

# Leviticus 11:40

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he that eateth of the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: he also that beareth the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even.

## Analysis

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**And he that eateth of the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: he also that beareth the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even.**

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 holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

## 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. 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

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**James 2:17** — Faith and works

## Study Questions

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1. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

## Interlinear Text

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וְאָכַל	נִכְלַת	יְכַבֵּס	בְּגִדֵּי	וְעַד
And he that eateth	of the carcase	of it shall wash	his clothes	and be unclean
H398	H5038	H3526	H899	H5704
בְּעַרְבָּה	נִכְלַת	יְכַבֵּס	בְּגִדֵּי	בְּעַד
until the even	he also that beareth	of the carcase	of it shall wash	his clothes
H6153	H5375	H853	H5038	H3526
וְעַמְּאָדָן	עַד	בְּעַרְבָּה:	בְּגִדֵּי	וְעַמְּאָדָן
and be unclean	H5704	until the even	H899	H2930
	H6153			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Ezekiel 44:31** (Parallel theme): The priests shall not eat of any thing that is dead of itself, or torn, whether it be fowl or beast.

**Leviticus 22:8** (Parallel theme): That which dieth of itself, or is torn with beasts, he shall not eat to defile himself therewith: I am the LORD.

**Deuteronomy 14:21** (Parallel theme): Ye shall not eat of any thing that dieth of itself: thou shalt give it unto the stranger that is in thy gates, that he may eat it; or thou mayest sell it unto an alien: for thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God. Thou shalt not seethe a kid in his mother's milk.

**Ezekiel 4:14** (Parallel theme): Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! behold, my soul hath not been polluted: for from my youth up even till now have I not eaten of that which dieth of itself, or is torn in pieces; neither came there abominable flesh into my mouth.