

Leviticus 11:29

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

These also shall be unclean unto you among the creeping things that creep upon the earth; the weasel, and the mouse, and the tortoise after his kind,

Analysis

These also shall be unclean unto you among the creeping things that creep upon the earth; the weasel, and the mouse, and the tortoise after his kind,

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.

The New Testament reveals that Christ's sacrifice accomplishes what the Levitical system could only symbolize—complete forgiveness and restoration of relationship with God.

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. The Israelite dietary laws in Leviticus 11 have no exact parallel in surrounding cultures, though some ancient cultures had food taboos, suggesting unique revelation rather than borrowed customs.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

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. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

וְזֶה	לְכֶם	הַטֹּמֵא	אֵלֶיךָ	בְּשֶׁךְ	וְהַעֲכָבִי	וְהַצֹּב
H2088	H0	H2931		H8318		
These also shall be unclean unto you among the creeping						
הַשֹּׁרֵץ	עַל	הָאֲרֶץ	הַחֹלֵד	וְהַעֲכָבִי	וְהַצֹּב	
H8317	H5921	H776	H2467	H5909	H6632	
things that creep	upon the earth	the weasel	and the mouse	and the tortoise		
לְמִינֵהוּ:						
after his kind						
H4327						

