

Leviticus 12 - 14

Passing Go

01/22/12

INTRODUCTION

Leviticus 12 and 13 inform us that there are some aspects of everyday life that excluded God's people from coming into His presence. But as we move from chapters 12 and 13 into chapter 14, it is like picking up a "Get Out of Jail FREE!" card. Chapter 14 provides the freedom to live...with a focus on preparing to enter God's presence.

1. Leviticus 12 conveys that we are **Separated by** _____ from God.

It is crucial to understand that uncleanness or defilement is not always a result of sin.

- a. The example in chapter 12 points out that the physical process of childbirth is incompatible with the holy presence of God.
- b. **Read Leviticus 12.** The overarching issue is holiness.

Pregnancy was an abnormal condition compared to normal everyday life; it interrupts a number of regular activities and calls for special care throughout pregnancy and following the birth of a child.

2. Leviticus 13 conveys we are also **separated by** _____.

Sin entered the world and death through sin (Romans 5.12)

Disease is a result of the Fall in Genesis chapter 3, where sickness and death became part of human life.

- a. Leviticus chapter 13 lists a number of diseases then that separated people from God.
 - Minor swelling, rashes and spots (v. 2 – 8)
 - Chronic skin diseases (v. 9 – 17)
 - Diseases in scars (v. 18 – 23)
 - Burns (v. 24 – 28)
 - The scalp (v. 29 – 37)
- b. Again the focus is ritual impurity. A skin disease was an open sign of some abnormality. One commentator notes that skin diseases openly display that the body is wasting away.
- i. Holiness in Leviticus is symbolized by wholeness. (Gordon Wenham)
- ii. Bodily disease, both of chapter 12 and 13, are not compatible with a perfect God.

3. Leviticus 14 teaches us that we are **saved by sacrifice.**

- a. Verses 1 – 9 detail the sacrifices that provided Restoration to the Community.
- b. Verses 10 – 32 detail the sacrifices for the formerly unclean person that Restored fellowship with God.

- c. The LORD provided the way for someone restored to health to enter full participation in the covenant community through the ritual of sacrificial atonement. **READ 14.1 – 9.**

4. APPLICATION

- a. For us, God makes provision for healing and hope
- i. Being restored to the community pointed to the fact that God is the Healer
- ii. When we experience the healing hand of God it is right to offer a sacrifice of praise and even an offering of thanksgiving to God.
 - b. For us, God also makes provision for healing and hope through the _____
 - c. The sacrifice of Jesus provides healing from the penalty of sin in Genesis 3.
 - d. The sacrifice of Jesus also provides hope for eternity. The doctrine of _____ —the entering into God’s eternal presence. Glorification is the consummation of your personal salvation.
- i. Philippians 3:20-21: But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.
- ii. **READ 2 Corinthians 4.13 – 18.**
- iii. Glorification means that we will be:
 1. with _____ forever;
 2. _____ to His likeness;
 3. in perfect surroundings;
 4. free from the earth’s limitations;
 5. fellowshiping with the redeemed;
 6. engaging in _____;
 7. experiencing unhindered _____;
- e. Leviticus 12 – 14 calls each of us to live beyond the hardships of everyday life with a focus on preparing to enter God’s presence.

READ 1 John 3.1 – 3. A focus on glorification leads us to pursue the purity, health, and wholeness that fits us for God’s presence. These chapters encourage us to live in a way that prepares us to enter God’s presence.