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!

6) Woe to them who say wrong is right for self-benefit (modern day politics)

- Isa 5:22 Woe unto them that are mighty to drink wine, and men of strength to mingle strong drink:
- Isa 5:23 Which justify the wicked for reward, and take away the righteousness of the righteous from him!

C) Consequences of these six woes

- Isa 5:25 Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them, and hath smitten them: and the hills did tremble, and their carcases were torn in the midst of the streets. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still.
- Isa 5:26 And he will lift up an ensign to the nations from far, and will hiss unto them from the end of the earth: and, behold, they shall come with speed swiftly:
- Isa 5:27 None shall be weary nor stumble among them; none shall slumber nor sleep; neither shall the girdle of their loins be loosed, nor the latchet of their shoes be broken:
- Isa 5:28 Whose arrows are sharp, and all their bows bent, their horses' hoofs shall be counted like flint, and their wheels like a whirlwind:
- Isa 5:29 Their roaring shall be like a lion, they shall roar like young lions: yea, they shall roar, and lay hold of the prey, and shall carry it away safe, and none shall deliver it.
- Isa 5:30 And in that day they shall roar against them like the roaring of the sea: and if one look unto the land, behold darkness and sorrow, and the light is darkened in the heavens thereof.