

Leviticus 15:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When any man hath a running issue out of his flesh, because of his issue he is unclean.

Analysis

Speak unto the children of Israel, and say unto them, When any man hath a running issue out of his flesh, because of his issue he is unclean.

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. The holiness demanded in Leviticus becomes possible through Christ, who both satisfies God's righteous requirements and transforms believers by His Spirit.

Historical Context

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 texts like the Code of Hammurabi show that law codes were common in the ancient Near East, but biblical law uniquely grounded ethics in God's character rather than merely social convention.

Related Passages

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Study Questions

1. How can you develop greater spiritual discernment in distinguishing what honors God from what defiles?
2. How does this verse help you understand both God's justice and His mercy in salvation?
3. What practical steps can you take this week to apply the principles taught in this verse?

Interlinear Text

אָשָׁר אָלָּא בְּנֵי אֲלֹהִים אָמַרְתָּ מִשְׁרָאֵל בְּנֵי

Speak H413 **unto the children** H1121 **of Israel** H3478 **and say** H559 **man** H376

H1696 H1961 H376

זֹבֵב אָשָׁר מִבְשָׁר וְיִהְיָה בְּנֵי אָשָׁר

man H3588 **hath a running issue** H2100 **out of his flesh** H1320 **because of his issue** H2101

H376 H1961 H2100 H1320 H2101

הַוָּא: בְּמַמְּאָה

he is unclean H1931

H2931

Additional Cross-References

Leviticus 22:4 (Parallel theme): What man soever of the seed of Aaron is a leper, or hath a running issue; he shall not eat of the holy things, until he be clean. And whoso toucheth any thing that is unclean by the dead, or a man whose seed goeth from him;

Numbers 5:2 (References Israel): Command the children of Israel, that they put out of the camp every leper, and every one that hath an issue, and whosoever is defiled by the dead:

2 Samuel 3:29 (Parallel theme): Let it rest on the head of Joab, and on all his father's house; and let there not fail from the house of Joab one that hath an issue, or that is a leper, or that leaneth on a staff, or that falleth on the sword, or that lacketh bread.

Matthew 9:20 (Parallel theme): And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment:

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