

# 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 (צָרַעַת, 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 (צָרַעַת, 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

---

וְהָיָה הַשְּׁבִיעִי יָמֵי הַכֹּהֵן | וְרָא הוּא  
**shall look** **And the priest** **day** **on him the seventh** H2009  
H7200 H3548 H3117 H7637

פָּשַׁח הָאֵל בְּעֵינָיו יוֹמָם דַּע הִנֵּה גַע  
**and behold if the plague** **be at a stay** **in his sight** H3808 **spread**  
H5061 H5975 H5869 H6581

שָׁבַע תְּהַכֶּה | וְהִסְגִּיר וְלֹא בָעוֹר הִנֵּה גַע  
**and behold if the plague** **not in the skin** **shall shut** **And the priest** **him up seven**  
H5061 H5785 H5462 H3548 H7651

שְׁנִית: יָמֵי יוֹם  
**day** **more**  
H3117 H8145