

# Leviticus 11 - Cleanliness & Hygiene; Clean & Unclean Animals

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## Leviticus 11

(3) The distinction between clean and unclean (Lev 11:1—15:33)

(A) Animals (11:1-47)

(a) Clean animals have divided hoofs (11:1-8)

1 The LORD spoke again to Moses and to Aaron, saying to them,

1 The LORD spoke again to Moses and to Aaron, saying to them,

1 The LORD told Moses and Aaron,

1 And the LORD spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying unto them,

2 "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'These are the creatures which you may eat from all the animals that are on the earth.

2 "Speak to the sons of Israel, saying, 'These are the creatures which you may eat from all the animals that are on the earth.

2 "Tell the Israelis that these are the living creatures that you may eat among the animals of the earth:

2 Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth.

3 Whatever has a divided hoof, showing split hoofs, *and* chews the cud, among the animals, that you may eat.

3 Whatever divides a hoof, thus making split hoofs, *and* chews the cud, among the animals, that you may eat.

3 You may eat any animal that has divided hooves with cloven feet and that ruminates its cud,

3 Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, and cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat.

4 Nevertheless, you are not to eat of these, among those which chew the cud, or among those which have a divided hoof: the camel, for though it chews cud, it does not have a divided hoof; it is unclean to you.

4 Nevertheless, you are not to eat of these, among those which chew the cud, or among those which divide the hoof: the camel, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you.

4 except you are not to eat the following animals that have divided hooves or ruminate their cud: the camel (because it chews the cud but doesn't have divided hooves, it is to be unclean for you),

4 Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: as the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

5 Likewise, the rock hyrax, for though it chews cud, it does not have a divided hoof; it is unclean to you.

5 Likewise, the shaphan, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you;

5 the rock badger (because it chews its cud but its hooves aren't divided, it is to be unclean for you),

5 And the coney, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

6 The rabbit also, for though it chews cud, it does not have a divided hoof; it is unclean to you.

6 the rabbit also, for though it chews cud, it does not divide the hoof, it is unclean to you;

6 the hare (because it chews its cud, but its hooves aren't divided, it is to be unclean for you),

6 And the hare, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you.

7 And the pig, for though it has a divided hoof, and so it shows a split hoof, it does not chew cud; it is unclean to you.

7 and the pig, for though it divides the hoof, thus making a split hoof, it does not chew cud, it is unclean to you.

7 and the pig (because it has divided hooves and is therefore cloven-footed, but it doesn't ruminate its cud, it is to be unclean for you).

7 And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he is unclean to you.

8 You shall not eat *any* of their flesh nor touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you.

8 You shall not eat of their flesh nor touch their carcasses; they are unclean to you.

8 You are not to eat their flesh or even touch their carcasses. They are to be unclean for you."

8 Of their flesh shall ye not eat, and their carcass shall ye not touch; they are unclean to you.

(b) Marine creatures with both fins and scales (11:9-12)

9 'These you may eat, of whatever is in the water: everything that has fins and scales, in the water, in the seas, or in the rivers, you may eat.

9 'These you may eat, whatever is in the water: all that have fins and scales, those in the water, in the seas or in the rivers, you may eat.

9 "You may eat anything that lives in the water—that is, you may eat anything that has fins and scales either from the seas or from the rivers.

9 These shall ye eat of all that are in the waters: whatsoever hath fins and scales in the waters, in the seas, and in the rivers, them shall ye eat.

10 But whatever is in the seas and in the rivers that does not have fins and scales among all the teeming life of the water, and among all the living creatures that are in the water, they are detestable things to you,

10 But whatever is in the seas and in the rivers that does not have fins and scales among all the teeming life of the water, and among all the living creatures that are in the water, they are detestable things to you,

10 But anything that doesn't have fins or scales—whether from the seas or the rivers—any of the swarming creatures and living creatures in the waters are detestable for you.

10 And all that have not fins and scales in the seas, and in the rivers, of all that move in the waters, and of any living thing which is in the waters, they shall be an abomination unto you:

11 and they shall be detestable to you; you may not eat *any* of their flesh, and you shall detest their carcasses.

11 and they shall be abhorrent to you; you may not eat of their flesh, and their carcasses you shall detest.

11 They are to remain detestable for you. You are not to eat of their meat and you are to detest their carcasses.

11 They shall be even an abomination unto you; ye shall not eat of their flesh, but ye shall have their carcasses in abomination.

12 Whatever in the water does not have fins and scales is detestable to you.

12 Whatever in the water does not have fins and scales is abhorrent to you.

12 Anything that doesn't have fins or scales in the waters is a detestable thing for you."

12 Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that shall be an abomination unto you.

(c) 25 flying animals whose flesh was unsuitable (11:13-19)

**13** 'Moreover, these you shall detest among the birds; they are detestable, not to be eaten: the eagle, the vulture, and the buzzard,

**13** 'These, moreover, you shall detest among the birds; they are abhorrent, not to be eaten: the eagle and the vulture and the buzzard,

**13** "These are detestable things for you among winged creatures that you are not to eat, because they are detestable for you: the eagle, vulture, osprey,

**13** And these are they which ye shall have in abomination among the fowls; they shall not be eaten, they are an abomination: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the osprey,

14 the red kite, the falcon in its kind,

14 and the kite and the falcon in its kind,

14 red kite, falcons of any kind,

14 And the vulture, and the kite after his kind;

15 every raven in its kind,

15 every raven in its kind,

15 every kind of raven,

15 Every raven after his kind;

16 the ostrich, the owl, the seagull, and the hawk in its kind,

16 and the ostrich and the owl and the sea gull and the hawk in its kind,

16 ostrich, nighthawk, seagull, hawks of every kind,

16 And the owl, and the night hawk, and the cuckow, and the hawk after his kind,

17 the little owl, the cormorant, and the great owl,  
17 and the little owl and the cormorant and the great owl,  
17 owls, cormorants, the ibis,  
17 And the little owl, and the cormorant, and the great owl,

18 the white owl, the pelican, and the carrion vulture,  
18 and the white owl and the pelican and the carrion vulture,  
18 water-hens, pelicans, carrion,  
18 And the swan, and the pelican, and the gier eagle,

19 the stork, the heron in its kinds, the hoopoe, and the bat.  
19 and the stork, the heron in its kinds, and the hoopoe, and the bat.  
19 storks, herons of every kind, the hoopoe, bata,  
19 And the stork, the heron after her kind, and the lapwing, and the bat.

(d) Unclean insects (11:20-23)

**20** 'All the winged insects that walk on *all* fours are detestable to you.  
**20** 'All the winged insects that walk on *all* fours are detestable to you.  
**20** and any winged insect that crawls on four legs is detestable for you.  
**20** All fowls that creep, going upon all four, shall be an abomination unto you.

21 Yet these you may eat among all the winged insects that walk on *all* fours: those which have jointed legs above their feet with which to jump on the earth.

21 Yet these you may eat among all the winged insects which walk on *all* fours: those which have above their feet jointed legs with which to jump on the earth.

21 However, you may eat winged creatures that crawl on four legs that extend over its head and by which it hops on the ground.

21 Yet these may ye eat of every flying creeping thing that goeth upon all four, which have legs above their feet, to leap withal upon the earth;

22 These of them you may eat: the locust in its kinds, the devastating locust in its kinds, the cricket in its kinds, and the grasshopper in its kinds.

22 These of them you may eat: the locust in its kinds, and the devastating locust in its kinds, and the cricket in its kinds, and the grasshopper in its kinds.

22 These creatures that you may eat include the locust of any kind, the bald locust of any kind, the cricket of any kind, and the grasshopper of any kind.

22 Even these of them ye may eat; the locust after his kind, and the bald locust after his kind, and the beetle after his kind, and the grasshopper after his kind.

23 But all *other* winged insects which are four-footed are detestable to you.

23 But all other winged insects which are four-footed are detestable to you.

23 But any other winged insect that has four legs is detestable for you

23 But all other flying creeping things, which have four feet, shall be an abomination unto you.

(e) Contact with carcasses (11:24-38)

**24** 'By these, moreover, you will be made unclean; whoever touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening,

**24** 'By these, moreover, you will be made unclean: whoever touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening,

**24** and is unclean. Anyone who touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening.

**24** And for these ye shall be unclean: whosoever toucheth the carcase of them shall be unclean until the even.

25 and whoever picks up any of their carcasses shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening.

25 and whoever picks up any of their carcasses shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening.

25 And anyone who carries their carcasses is to wash his clothes, since he will remain unclean until evening."

25 And whosoever beareth ought of the carcase of them shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even.

26 As for all the animals which have a divided hoof but do not show a split *hoof*, or do not chew the cud, they are unclean to you; whoever touches them becomes unclean.

26 Concerning all the animals which divide the hoof but do not make a split *hoof*, or which do not chew cud, they are unclean to you: whoever touches them becomes unclean.

26 "Any animal that has divided hooves and is cloven-footed but doesn't chew the cud is unclean for you. Anyone who touches them is unclean.

26 The carcasses of every beast which divideth the hoof, and is not clovenfooted, nor cheweth the cud, are unclean unto you: every one that toucheth them shall be unclean.

27 Also whatever walks on its paws, among all the creatures that walk on *all* fours, are unclean to you; whoever touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening,

27 Also whatever walks on its paws, among all the creatures that walk on *all* fours, are unclean to you; whoever touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening,

27 Among the animals, anything that walks on their paws and on four legs is unclean for you. Anyone who touches their carcasses becomes unclean until evening.

27 And whatsoever goeth upon his paws, among all manner of beasts that go on all four, those are unclean unto you: whoso toucheth their carcass shall be unclean until the evening.

28 and the one who picks up their carcasses shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening; they are unclean to you.

28 and the one who picks up their carcasses shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening; they are unclean to you.

28 Whoever carries their carcass is to wash their clothes, because they've become unclean until evening. They're unclean for you.

28 And he that beareth the carcass of them shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the evening: they are unclean unto you.

**29** 'Now these are to you the unclean among the swarming things which swarm on the earth: the mole, the mouse, and the great lizard in its kinds,

**29** 'Now these are to you the unclean among the swarming things which swarm on the earth: the mole, and the mouse, and the great lizard in its kinds,

**29** "These are unclean for you among the swarming creatures that crawl over the land: the rat, mouse, lizards of every kind,

**29** These also shall be unclean unto you among the creeping things that creep upon the earth; the weasel, and the mouse, and the tortoise after his kind,

30 the gecko, the crocodile, the lizard, the sand reptile, and the chameleon.

30 and the gecko, and the crocodile, and the lizard, and the sand reptile, and the chameleon.

30 the gecko, crocodile, lizard, sand lizard, and chameleon.

30 And the ferret, and the chameleon, and the lizard, and the snail, and the mole.

31 These are to you the unclean among all the swarming things; whoever touches them when they are dead becomes unclean until evening.

31 These are to you the unclean among all the swarming things; whoever touches them when they are dead becomes unclean until evening.

31 These are unclean for you among the swarming creatures, so anyone who touches them when they're dead becomes unclean until evening.

31 These are unclean to you among all that creep: whosoever doth touch them, when they be dead, shall be unclean until the evening.

32 Also anything on which one of them may fall when they are dead becomes unclean, including any wooden article, or clothing, or a hide, or a sack—any article of which use is

made—it shall be put in the water and be unclean until evening, then it becomes clean.

32 Also anything on which one of them may fall when they are dead becomes unclean, including any wooden article, or clothing, or a skin, or a sack—any article of which use is made—it shall be put in the water and be unclean until evening, then it becomes clean.

32 Furthermore, anything on which they fall when they're dead becomes unclean, whether on an article of wood, clothing, skin, or a sack. And any vessel used for any work is to be washed in water, because it has become unclean until evening.

32 And upon whatsoever any of them, when they are dead, doth fall, it shall be unclean; whether it be any vessel of wood, or raiment, or skin, or sack, whatsoever vessel it be, wherein any work is done, it must be put into water, and it shall be unclean until the even; so it shall be cleansed.

33 As for any earthenware vessel into which one of them may fall, whatever is in it becomes unclean and you shall break the vessel.

33 As for any earthenware vessel into which one of them may fall, whatever is in it becomes unclean and you shall break the vessel.

33 Any earthen vessel into which any of these things fall becomes unclean, along with everything in it. You are to destroy it, along with all its contents."

33 And every earthen vessel, whereinto any of them falleth, whatsoever is in it shall be unclean; and ye shall break it.

34 Any of the food which may be eaten, on which water comes, shall become unclean, and any liquid which may be drunk in every vessel shall become unclean.

34 Any of the food which may be eaten, on which water comes, shall become unclean, and any liquid which may be drunk in every vessel shall become unclean.

34 "Any food that may be eaten, but into which water has soaked, becomes unclean. Any drink that may be drunk in any of these vessels becomes unclean,

34 Of all meat which may be eaten, that on which such water cometh shall be unclean: and all drink that may be drunk in every such vessel shall be unclean.

35 Moreover, everything on which part of their carcass may fall becomes unclean; an oven or a stove shall be smashed; they are unclean and shall continue as unclean to you.

35 Everything, moreover, on which part of their carcass may fall becomes unclean; an oven or a stove shall be smashed; they are unclean and shall continue as unclean to you.

35 and anything into which their carcass falls becomes unclean. An oven or stove is to be broken in pieces. They're unclean and therefore unclean for you.

35 And every thing whereupon any part of their carcase falleth shall be unclean; whether it be oven, or ranges for pots, they shall be broken down: for they are unclean, and shall be unclean unto you.

36 Nevertheless, a spring or a cistern collecting water shall be clean, though the one who touches their carcass shall be unclean.

36 Nevertheless a spring or a cistern collecting water shall be clean, though the one who touches their carcass shall be unclean.

36 "A spring or a cistern that holds water is clean, but whoever touches the carcass of an unclean animal will be unclean.

36 Nevertheless a fountain or pit, wherein there is plenty of water, shall be clean: but that which toucheth their carcass shall be unclean.

37 Now if a part of their carcass falls on any seed for sowing which is to be sown, it is clean.

37 If a part of their carcass falls on any seed for sowing which is to be sown, it is clean.

37 If their carcass falls on a seed, which is for sowing, what is to be sown is clean.

37 And if any part of their carcass fall upon any sowing seed which is to be sown, it shall be clean.

38 But if water is put on the seed and a part of their carcass falls on it, it is unclean to you.

38 Though if water is put on the seed and a part of their carcass falls on it, it is unclean to you.

38 But if water is put on the seed and part of their carcass falls on it, then it has become unclean for you.

38 But if any water be put upon the seed, and any part of their carcass fall thereon, it shall be unclean unto you.

(f) Dead bodies (11:39-40)

**39** 'Also if one of the animals dies which you have for food, the one who touches its carcass becomes unclean until evening.

**39** 'Also if one of the animals dies which you have for food, the one who touches its carcass becomes unclean until evening.

**39** "If any of the animals that you may eat dies, the one who touches its carcass becomes unclean until evening.

**39** And if any beast, of which ye may eat, die; he that toucheth the carcass thereof shall be unclean until the even.

40 He, too, who eats some of its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening, and the one who picks up its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening.

40 He too, who eats some of its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening, and the one who picks up its carcass shall wash his clothes and be unclean until evening.

40 The one who eats from its carcass is to wash his clothes, because he has become unclean until evening. Even the one who carries the carcass is to wash his clothes, because he has become unclean until evening."

40 And he that eateth of the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: he also that beareth the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even.

(g) Prohibition against eating crawling creatures (11:41-43)

41 'Now every swarming thing that swarms on the earth is detestable, not to be eaten.

41 'Now every swarming thing that swarms on the earth is detestable, not to be eaten.

41 "Every swarming thing that swarms the land is detestable for you. It is not to be eaten.

41 And every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth shall be an abomination; it shall not be eaten.

42 Whatever crawls on its belly, and whatever walks on *all* fours, whatever has many feet, in regard to every swarming thing that swarms on the earth, you shall not eat them, because they are detestable.

42 Whatever crawls on its belly, and whatever walks on *all* fours, whatever has many feet, in respect to every swarming thing that swarms on the earth, you shall not eat them, for they are detestable.

42 You are not to eat anything that crawls on its belly, anything that walks on four legs, anything that has many legs, or any of the swarming creatures that swarm the land, because they're detestable.

42 Whatsoever goeth upon the belly, and whatsoever goeth upon all four, or whatsoever hath more feet among all creeping things that creep upon the earth, them ye shall not eat; for they are an abomination.

43 Do not make yourselves detestable through any of the swarming things that swarm; and you shall not make yourselves unclean with them so that you become unclean.

43 Do not render yourselves detestable through any of the swarming things that swarm; and you shall not make yourselves unclean with them so that you become unclean.

43 You are not to make yourselves detestable on account of any swarming creature that swarms the land, and you are not to defile yourselves and become unclean due to them,

43 Ye shall not make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing that creepeth, neither shall ye make yourselves unclean with them, that ye should be defiled thereby.

(h) Reason for restrictions: the holiness of God's people (11:44-47)

44 For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, because I am holy. And you shall not make yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth.

44 For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. And you shall not make yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth.

44 because I, the LORD, am your God. Set yourselves apart and be holy, because I am holy. You are not to defile yourselves with any of the swarming creatures that swarm the earth.

44 For I am the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

45 For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt, to be your God; so you shall be holy, because I am holy."

45 For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt to be your God; thus you shall be holy, for I am holy."

45 I am the LORD, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God. You are to be holy, because I am holy.

45 For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.

**46** This is the law regarding the animal and the bird, and every living thing that moves in the waters and everything that swarms on the earth,

**46** This is the law regarding the animal and the bird, and every living thing that moves in the waters and everything that swarms on the earth,

**46** This is the law concerning animals, every living creature that moves on the waters or swarms on land.

**46** This is the law of the beasts, and of the fowl, and of every living creature that moveth in the waters, and of every creature that creepeth upon the earth:

47 to make a distinction between the unclean and the clean, and between the edible creature and the creature which is not to be eaten.

47 to make a distinction between the unclean and the clean, and between the edible creature and the creature which is not to be eaten.

47 You are to differentiate between the clean and unclean, between the living creature that can be eaten and the living creature that is not to be eaten."

47 To make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten.