

# Leviticus 14:38

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the priest shall go out of the house to the door of the house, and shut up the house seven days:

## Analysis

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**Then the priest shall go out of the house to the door of the house, and shut up the house seven days:**

This verse falls within the section on **Cleansing from Skin Diseases**. Elaborate cleansing ritual for healed lepers, involving birds, blood, and multiple offerings, symbolizing restoration.

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.

Hebrews 9-10 explains how Christ's once-for-all sacrifice supersedes the repeated Levitical offerings, providing permanent cleansing from sin.

## Historical Context

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Elaborate cleansing ritual for healed lepers, involving birds, blood, and multiple offerings, symbolizing restoration. 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

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**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

## Study Questions

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1. How does Christ's superior priesthood, prefigured in this verse, assure you of access to God and effective intercession?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?
3. In what ways does this verse challenge contemporary cultural values or your personal attitudes?

## Interlinear Text

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וְיַצֵּא אֵלֶיךָ | הַכֹּה מִן הַבָּתָה אֶל פִּתְחָה תְּחַפֵּה אֶל  
shall go Then the priest H4480 of the house H1004 to the door H6607 of the house H1004

וְזָנַת יְהִי שְׁבַע תְּבִתָּה אֶת וְהַסְגִּיר  
and shut H853 of the house H1004 seven H7651 days H3117