

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

כָּל	אֶת	יִגַּל ה'	הַשְּׁבִיעִי י'	בֵּי יוֹם	וְהָיָה
H3605	H853	H1548	H7637	H3117	H1961
		he shall shave	But it shall be on the seventh	day	
גִּבֹּת	וְאֶת	זָקְנוֹ	וְאֶת	רֹאשׁוֹ	אֶת
H1354	H853	H2206	H853	H7218	H853
and his eyebrows		and his beard		off his head	all his hair
אֶת	וְכִבֶּה־ס	יִגַּל ה'	שְׁעָרוֹ	כָּל	וְאֶת
H853	H3526	H1548	H8181	H3605	H853
	off and he shall wash	he shall shave	all his hair		
וְטָהַר:	בַּמַּיִם	בְּשָׁרוֹ	אֶת	וְכִבֶּה־ץ	בְּגָדָיו
H2891	H4325	H1320	H853	H7364	H899
and he shall be clean	in water	his flesh		also he shall wash	his clothes

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.