

Leviticus 11:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the hare, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

Analysis

And the hare, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is 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.

Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

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 tabernacle's design parallels ancient Near Eastern temple architecture, yet its portable nature and absence of divine images distinguished it from pagan temples.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

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. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

וְפָרָס הַ הַ וְאֶגְרָה מַעַל תְּ בָתְרָאָן כִּי
H853 **And the hare** H3588 **because he cheweth** H5927 **the cud** H1625
H768 H1931 H6541

לֹא לְ יִסְתַּחַר הַ וְאֶטְמָא הַ הַפְּרָא
H3808 **but divideth** H2931 **he is unclean** H1931 H0
H6536

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 14:7 (Parallel theme): Nevertheless these ye shall not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the cloven hoof; as the camel, and the

hare, and the coney: for they chew the cud, but divide not the hoof; therefore they are unclean unto you.

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org