

# Leviticus 15:17

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And every garment, and every skin, whereon is the seed of copulation, shall be washed with water, and be unclean until the even.

## Analysis

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**And every garment, and every skin, whereon is the seed of copulation, shall be washed with water, and be unclean until the even.**

This verse falls within the section on **Bodily Discharges**. Laws concerning various bodily discharges, emphasizing that approaching God's holy presence requires ritual purity.

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

What Leviticus portrayed through types and shadows, Christ fulfilled in reality through His incarnation, perfect life, atoning death, and resurrection.

## Historical Context

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Laws concerning various bodily discharges, emphasizing that approaching God's holy presence requires ritual purity. 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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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Genesis 1:1** — Creation of heavens and earth

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. How does this verse point to Christ, and how does that deepen your faith and gratitude?
3. In what practical ways should this verse influence your church life, family relationships, or personal integrity?

## Interlinear Text

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|                       |                            |                        |                       |                       |         |        |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------|--------|
| וְכָל                 | בְּגָד                     | וְכָל                  | עוֹר                  | אֲשֶׁר                | יְהִי ה | עַל יו |
| H3605                 | <b>And every garment</b>   | H3605                  | <b>and every skin</b> | H834                  | H1961   | H5921  |
|                       | H899                       |                        | H5785                 |                       |         |        |
| שְׁכָבֶת              | זֶרַע                      | וְיִכָּבֵס             | בַּמַּיִם             | וְיִטְמָא             | עַד     |        |
| <b>of copulation</b>  | <b>whereon is the seed</b> | <b>shall be washed</b> | <b>with water</b>     | <b>and be unclean</b> | H5704   |        |
| H7902                 | H2233                      | H3526                  | H4325                 | H2930                 |         |        |
| הָעֶרֶב:              |                            |                        |                       |                       |         |        |
| <b>until the even</b> |                            |                        |                       |                       |         |        |
| H6153                 |                            |                        |                       |                       |         |        |

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