

Leviticus 13:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

When a man shall have in the skin of his flesh a rising, a scab, or bright spot, and it be in the skin of his flesh like the plague of leprosy; then he shall be brought unto Aaron the priest, or unto one of his sons the priests:

Analysis

When a man shall have in the skin of his flesh a rising, a scab, or bright spot, and it be in the skin of his flesh like the plague of leprosy; then he shall be brought unto Aaron the priest, or unto one of his sons the priests:

This verse falls within the section on **Diagnosing Skin Diseases**. Detailed procedures for priests to diagnose skin diseases (צִרְעָה, tzaraat), often translated 'leprosy' but covering various conditions.

The Aaronic priesthood mediated between God and Israel, offering sacrifices and maintaining the tabernacle. This prefigured Christ's superior priesthood after the order of Melchizedek.

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

Historical Context

Detailed procedures for priests to diagnose skin diseases (צִרְעָה, tzaraat), often translated 'leprosy' but covering various conditions. 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

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

Study Questions

1. In what ways does this verse deepen your appreciation for Christ's atoning sacrifice and the seriousness of sin?
2. How does Christ's superior priesthood, prefigured in this verse, assure you of access to God and effective intercession?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

אָד מ	כִּי	יְהִי ה	בְּעוֹר	בְּשָׁר ו	שָׂא ת	אִו
When a man	H3588	H1961	and it be in the skin	of his flesh	a rising	H176
H120			H5785	H1320	H7613	
סַפֵּי חַת	א ו	בֶּהָרֵת	יְהִי ה	בְּעוֹר	בְּשָׁר ו	
a scab	H176	or bright spot	H1961	and it be in the skin	of his flesh	
H5597		H934		H5785	H1320	
לִנְ גַע	צָרַ עֵת	וְהוּבֵא	אֶל	אֶהָרֵן	הַכֹּהֲנִים:	
like the plague	of leprosy	then he shall be brought	H413	unto Aaron	the priest	
H5061	H6883	H935		H175	H3548	
א ו	אֶל ד	אֶחָד	מִבְּנֵי יו	הַכֹּהֲנִים:		
H176	H413	or unto one	of his sons	the priest		
		H259	H1121	H3548		

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 24:8 (Parallel theme): Take heed in the plague of leprosy, that thou observe diligently, and do according to all that the priests the Levites shall teach you: as I commanded them, so ye shall observe to do.

Leviticus 14:56 (Sin): And for a rising, and for a scab, and for a bright spot:

Leviticus 14:3 (Parallel theme): And the priest shall go forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and, behold, if the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper;