

Leviticus 12:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a woman have conceived seed, and born a man child: then she shall be unclean seven days; according to the days of the separation for her infirmity shall she be unclean.

Analysis

Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, If a woman have conceived seed, and born a man child: then she shall be unclean seven days; according to the days of the separation for her infirmity shall she be unclean.

This verse falls within the section on **Purification After Childbirth**. Regulations for ritual purification following childbirth, acknowledging both the blessing of life and effects of the fall.

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

Regulations for ritual purification following childbirth, acknowledging both the blessing of life and effects of the fall. 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

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Study Questions

1. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?

Interlinear Text

אֵל דִּבֶּר	בְּנֵי י	יִשְׂרָאֵל	לֵאמֹר	אִשָּׁה	כִּי י
Speak	unto the children	of Israel	saying	If a woman	
H1696	H1121	H3478	H559	H802	H3588
תִּזְרַע	וְיָלַדָּהּ	זָכָר	תִּטְמָא:	שִׁבְעַת	
have conceived seed	and born	a man	child then she shall be unclean	seven	
H2232	H3205	H2145	H2930	H7651	
כִּימֵי י	כִּימֵי י	נֶדַת	דּוֹתֶיהָ		
according to the days	according to the days	of the separation	for her infirmity		
H3117	H3117	H5079	H1738		
			תִּטְמָא:		
			child then she shall be unclean		
			H2930		

Additional Cross-References

Luke 2:22 (Parallel theme): And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord;

Leviticus 15:19 (Parallel theme): And if a woman have an issue, and her issue in her flesh be blood, she shall be put apart seven days: and whosoever toucheth her shall be unclean until the even.

Job 15:14 (Parallel theme): What is man, that he should be clean? and he which is born of a woman, that he should be righteous?

Job 14:4 (Parallel theme): Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? not one.

Job 25:4 (Parallel theme): How then can man be justified with God? or how can he be clean that is born of a woman?

Leviticus 18:19 (Parallel theme): Also thou shalt not approach unto a woman to uncover her nakedness, as long as she is put apart for her uncleanness.

