

Review: Segments so far: Chapters 1-7 Offerings Chapters 8-10 Priests-ordination; strange fire
Board work: Start with chapter themes for 11-15. Add key points...

DAY 1 **Leviticus 11 Laws for eating, clean and unclean**

Read introduction—what does holiness look like in our lives?

Added key words: eat, unclean, holy

Q2. Observations of Leviticus 11

What were some of the animals they allowed to eat? What animals were unclean/ detestable?

V1-8 animals on the earth

V3 divides a hoof...split hoofs, chews the cud...you may eat

V4...the camel...v5 shaphan (*rock badger, coney, the hyrax*¹)...v6 rabbit...v7pig...is unclean to you

V8 not eat...nor touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you

V9-12 whatever is in the water

V9 you may eat whatever in the water: all that have fins and scales...

V10 But whatever...does not have fins and scales...they are detestable things to you

V13-19 birds

V13 These...you shall detest...eagle...vulture...buzzard...v14 the kite (*bird of prey*)... the falcon...v15 every raven...v16 ostrich...owl...sea gull...hawk...v17 little owl...pelican...carrion vulture...v19 stork, the heron...hoopoe...bat

V20-23 insects

V20 All the winged insects that walk on all fours are detestable to you.

V21 Yet these you may eat...those which have above their feet jointed legs with which to jump on the earth. V23 But all other winged insects which are four-footed as detestable to you.

V24-28 How could they be made unclean?

V24...touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening...v25 pick up carcasses...wash his clothes and be unclean until evening

V26...animals...not split hoof...not chew cud, they are unclean...touches them becomes unclean

V27...walks on its paws...on all fours, are unclean...touch their carcasses...unclean until evening

V29-43 swarming things

V29 These are to you unclean on the earth...mole, mouse, great lizard...v30 gecko...crocodile...the lizard...sand reptile ...chameleon...

V41...every swarming thing...is detestable, not to be eaten. V42 crawls on belly...whatever walks on all fours, whatever has many feet...you shall not eat them, for they are detestable.

NOTE: this refers to rodents/reptiles rather than what we might think of as swarming things like bees or flying insects.

V44-47 Why did God give these laws?

KEY POINT

V44...consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy...

V45...I am the Lord who brought you up from the land of Egypt...you shall be holy, for I am holy

V46 This is the law... V47 to make a distinction between the unclean and the clean, and between the edible creature and the creature which is not to be eaten.

¹ Harris, R. L., Archer, G. L., Jr., & Waltke, B. K. (Eds.). (1999). *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (electronic ed., p. 951). Chicago: Moody Press.

Q3. To appreciate the value of these laws we looked at **the promises** God made the nation of Israel when He brought them out of Egypt and **the conditions** that went with the promises.

a. Exodus 15:26 (*setting: when they came to Marah and the waters were bitter*)

25 Then he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree; and he threw *it* into the waters, and the waters became sweet.

There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them.

26 And He said,

Condition: **“If** you will give earnest heed to the voice of the LORD your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes,

Promise: **I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the LORD, am your healer.”**

b. Deuteronomy 7:15 (*setting: God’s instruction when they come into the land He was giving to not intermarry and to tear down their altars, smash their sacred pillars and burn their graven images*)

Condition: **12** “Then it shall come about, **because** you **listen** to these judgments and **keep and do** them, that the LORD your God will keep with you His covenant and His lovingkindness which He swore to your forefathers.

Promise: **13** “He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your ground, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock, in the land which He swore to your forefathers to give you.

14 “You shall be blessed above all peoples; there will be no male or female barren among you or among your cattle.

15 **“The LORD will remove from you all sickness; and He will not put on you any of the harmful diseases of Egypt which you have known, but He will lay them on all who hate you.**

Q4. Ask: Why do you think God put these restrictions on His people? What was His purpose?

Read second paragraph on **page 35**. Discuss.

One of the ways in which He would remove those diseases was through giving laws about what to eat and what not to eat. God’s protection of His people is seen in what He told them about their diet. Touching dead carcasses also causes disease. Washing, sanitizing, and isolation are important elements of stopping the spread of disease.

DAY 3 Leviticus 12 Law for a woman bearing a child

Q1. What is to be done? When?

V2...bears a **male** child...unclean for 7 days **V3** On 8th day...circumcised

V4 Remain in blood of her purification for 33 days...

V5 But if...bears a **female** child...unclean for 2 weeks...in the blood of her purification 66 days.

V6 when...complete...bring to the priest...1 year old lamb for **burnt offering**...young pigeon/turtledove for a **sin offering**

V7...offer it before the Lord...make atonement...cleansed from flow of blood...**the law for her who bears a child**

KEY POINT

V8 But if she cannot afford a lamb...take 2 turtledoves/young pigeons...one for burnt offering...other for a sin offering...

Q2. How is what Mary and Joseph did relate to what we see in Leviticus 12?

They fulfilled the law...

Q3. **Leviticus 13** **Law for the mark of leprosy**

What reasons was a person examined for leprosy?

Verses 1-8 a swelling or a scab or a bright spot, a mark on the skin

Verses 9-17 infection of leprosy, white swelling, raw flesh in swelling, chronic leprosy

V 18-23 a white swelling or a reddish-white bright spot where a boil was

V 24-28 a burn that becomes a bright spot, reddish-white or white

V 29-37 an infection on the head or beard

V 38-39 white bright spots on the skin, eczema

V 40-44 a reddish-white infection on a bald head or forehead

What happened to a person if he was pronounced unclean because of leprosy?

V45...clothes torn...hair uncovered, mustache covered...cry "Unclean,"

V46...remain unclean...live outside the camp

What happened to a garment, article of leather/skin that had a greenish/reddish mark of leprosy on it?

V50 Priest looked at it...quarantined it for 7 days.

V51...if it spread, it is unclean **V52...**burn it with fire

V53...if it had not spread... **V54...**wash and quarantine for 7 more days.

V55...if unchanged, then burned... **V56...**if mark faded...tear it out of the garment

V57...if it appears again...outbreak...burn it

V58...the mark has departed when washed...wash a second time...it will be clean

Verse 59...this is the law for the mark of leprosy...pronouncing it clean or unclean.

You might ask if anyone read about how Jews fared during times of epidemics?

If they kept these laws, then they were protected from the spread of disease.

DAY 4 **Leviticus 14** **Law for leper's cleansing**

What was the procedure for cleansing a leper from verses 1-33?

V2...the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing...

V3 the priest would go out to look at the one who had been healed.

V4-7 The priest would sprinkle the one who was to be cleansed seven times with blood of a sacrificed bird. The live bird was dipped into this blood, then let go.

V8 The one to be cleansed would then wash his clothes, shave his hair, and bathe. He could then enter the camp, but had to remain outside his tent for seven more days.

V9 On the 7th day, he again shaved off all of his hair, washed his clothes, and bathed.

V10-32 On the 8th day he made guilt, sin, burnt, and grain offerings (according to what he could afford), and blood was put on his right ear lobe, thumb, big toe, and oil put on those and the head of the one to be cleansed. **Atonement was made for him** at the doorway to the tent of meeting.

Key Point for this section

Q2. Cross-reference stories of people who had leprosy, what do we learn from them?

a. Numbers 12:1-15

Who: Miriam

Why: spoke against Moses

How handled: 13 Moses cried out to the LORD

14 Lord – bear her shame for 7 days; 15 Miriam shut up outside camp for 7 days

b. 2 Chronicles 26:14-21

Who: King Uzziah

Why: became strong, heart proud, acted corruptly, unfaithful to the LORD, entered the temple to burn incense

How handled: was a leper to the day of his death; lived in a separate house, cut off from the house of the LORD

c. Luke 5:12-14

Who: a man covered with leprosy

How handled: asked Jesus to make him clean; Jesus did, ordered him to go to the priest and make offering for cleansing

d. Luke 17:11-19

Who: ten leprosy men

How handled: men cried out for mercy. Jesus said, “go, show yourselves to the priests”.
They were cleansed as they went; only one came back to give thanks.

Verses 34-53 Mark of leprosy in a house

V34 ...a mark of leprosy on a house in the land of your possession

V35...tell the priest...**v36**...priest command to empty the house...go look at the house

V37...if the mark was greenish or reddish depressions...appears deeper than the surface

V38...quarantine the house for seven days, **v39**...return...make an inspection...if the mark had spread...**v40**...tear out stones with mark...throw them away...outside the city

V41...scrape plaster...dump outside the city...**v42**...replace stones...

V43...if the mark breaks out again...**V44**...it is a malignant mark...**V45**...tear down the house...

V48...if not spread...house pronounced clean

V49-53 same as **V10-33** with the birds, hyssop, cedar, scarlet string. Atonement made for house.

V57 to teach when they are unclean and when they are clean. Key Point for chapters 13-14

DAY 5 **Leviticus 15** **Law of discharge**

How is this chapter divided?

Verses 1-15

A man who had a discharge from his body (literally, flesh), even spit 7 days for cleansing after the discharge stopped 8th day, a sin and a burnt offering of birds for atonement

Verses 16-18

A man when he had a seminal emission No offering was needed for this, only bathe

Verses 19-24

A woman who had her menstrual discharge This is a normal function of a woman's body and needed no offering for cleansing. She was unclean for seven days.

Verses 25-30

A woman with a discharge of blood, but not at her menstrual period

After the cleansing, a sin and a burnt offering of birds for atonement

Who and what was affected by any of these discharges?

Whoever touched the person was then unclean, and whatever the one with the discharge sat or laid on was unclean.

Q2.

What is God's purpose in all this?

KEY POINT

V31 This was to keep the sons of Israel separated from their uncleanness, lest they die in their uncleanness by their defiling the Lord's tabernacle that was among them.

What kind of diseases would the laws of Leviticus 15 prevent?

The chronic or long-term male **discharge** described in this section was probably **gonorrhea**. The major concern was the man's **ceremonial uncleanness** and its consequences because other persons and objects he contacted became not only ceremonially unclean but also secondary sources of further uncleanness, for example, his bed (v. 4–5), chair (v. 6), person (v. 7), spit (v. 8), saddle (v. 9), and anything under him (subject to contact from his discharge, v. 10).

Is there any relevance of Leviticus 15 to today?

Q3. How does 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1 tie in with what we have learned this week?

This does not mean that we are to live in Christian communes isolated from the rest of the world. Jesus has sent us into the world with the gospel.

Believers are not to participate in what is unclean.

Christians are to cleanse themselves from all defilement. No longer is there a need for a priest to make atonement for defilement. Believers are priests unto God.

DAY 2 holy

Q1. Again, draw their attention to Leviticus 11:44-45.

Q2. What does it mean to be holy? What does the Hebrew word for holy mean?

holy, i.e., pertaining to being unique and pure in the sense of superior moral qualities and possessing certain essential divine qualities in contrast with what is human²

Q3. 1 Peter 1 (pg 43). How does this chapter relate to what we have seen in Leviticus?

God chose Aaron and his sons to be priests.

Believers are **chosen** (1:1).

We are holy because they have been **sanctified by the Spirit and sprinkled with Christ's blood** (1:2) because of obedience of faith for salvation.

We are to be **obedient children** (1:14). Obedience is being holy. Doing what the Word of God says makes believers different, distinct, from the world.

Not conformed to former lusts (1:14)—don't live like we did before being saved.

We are to **conduct ourselves in fear** (1:17), treat God as holy, honor (sanctify and glorify) Him before people.

The **sacrifice of an unblemished and spotless Lamb** (1:19) redeemed us; the blood of Christ bought our holiness. Therefore, by believing the truth about Him we have **purified our souls** (1:22). We are pure and holy from the inside out, not just on the outside only.

How can we live clean and holy lives before the Lord?

² Swanson, J. (1997). *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew (Old Testament)* (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.