



LEVITICUS

Sermon Points & Notes

Week 4 - 10.29.23 | Tyler Wilson



Title: Distinct People

Scripture: Leviticus 11-15

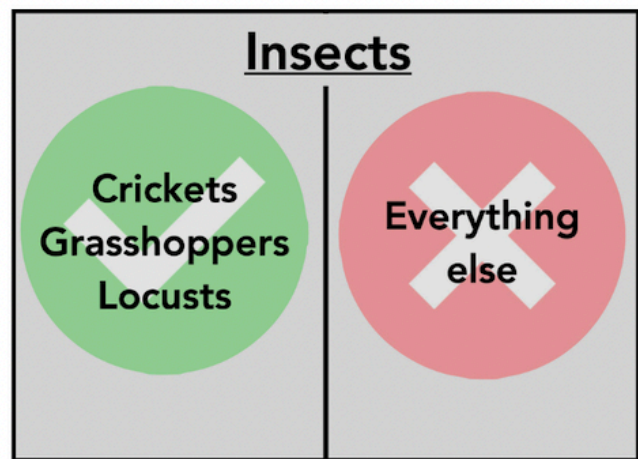
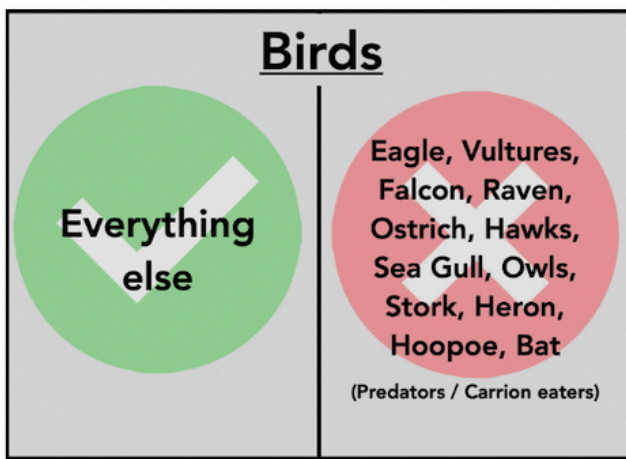
Main Point:

God's people are to be distinct from the culture of the world around us with a holiness that touches all facets of life, including the normal routines of everyday things.

Clean and Unclean Animals:

<u>Land Animals</u>	
 <p>Sheep Cattle Goats Deer Antelope</p> <p>(Chews the Cud + Split Hoof)</p>	 <p>Camel Rock Badger Hare Pig</p> <p>(Doesn't Chew the Cud or no Split Hoof)</p>

<u>Marine Animals</u>	
 <p>Anything with fins and scales</p> <p>("True Fish")</p>	 <p>Anything not with fins and scales</p> <p>(Squid, Shellfish, Octopus, etc.)</p>



What makes something clean vs. unclean? Many proposed answers:

- Hygiene
- Self-Discipline
- Allegorical
- Cursed Species
- Pagan Worship Association
- Normality vs. Anomaly

Leviticus 11:44-47

“For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. You shall not defile yourselves with any swarming thing that crawls on the ground. For I am the Lord who brought you up out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.” This is the law about beast and bird and every living creature that moves through the waters and every creature that swarms on the ground, to make a distinction between the unclean and the clean and between the living creature that may be eaten and the living creature that may not be eaten.”

DISTINCT - God's people can't be indistinguishable from the world - they must be recognizably different.

Holiness extends to every facet of life, including the mundane routines of everyday things.

MEN

- **15:3-15 - Chronic conditions**
- **15:16-18 - Short-term normal**

WOMEN

- **15:19-24 - Short-term normal**
- **15:25-30 - Chronic conditions**

Leviticus 13:45-46

The leprous person who has the disease shall wear torn clothes and let the hair of his head hang loose, and he shall cover his upper lip and cry out, 'Unclean, unclean.' He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease. He is unclean. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp."

Skin Disease = a dramatically vivid parable for sin

Lev. 14 - Cleansing Lepers

- Step 1 (v.1-7) - Purifying ceremony outside the camp with 2 birds / pronounced clean
- Step 2 (v.8-9) - After 7 days wash, shave, bathe / readmitted into camp
- Step 3 (v.10-32) - Make offerings / be restored to God and community

Purpose of Purity Laws - To make God's people distinct (holy) to reflect the Holy God who saved them.

Parameters of Purity Laws - Ordinary, everyday life is set apart to God. There is no sacred / secular divide.

Problems of Purity Laws - Religious leaders' oppression over time + inability to perfectly obey or provide the remedy.

Food

- What are you eating?
- How much are you eating?
- Why are you eating?
- How are you eating?
- Is your eating distinct - do you handle food differently than the world?

Body

- Fitness
- Sickness, pain & disease
- Image obsession / cosmetic appearance
- Cleanliness & taking care of yourself
- Modesty
- Physical rest, sleep and sabbath

On holiness and the Levitical System:

"As a sinful people in a world of death, we are tempted to become acclimated to sin and death. The Levitical system was designed to press against this worldly acclimation, against the felt sense that sin and death are normal. It was designed instead to acclimate Israel to life and holiness, to the presence of the living and holy God." Joe Rigney

Application Questions

- Are you trying to be "normal" or trying to be holy (distinct)?
- Lord - What is not yet holy and not yet wholly yours? Show me. Change me!

2 Corinthians 7:1

"Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God."