

# Leviticus 11:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But if any water be put upon the seed, and any part of their carcase fall thereon, it shall be unclean unto you.

## Analysis

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**But if any water be put upon the seed, and any part of their carcase fall thereon, it shall be unclean unto you.**

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

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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

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**James 2:17** — Faith and works

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

## Study Questions

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1. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

## Interlinear Text

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וְנִזְבַּל תְּבֻנָּה  
H3588      **be put**      **But if any water**      H5921      **upon the seed**      **fall**  
H5414      H4325      H2233      H5307

לְכֹם: הַ וְאַ  
מִתְבָּלַת מִ  
and any part of their carcase      H5921      **thereon it shall be unclean**      H1931      H0  
H5038      H2931