

Leviticus 11 Clean and Unclean Food

- Chapter 11 principally deals with food and holiness
- Definitions:
 - Clean—A category/state in which a Hebrew could draw near to God
 - Speaks in a fully related way to holiness (obedience)
 - It speaks to a condition/type of meat/flesh that could be eaten
 - Unclean—A category/state in which a Hebrew could not draw near to God
 - Speaks in fully related way to man's separation from God
 - It speaks to a condition/type of meat/flesh that could not be eaten
- Three categories
 - Land animals (back to Genesis 7-8 clean animals well known)
 - Cud-chewers with split-hoof—clean, all else—unclean
 - Sea life
 - Scales and fins—clean, all else—unclean
 - Air creatures
 - All but, vulture like birds—all insects unclean, except those with jumper legs
 - Dead animals—unclean, except those sacrificed to God
- Swarming animals
- Cleanness or uncleanness is put in categories more than condition
- Cleanness defined by God declared by priests
- It is a state of access to God
 - To be unclean restricts access to God and fellowship with men
- God's expectation, "You are to be holy, for I AM holy"
- Israel was to detest/loath that which was unclean
 - That was to end temptation Genesis 3:1-7
- Cure—water and/or time
- In the OT, focus did change over time Psalm 51:10
 - Holiness was still the prime objective—being clean
 - Access to God the critical goal Ezekiel 36:24-27
 - Careful to **obedience** my ordinances
- In the NT, Jesus demonstrates His will for internal holiness Mark 7:1-8
 - He condemns man (elders) rules of self-righteousness
 - Romans 14 NT views on food and Christian behavior
 - If God loves it—I love it
 - If God hates it—I hate it