

(2) Determination of Cleansing, Leviticus 14

Coming before the priest vs. 2-4

The cleansing ritual 5-32

--the two birds (vs. 4)

--the cleansing process (vs. 8)

--the offerings , (vs. 10)

--application of blood (vs. 14)

--application of the oil (vs. 17)

--the cleansing of the poor (vss 21 ff)

In connexion with this determination, see the Lord's advice to the cleansed leper in Matthew 8:2-4.

(3) Contaminated households 14:33-57

We are not perfectly certain what is intended in this passage as it relates to a circumstance in the physical property. I will mention a number of commentator ideas and note that the same cleansing needed for one's body is also appropriate for one's possessions.

(4) Significance of the leprosy laws.

--Certainly leprosy typifies sin but one should be careful with generalizations beyond that as there are many types of leprose and the rules that we used to seek to apply to some forms do not apply to all.

--the leper is looked at as if he is one come back from the dead, when cleansed, and in this way is typical of those who are regenerated by the work of Christ.

--and the processes through which the leper was put were not intended to work a hardship on him but to protect the community about him...it made a very difficult situation but it was one in which the persons overcome by disease were disadvantaged that the community might be spared

d. Emission laws (issues of blood, etc.) Leviticus 15

(1) a sore 1-15

(2) copulation fluids (16-18)

(3) menstrual issues 19-33

These are also protective laws in that they guard both the individual who suffers (by providing a means of cleansing) and those who live with or about them. While we think these laws (as with others in the ceremonial class) were for the benefit of Israel in the theocratic age, we are also sure the general principles work in the favor of other persons at any time.