

Leviticus 11-15: Purity Laws

Introduction

Strange!

hygiene?
allegory?
cultural?

understood in light of the whole bible
cf. Gen 1-3

importance of purity 10:10; 11:44-45; 15:31

Overview of purity laws

11:1-46	Food
12:1-8	Childbirth
13:1-46	Infectious skin diseases
13:47-59	Mildew
14:1-32	Cleansing from skin diseases
14:33-57	Cleansing from mildew
15:1-33	Bodily discharges

Chapter 11 Food

1. Land creatures vv2-8
2. Water Creatures vv9-12
3. Birds vv13-19
4. Swarming things with wings vv20-23
5. Pollution by animals and its treatment vv24-47

Explanations...

1. Simply test of obedience?
2. Pagan worship?
3. Hygiene?
4. Clean animals are pictures of righteousness?

Relationship between animals and human beings according to Scripture

cf. Gen 1:20, 24

Adam as _____

Law and animals Exod 20:10, 13:13, 21:28, 22:29b-30

Men and animals

3 classes of animals and 3 classes of men

why are some animals unclean to eat?

1.

2.

3.

Israel's choice of food and LORD's _____
cf. Lev 11:44-45, Deut 14

food laws are an expression of _____

Israel as _____

Chapter 12 and 15 Reproduction and purification

Causes of uncleanness: _____

big point: _____ makes men and women unclean (cf. 15:18)

NB: both sexes included! (15:2-18 Men 15:19-30 Women)

....but what's all this about?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Chapter 13-14 Mouldy bodies, mouldy clothes

(tsara-at) "leprosy" (but not really) - mould/skin complaint; kind of fungus?
applied to human bodies/clothes/houses

chapter 13: diagnosis and definitions

pattern: symptoms, diagnosis and treatment

Swelling, eruption etc, 2-8

Scaly skin disease, 9-17

Boils, 18-23

Burns, 24-28

Scalp skin disease, 29-37

Non-mouldy spots, 38-39

Non-mouldy baldness, 40-44

NB: _____ of the "leper", vv 45-46

cf. Num 12:9ff Miriam

Mouldy clothes, 47-59

Meaning?

microcosm of _____

mould is _____

B _____

D _____

C _____

cf. 'mixtures' (abomination)

cf. priests 21:16-24, 22:4

'Leprosy'

Moses and leprosy cf. Ex 4.6

Lord's judgment cf. Num 12.10 ; 2 Kg 5:27; 2 Chron 26:19

plague of boils on Egyptians

_____ mustn't be corrupted

Chapter 14:1-32 Cleansing from Leprosy/'mouldiness'

Overview:

i. The rite of cleansing, 1-9

ii. Sacrifice after cleansing, 10-32 (similar to ordination)

(NB: ear-thumb-toe triad in vv. 14 and 17)

the way back in:

1.

2.

3.

4.

14:33-37 Leprosy in Houses

Evaluation of house leprosy, 33-42

Destruction of leprous house, 43-47

Cleansing of healed house, 48-53

Summary of leprosy laws, 54-57

Meaning?

Hope!

move from _____ back into _____

salvation is _____

Conclusions

What do the the uncleanness laws do?

1. reinforce _____

2. reinforce _____

3. show _____

= a system of _____ designed to _____ God's children to maturity by enabling them, like God, to "distinguish."

Uncleanness laws in the New Testament

Jesus's cleansing power Matt 8:3, Mk 5:28-30, Luke 7:14, John 15:3

Jew/Gentile divisions disappeared - Acts 10:9-16, Mark 7:14-23, Rom 14:20