PARASHAT ACHARE MOT-KEDOSHIM

Leviticus 16:1–20:27

Parashat Achare Mot-Kedoshim is one of seven designated Torah portions that, depending upon the number of Sabbaths in a year, is either read as two separate portions or combined to assure the reading of the entire Torah. While this volume will combine them, it will present an interpretation on each of their most important themes.

Parashat Achare Mot, which means "after the death of," recalls the death of Nadab and Abihu, Aaron's sons. It describes the rituals for the sin offerings that Aaron is to present in the sanctuary for himself and the people. Mention is made of Yom Kippur, or "Day of Atonement." Laws regarding forbidden sexual relations are also presented.

Parashat Kedoshim, which means "holiness," lists those ritual and ethical laws that, if followed, will make the Jewish people a "holy" people.

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