

--marine life 11:9-12

the test is that it must have fins and scales to be clean.

--flying things 11:13-28

particular birds are mentioned as being unclean and the four footed flyers are seen as unclean. It may be assumed that birds (flying things) not mentioned or in the latter class are ok for food...hence the great use of poultry in Judaism. Vss 21-22 give permission for the eating of locusts, certain beetles, and the grasshopper. If you wonder about that, these are clean animals in the law. The locusts were eaten in several ways...in later history they were often dried, crushed, refined as a kind of flour for baking purposes! But all that are scavengers seem to be out.

--various critters 11:29-31 (vss. 41-43) ]

previously treated on page 22.

(2) The reasons behind the differences:

Probably no one knows for sure but the Lord but here are some of the thoughts on the subject:

--Some think the purpose is to enforce a reality in moral values and assume that some or all of the unclean creatures are lacking in some aspect of commendable morality and thus their exclusion is to make the Israelites more aware of moral substance. This seems doubtful to me. It seems that the primary meaning was to make the Jew, by law, more aware of God's concern with the everyday details of life.

--Some think that dietetic values were served and while certain health issues may be seen, it is hard to see how others fit in. Pork is the most specified object in this connexion but beyond that many of the "unclean" animals are as good for food as the unclean...speaking on a health basis.

--Others think the division was to show that all animals were at the rulership of man and the laws tended to keep them in their place..preventing any sort of animal worship from coming into the land.

(3) Application of the concepts Leviticus 11:32-47

Note the care to be taken with the carcasses of all the unclean and note the particular challenge to testimony given in vss 44-47. The constant word of God to the people who were His was...you are to be what I am--holy. As I have mentioned, this holiness was founded on sacrifice, guarded through the priesthood, and expressed in the lives on the people in a day by day living routine.