

Chapter 14 Clean and Unclean Food Laws

Review

1. Specific detailed instructions concerning life in the land. (chapters 12–26)
2. The Requirement to sacrifice at only one chosen location. (chapter 12)
3. The Requirement to enforce the law prohibiting idolatry. (chapter 13)

I. Central location vs in towns (12:15–28)

- A. Restriction that Sacrifices should be offered in chosen location only. (12:5,6)
- B. Freedom Concerning meat for food
 1. anywhere 12:15, 21
 2. any time 12:15,20
 3. Anyone may eat (both clean and unclean) 12:15, 22
 4. Both wild and domesticated animals may be eaten. 12:15, 21)

II. Food Restrictions

- A. Sacrifices eaten at chosen location only. 12:7,17, 27
- B. Do not eat the blood. 12:16, 23, 27
 1. Leviticus 17:11 “the life of the flesh is in the blood.”;
 2. Leviticus 17:11 “I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement.”
 3. Romans 3:23–25 redemption, propitiation, righteousness all in the blood of Christ.
- C. Distinguish between clean vs. unclean foods chapter 14

III. Holy People^{1,2, 21}

- A. Who you are precedes what you do. 14:1,2 (Sons, Holy, Chosen, Treasured)
 1. (clean vs unclean people 12:15, 22)
 2. No disfigurement of human body: 14:1,2
- B. Clean vs unclean animals 14:3–21
 1. Animals: chew cud and part hoof 14:4–8
 2. Waters: fins and scales 14:9,10
 3. Birds no rule just name them probably all carrion 14:11–18
 4. Swarming things 14:19–20 (Leviticus 11 jointed legs that hop are clean)
- C. Died naturally 14:21
- D. Kid in mother’s milk Possible Reasons:
 1. Canaanite fertility rite

2. Humanitarian concern against kill mother and child (birds Deut 22:6)
 3. Perverse comingling of life and death
 4. Colostrum in mother's milk with reddish appearance looks like blood
- E. Interpretation and application principles in Judaism
1. A hedge around the law
 2. Oral tradition is authoritative mark 7:3

IV. Dietary Laws

A. Suggested Meaning / Purpose of these Laws? (Speculation)

1. Physical health.
2. Idolatrous rites of other nations.
3. Philosophical / allegorical.
4. Contrary to the normal or crossing boundaries.
5. Training in holiness and obedience without a reason.
6. Separation boundary markers to keep from intermingling with nations.
7. Reminder of the Lord in every aspect of life Wright: “

B. Bottom Line:

1. The Lord does not explain.
2. He does not need to for in order for you to obey.
3. Holiness involves all of life.
4. Holiness involves separation to the Lord.

C. How do they apply to us today

1. Jesus: all things clean Jesus abrogated Mk 7:14–23
2. Peter: God cleans gentiles Acts 10, 11
3. James: God is choosing gentiles to be his people and they should only have to meet a limited number of requirements (abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood.) (Acts 15:19-20)
4. Paul: table fellowship of one body; dividing wall broken down in Christ Gal 2:12–14; Eph 2:11–22
5. Acts 15 stay away from the most offensive; strangled and blood