

Leviticus 14:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But it shall be on the seventh day, that he shall shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he shall shave off: and he shall wash his clothes, also he shall wash his flesh in water, and he shall be clean.

Analysis

But it shall be on the seventh day, that he shall shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he shall shave off: and he shall wash his clothes, also he shall wash his flesh in water, and he shall be clean.

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.

Ritual purity laws taught Israel to distinguish between clean and unclean, holy and common, training them in discernment and reverence for God's presence.

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

Historical Context

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

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. How does this verse reveal God's character, and how should that revelation shape your relationship with Him?
3. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?

Interlinear Text

בַּיּוֹם הַשְׁבִיעִי	כִּי	אַתָּה יַגְלִיל מִן	כָּל
H1961 day	H3117 But it shall be on the seventh	H7637 he shall shave	H853 H3605
אֶת שְׂעִיר וְאֶת רָאשׁ וְאֶת זְקִנָּו וְאֶת גַּבְּתָה	אֶת שְׂעִיר וְאֶת רָאשׁ וְאֶת זְקִנָּו וְאֶת גַּבְּתָה	אֶת שְׂעִיר וְאֶת רָאשׁ וְאֶת זְקִנָּו וְאֶת גַּבְּתָה	אֶת שְׂעִיר וְאֶת רָאשׁ וְאֶת זְקִנָּו וְאֶת גַּבְּתָה
all his hair	H853 off his head	H853 and his beard	H853 and his eyebrows
H8181	H7218	H2206	H1354
אֶת שְׂעִיר וְאֶת רָאשׁ וְאֶת זְקִנָּו וְאֶת גַּבְּתָה	אֶת שְׂעִיר וְאֶת רָאשׁ וְאֶת זְקִנָּו וְאֶת גַּבְּתָה	אֶת שְׂעִיר וְאֶת רָאשׁ וְאֶת זְקִנָּו וְאֶת גַּבְּתָה	אֶת שְׂעִיר וְאֶת רָאשׁ וְאֶת זְקִנָּו וְאֶת גַּבְּתָה
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בְּגִדֵּי יְהוָה	בְּגִדֵּי יְהוָה	בְּגִדֵּי יְהוָה	בְּגִדֵּי יְהוָה
his clothes	also he shall wash	his flesh	and he shall be clean
H899	H7364	H1320	H4325
בְּמִים בְּשָׁר וְבְגִדֵּי יְהוָה			
in water	and he shall wash	in water	and he shall be clean
			H2891

Additional Cross-References

Numbers 6:9 (Parallel theme): And if any man die very suddenly by him, and he hath defiled the head of his consecration; then he shall shave his head in the day of his cleansing, on the seventh day shall he shave it.

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