

Pentateuch Overview: Leviticus

[#10] *The Gift of Cleansing* – Leviticus 11-16

Sermon Outline – May 28, 2017

Children's Sermon: Getting Clean

Revelation 21:27

But nothing unclean will ever enter [God's eternal city], nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

What is sin? (Doing what we want)

How does God get us clean from our sin?

➤ Washed by the Word & Spirit through Faith
(Jn. 15:3; Tit. 3:5-7; Acts 15:9)

How does he keep us clean? (1 Jn. 1:9)



Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...

Through the Word & the Holy Spirit Jesus washes us from the defilement that comes through our constant contact with sin & death.



Notes:

Leviticus: Meditations on the Gospel *The Gift of Cleansing (11-16)*

Birds Eye View

- I. Gospel Vocabulary
 - A. Offerings on the Altar (1-6)
 - B. The Role of the High Priest/Priests (6-7)
 - C. Theological Narrative (8-10)
- II. The Path to Holy Communion with God
 - A. The Gift of Cleansing (Sin; 11-16)
 - B. The Gift of Consecration (Burnt; 17-22)
 - C. The Gift of Communion (Peace; 23-27)
- III. Embrace the Covenant (26-27)

Key Concepts

Leviticus 10:10

You are to distinguish between the *holy and the common*, and between the *unclean and the clean*...

- Sin, Defilement & Death...
- Ceremonial Law...
- Priests evaluate & teach...Jesus heals & cleanses

Unclean	Clean
Abnormal	Normal
Not whole	Whole
Unnatural	Natural
Sick	Well
Corrupt/Dying	Alive/Vibrant/Living
Death	Life

Leviticus 15:31

“Thus you shall keep the people of Israel *separate from their uncleanness, lest they die* in their uncleanness by *defiling my tabernacle that is in their midst.*”

The Need for Purity & Cleansing

1. Clean and Unclean Animals (11) – Food/Nations
2. Purification after Childbirth (12) – Born of Adam
3. Defining/Cleansing Leprosy (13-14) – Walking Dead
4. Cleansing from Bodily Discharges (15) – Sex
5. The Day of Atonement (16) – 2 Goats (Aaron)

Sin/Death is everywhere, contagious, & disqualifies us from God’s holy presence

Washed & Washing

Food Laws (Washing Ourselves):

“The law is not meant to be a modern scientific rule for discerning what is edible or not, but a rough and readily observable guide. It meant in practice that anything associated with decay and death, or which fed on blood and meat, or that reminded them of the serpent, was unclean.”¹

“...it was the ritual of the law that came to an end in Christ—not what the law revealed. The regulations were particularly for Israel and were temporary, but the revelation of God’s holiness and what it demands remains applicable for all.”²

¹ Eveson, P. H. (2007). *The Beauty of Holiness: The Book of Leviticus Simply Explained* (p. 154). Darlington, England: Evangelical Press.

² Ross, A. P. (2002). *Holiness to the Lord: A Guide to the Exposition of the Book of Leviticus* (p. 246). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic.

Mark 7:15–23 (Jesus Taught)

¹⁵ There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.” ... ^{18b} ... Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, ¹⁹ since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.) ²⁰ And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ ***For from within, out of the heart of man,*** come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

2 Corinthians 6:14–7:1 (Paul)

¹⁴ Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵ What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? ¹⁶ ***What agreement has the temple of God with idols?*** For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, “I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ¹⁷ Therefore ***go out from their midst, and be separate from them,*** says the Lord, and ***touch no unclean thing;*** then I will welcome you, ¹⁸ and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.” 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.

Leprosy (Being Washed by Jesus): (by Faith)

- ✓ Chronic, spreading, goes below the surface (cloths, homes)
- ✓ Dead men walking
- ✓ Only God/Jesus can heal a leaper

Mark 1:40–42

⁴⁰ And a leper came to him, imploring him, and kneeling said to him, “If you will, you can make me clean.” ⁴¹ Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, “***I will; be clean.***” ⁴² And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean.

✓ Only Jesus can cleanse a leper (sprinkled & washed)

Hebrews 10:22–23 (Cf. Psalm 51)

²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with ***our hearts sprinkled clean*** from an evil conscience and ***our bodies washed with pure water.*** ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

...Fired at our Life & Heart

We must talk about the truth of the gospel and pray for God’s constant help.



A Life of Faith & Repentance

- How do we practice our faith?
- How do we practice our repentance?

Meditation Questions: How do these purity laws teach us?

1. What does God think of our defilement with sin and death?
2. Has God finished cleansing you from your sin? What specific sin(s) has God brought to your attention this week?
3. What are you doing to remember the gospel daily? Prayerfully consider how you can grow here.
4. How does the gospel keep us from feeling guilty about our weak efforts?
5. How does the Gospel motivate us or empower us to work hard to put on the life of faith exemplified by Christ?
6. What ways are you typically tempted to trust and rely on yourself instead of Christ?
7. What particular desires threaten to rule your thoughts and actions most regularly?
8. What fears most frequently control you?

It would be profitable to prayerfully consider the questions above both alone and with a brother or sister in Christ.