

Leviticus 11:26

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The carcases of every beast which divideth the hoof, and is not clovenfooted, nor cheweth the cud, are unclean unto you: every one that toucheth them shall be unclean.

Analysis

The carcases of every beast which divideth the hoof, and is not clovenfooted, nor cheweth the cud, are unclean unto you: every one that toucheth them shall be unclean.

This verse falls within the section on **Clean and Unclean Animals**. Dietary laws distinguishing clean from unclean animals, teaching Israel holiness and separation from pagan practices.

Ritual purity laws taught Israel to distinguish between clean and unclean, holy and common, training them in discernment and reverence for God's presence.

Every sacrifice and ritual in Leviticus points forward to Jesus Christ, who fulfills the entire sacrificial system as both perfect sacrifice and eternal high priest.

Historical Context

Dietary laws distinguishing clean from unclean animals, teaching Israel holiness and separation from pagan practices. Chapters 11-15 address ritual purity, teaching Israel to distinguish clean from unclean. These laws served multiple purposes: promoting health, teaching spiritual lessons about sin's defilement, and separating Israel from pagan practices. Archaeological evidence shows Canaanite worship involved practices Israel's laws explicitly prohibited. Israel received these laws while encamped at Sinai, before entering Canaan. The laws prepared them

for life in the promised land, distinguishing them from Canaanite practices and establishing their identity as God's holy nation. The portable tabernacle, central to Levitical worship, accompanied them through wilderness wanderings and eventually found permanent form in Solomon's temple. Ancient sacrificial texts from cultures surrounding Israel demonstrate the widespread practice of animal sacrifice, but Israel's system uniquely emphasized moral atonement over magical efficacy.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?
3. How can you use this verse to worship God more fully, obey Him more faithfully, or love others more sacrificially?

Interlinear Text

לְכָל	הַבְּהָמָה	אֲשֶׁר	הִוא	מִפְרָסֶת	הַפְּרָסָה
H3605	The carcases of every beast	H834	H1931	which divideth	the hoof
	H929			H6536	H6541
אֵין בָּהּ וְשָׁעָן	שָׁסֶעֶת	אֵין בָּהּ וְשָׁעָן	אֵינֶנּוּ גִּנְבָּה	מַעַל הַ	מַעַל הַ
H8156	H369	and is not clovenfooted	H8157	the cud	nor cheweth
				H1625	H5927
בְּרָמָה	בְּנֵגֶעֶת	בְּרָמָה	בְּרָמָה		
בְּרָמָה	בְּנֵגֶעֶת	בְּרָמָה	בְּרָמָה		
בְּרָמָה	בְּנֵגֶעֶת	בְּרָמָה	בְּרָמָה		
are unclean	H1992	H0	H3605	unto you every one that toucheth	H0
H2931				H5060	
בְּרָמָה!					
them shall be unclean					
H2930					

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