



THE BOOK OF LEVITICUS
Chapters 11 – 15
“A HOLY GOD – A HOLY PEOPLE”

Go for God!

INTRO: Now we enter into the third section of the book of Leviticus chapters 11 – 15. First, we learned about the OFFERINGS (chapters 1 – 7), then the Laws of the PRIESTHOOD (chapters 8 – 10), and now in chapters 11 – 15 we will venture into things that are clean and unclean.

> CHAPTER 11 – “LAWS FOR FOOD”

- There are three facts about the dietary laws:

- (1) God gave these laws only to the Jewish nation;**
- (2) obeying them guaranteed ceremonial purity but didn't automatically make the person holy in character; and**
- (3) the laws were temporary and ended on the cross of Christ.**

- Paul writes in Colossians 2:13-14 - And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

(v1-8) Regulations for ANIMALS, the two requirements were that the animal chew the cud and have a split hoof. An animal with only one of these features wasn't considered clean and had to be rejected.

(v9-12) FISH – Permission is limited to those that have fins and scales.

(v13-19) BIRDS – Prohibition covers carnivorous birds and those of unclean habits.

(v20-23) INSECTS – Those that leap are permitted, those that run are forbidden.

(v24-28) DEATH – Rules concerning things that have died.

(v29-30) CREEPING things.

(v31-40) Further reference in regard to things that have died.

(v41-43) All things that crawl on their belly are unclean.

(v44-47) The great principle is holiness, separation, and cleanliness unto God.

- What now in the New Testament?

- Jesus said in Mark 7:14-23 - When He had called all the multitude to Himself, He said to them, "Hear Me, everyone, and understand: There is nothing that enters a man from outside which can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are the things that defile a man. If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!"

When He had entered a house away from the crowd, His disciples asked Him concerning the parable. So He said to them, "Are you thus without understanding also? Do you not perceive that whatever enters a man from outside cannot defile him, because it does not enter his heart but his stomach, and is eliminated, thus purifying all foods?"

And He said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man."

- Let us turn to Acts chapter 10 and learn about God's lessons for Jewish Peter to reach those unclean Gentiles.

- Paul writes in Romans 14:14-23 - *I know and am convinced by the Lord Jesus that there is nothing unclean of itself; but to him who considers anything to be unclean, to him it is unclean. Yet if your brother is grieved because of your food, you are no longer walking in love. Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died. Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men.*

Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.

Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All things indeed are pure, but it is evil for the man who eats with offense. It is good neither to eat meat nor drink wine nor do anything by which your brother stumbles or is offended or is made weak. Do you have faith? Have it to yourself before God. Happy is he who does not condemn himself in what he approves. But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith; for whatever is not from faith is sin.

- Paul wrote in the Pastoral Epistle of 1 Timothy 4:1-5 - *Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing is to be refused if it is received with thanksgiving; for it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.*

(And also in 1 Corinthians 8:8-9; 10:30)

> CHAPTER 12 – "LAWS FOR MOTHERHOOD"

(v1-4) Laws of impurity for the birth of a male child.

(v5) Laws of impurity for the birth of a female child.

(v6-8) These verses give instructions for offerings in regard to the birth of a child.

- We find Joseph and Mary obedient in fulfilling these instructions at the birth of Christ in Luke 2:21-24 - *And when eight days were completed for the circumcision of the Child, His name was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb. Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord"), and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "A pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.*

> CHAPTER 13 – “LAWS PERTAINING TO SKIN DISEASES”

This chapter deals with several types of skin diseases, of which the priest was to evaluate whether or not the specific disease would be contagious. Observation and evaluation would produce the prognosis of isolation of the individual or not. The term leprosy is used quite often throughout this chapter, but this is not used as a reference to horrid disease of leprosy, such as today’s term, which is “Hansen’s disease.”

(v1-17) Observation – Evaluation – Prognosis for skin swelling, a scab, or a bright spot.

(v18-23) Observation – Evaluation – Prognosis for a boil.

(v24-28) Observation – Evaluation – Prognosis for a burn.

(v29-37) Observation – Evaluation – Prognosis for a sore on the head or face.

(v38-46) Observation – Evaluation – Prognosis for white bright spots.

(v47- 59) Observation – Evaluation – Prognosis garments.

(Let us observe, evaluate, and give a prognosis on Luke 17:11-19)

CHAPTER 14 – “LAWS FOR CLEANSING PEOPLE & HOUSES”

This chapter explains the ceremonial cleansing ritual used to declare the one once infected is now clean and also disinfecting the home.

(v1-32) The law of the leper for the day of his cleansing.

(v33-53) The law of cleansing a leprous house with infectious bacteria, molds, fungus, contagious mildew.

(v54-57) These verses summarize chapters 13 and 14, as these are given to “teach” God’s people about that which is unclean or clean.

CHAPTER 15 – “MALE AND FEMALE UNCLEANNESS & CLEANSING”

(v1-15) This deals with a disease from men, which produces an infectious discharge from the male sexual organ, the uncleanness thereof, the cleansing therefore and the offerings required.

(v16-18) Cleansing (hygienic practice) in regard to semen emission.

**(v17-33) These verses deal with a woman’s menstrual period and an infectious discharge, her uncleanness, cleansing, and offerings.
(Let us look into Mark 5:25-34 – “*Your faith has made you well!*”)**