

Life-Study of Leviticus Summaries - Messages 31-55

Discernment in Diet

To eat is to **contact the things outside of us that could affect us inside**. Hence, eating signifies our contacting of people. It is not merely to contact something, but to receive something into us. Whatever we contact we will receive, and whatever we receive will reconstitute us, making us a different kind of person from what we are now. We must be persons **who have discernment** in our activities and **receive the word of God with reconsideration**, persons who can **move and act freely in the world and resist its influence**, and persons who can live and move in a life that is away from and above the world, **taking seeds of life as our food supply**. We must also be persons who move and live in a life that is above the world and can keep ourselves from the world.

The Cleansing of the Leper

Leprosy signifies the serious sin issuing from within man and always comes from rebellion against God's authority. In ourselves we are lepers, but we can be cleansed from our condition through the all-inclusive salvation God has prepared and accomplished for us. **Although we have been healed by the life within, we still need to have our shortcomings and defilement dealt with before God that we might be cleansed**. As lepers, we need to seek for cleansing. Our seeking is our cooperation with God's grace and love. A sinner who is to be cleansed needs to experience Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension. He also needs to bear the responsibility himself to deal with and cut off all that is of his old living and natural life.

The Holy Living

Leviticus chapters 18 through 20 is equivalent to Ephesians 4:17—5:14 which charges the holy people of God to **put off, as regards their former manner of life, the old man and put on the new man, which according to God was created in righteousness and holiness of the truth, living a life that is holy, as God is holy**. The sons of Israel were charged to put off the former Egyptian conduct, not to walk in the customs of the Canaanites, into whose land they would come, and have God's holy living. In having the holy living of God's holy people, it is important that we have fellowship, communion, mutual enjoyment, in peace. The sin offering, the burnt offering, and the meal offering which results in the enjoyment of Christ as our peace offering for us to have fellowship with God and with our fellow believers.

The Festivals

Our service results in Christ as the rest and enjoyment we have with God and with one another. In other words, the issue of our service is the festivals. God ordained the festivals that His people might rest with Him and be joyful with Him, that they might enjoy all that He has provided for His redeemed people. **A festival was for nothing except rest and enjoyment which was not individual but corporate**.

The Sabbath is a weekly solemn rest signifying a genuine and thorough rest of God and with God for God's redeemed people to enjoy with Him and one another. The feast of the Passover signifies Christ as our redemption to begin our enjoyment of God's salvation with God. The feast of unleavened bread signifies Christ who is without sin for our enjoyment as a feast in life apart from sin. The feast of the firstfruits signifies the resurrected Christ as our enjoyment as a feast in His resurrection. The feast of Pentecost signifies the resurrection of Christ in its sevenfold fullness reaching the realms of the complete fullness, bearing the full responsibility for the testimony of resurrection. The feast of blowing trumpets signifies God's calling together of His scattered people and His reminding them that He will issue such a call to them. The feast of propitiation signifies that the day of man's redemption follows our trumpeting of the gospel and man's repentance as a reaction to it. And the feast of tabernacles signifies the coming millennium as a dispensational, joyful blessing for God's redeemed people to enjoy with God for a full period of time in God's old creation. (Life-Study of Leviticus – Messages 31-55).