

## DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

*Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commit to reading Scripture every day. There are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number of the book. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.*

### **Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 14:1-32 (Luke 17:11-14)**

Let's start today by reading Luke. Notice what Jesus says in verse 14. This is what today's text is about. What happens when you are healed of leprosy and show yourself to the priests? Turn to Leviticus and read 14:1-8. What is the first part of the ritual? Why do you think the person needs to live outside his tent? What is the logic in shaving all the hair off? What happens on the seventh day (vs. 9)? Now read verses 10-20. What sacrifices are to be offered? Consider that this person has not been active in the life of the community for some time, so no offerings would have been made. This ritual reincorporates the person back into the community. Verses 14-18a are a rededication of the person to God. Notice the final cleansing is from sin – atonement. Once that is done the person is completely cleansed. Now read through verses 21-32. This ritual is the same but the offerings are geared for those who may not be able to afford all the animals. It is amazing that God does not just cleanse the rich and those who can afford it, but makes a way for all to be cleansed. How does this point to the cleansing power of Jesus? What does this reveal about God and free gift of grace? What does this teach us of our need to be cleansed completely? Spend some time in prayer today, thanking God for his free cleansing through Jesus, who paid the price for all of us.

### **Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 14:33-57**

We will shift now from body "leprosy," and cloth "leprosy" to building "leprosy." Again, most scholars believe this to be mold or rot in the walls or furnishings of a dwelling place. This law is given while Israel is living in tents, but addresses what might happen when they arrive in the Promised Land. What does God declare in verse 34 that would be considered shocking? Most scholars believe this is simply a style of language and writing and that God does not literally choose someone's home and put mold in it. As you read verses 33-42, you see that the process is similar to everything else we have read. What is the remedy for an unclean home? What happens if after all this the leprosy of the house (mold or rot) is persistent (vss. 43-47)? It is kind of amazing that these issues are this old and have the same sad consequences that we experience today. But what if the clean-up works, what happens (vss. 48-53)? Notice there is a ritual even for declaring a home clean and it also includes atonement. Verses 54-57 are a summary of all that we have learned the last week-and-a-half. What have we learned about the importance of these laws? How do we still abide by these in our current culture, while not actually looking at them like laws? How do they help and protect people? How should we as believers in Jesus respond to such things? What does this reveal about a loving God making difficult decisions? Spend some time thanking God for loving us this much to protect us in our everyday living from things that could harm us. Pray for those who are negatively affected by these things.

### **Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 15**

Now we turn to laws about bodily discharges. Now on the surface this seems strange to us in our scientific era, but yet there are some practical things here that need to be considered. So, let's begin by reading verses 1-12.

Remember what we said a discharge could consist of in Sunday's sermon. Knowing this, why would all these precautions need to be in place? What do they prevent? How do we practice much of this today? As we reach verse 13, it appears that most of these discharges will clear themselves up. When they do, then that is when the ritual of atonement before the Lord is conducted. Verses 16-18 deal with emission of semen. It doesn't say you should not have an emission, but does give cleansing rituals. In other words, we need to be clean about it. Now read verses 19-24. This deals with a woman's menstrual cycle. While completely natural, it is an emission of body fluid, blood, the life force, and therefore during this time the woman is considered unclean. In both of these cases, semen and menstruation, no ritual other than private bathing and cleaning of items is required. Remember, this is not unclean due to sin, but "ceremonially" unclean. Now read verses 25-30. This addresses when women have continual bleeding (a health issue). There is an allowance for healing, however, and the ritual to incorporate the woman back into the community. Jesus encountered such a woman in Luke 8:40-48. As we close this chapter, verse 31 explains why this is to be in effect. And verses 32-33 recap to whom this law applies. Why do you think verse 31 is important? What does it reveal about God? About you? How does it point to Jesus?

### **Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup> – Leviticus 16**

Today we will focus on the Day of Atonement. As you may recall, atonement is simply the "at-one-ment" with God or reconciliation with God. Reconciliation is needed, because we miss the mark in loving God and loving others through omission and commission. The Day of Atonement is the day Jews repent and seek reconciliation with God through prayers, sacrifice and fasting. Let's start by reading verses 1-6. Much of this was taught in Exodus and in the early chapters of Leviticus. The priest must be dressed in the proper attire and offer sacrifices for his sin, before he addresses the sins of the community of Israel. Now read the rest of the chapter. As you do, note what phrases are used repeatedly. When words are repeated, it is because there is great meaning behind them. For example, the words atonement or atoning are used repeatedly. It is what makes everything pure and right with God. Notice that atonement is for people and for the tabernacle and altar. Why is this to be observed annually (vs. 34)? Consider how Jesus has secured our atonement once and for all time. What does that tell us about humanity and our need for Jesus? What does this reveal about God? Spend some time today considering where you specifically need atonement with God. Then confess your sin, turning to Jesus, the one who has atoned for those sins. Worship Him in gratitude for what has been done for you.

### **Friday, August 31<sup>st</sup> – Leviticus 17**

We end this week by reading about some issues that have come up with sacrifices. Read verses 1-9. Why does this even need to be added (vss. 7-9)? What is required regarding sacrifices? Finally, read verses 10-17. These are the rules regarding drinking and eating blood. What does God declare (vs. 12)? Why is this a law (vss. 11 and 14)? This teaches Israel, and us, the value of life and the source of our lives. It is to be respected and it is what was shed for their atonement with God. Maybe we need to stop eating rare steaks? What does this reveal about God? How does the preciousness of blood point to Jesus and his work on our behalf? What do we learn about ourselves from this text (consider doing sacrifices without offering it to God first – doing it our way)? Spend some time thanking God for the lessons of this week and ponder the majesty and holiness of God.

### **Saturday, September 1<sup>st</sup> – To prepare for tomorrow's worship, please read Leviticus 19:1-2.**