

Leviticus 13:31

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And if the priest look on the plague of the scall, and, behold, it be not in sight deeper than the skin, and that there is no black hair in it; then the priest shall shut up him that hath the plague of the scall seven days:

Analysis

And if the priest look on the plague of the scall, and, behold, it be not in sight deeper than the skin, and that there is no black hair in it; then the priest shall shut up him that hath the plague of the scall seven days:

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

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's superior priesthood, prefigured in this verse, assure you of access to God and effective intercession?
2. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

Interlinear Text

אִין	וְהִנֵּה ה	הַנְּתִיק	נָ גַע	אֶת	הַכֹּהֵן	יִרְאֶה ה	וְכִי
H369	H2009	H5424	H5061	H853	H3548	H7200	H3588
		of the scall	on the plague		And if the priest	look	
וְשַׁעַר	הָעוֹר	מִן	עֲמֹק		מִרְאֵה הוֹ		
H8181	H5785	H4480	H6013		H4758		
hair	than the skin	deeper			and behold it be not in sight		
אֶת	הַכֹּהֵן	וְהִסָּג יר	בּוֹ אֵין	שָׁחַר			
H853	H3548	H5462	H0	H369			
	And if the priest	shall shut		and that there is no black			
יָמִים:	שִׁבְעַת	הַנְּתִיק	נָ גַע				
H3117	H7651	H5424	H5061				
days	seven	of the scall	on the plague				