

Leviticus 13:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the priest shall look on him the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague in his sight be at a stay, and the plague spread not in the skin; then the priest shall shut him up seven days more:

Analysis

And the priest shall look on him the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague in his sight be at a stay, and the plague spread not in the skin; then the priest shall shut him up seven days more:

This verse falls within the section on **Diagnosing Skin Diseases**. Detailed procedures for priests to diagnose skin diseases (צָרָעָת, 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.

The access to God's presence that Leviticus carefully regulated is now freely available through Christ's blood, tearing the veil and opening the way to God.

Historical Context

Detailed procedures for priests to diagnose skin diseases (צָרָעָת, 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 2:1 — Judging others

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does Christ's superior priesthood, prefigured in this verse, assure you of access to God and effective intercession?
2. What does this verse teach about the seriousness of sin, the cost of redemption, or the beauty of holiness?
3. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?

Interlinear Text

וְהִנֵּה הַשְׁבִּיעִי יְמֵי הַכֹּה | וְכֹא הַזָּהָר

shall look And the priest day on him the seventh

H7200

H3548

H3117

H7637

H2009

בְּגָעָה

עַמְדָה

בְּעֵינֵי

לֹא

פָּשָׁת

and behold if the plague

be at a stay

in his sight

H3808

spread

H5061

H5975

H5869

H6581

בְּגָעָה

בְּעֵזֶר

וְהַסְגִּיר

and behold if the plague

not in the skin

shall shut

And the priest

שְׁבַע תְּ

him up seven

H5061

H5785

H5462

H3548

H7651

שְׁנִיתָה יְמֵי

day more

H3117

H8145

From KJV Study • kjvstudy.org