

Thursday, February 21

**All passages taken from Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996.
Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois 60189.
All rights reserved.**

Leviticus 11:1 - 12:8

11 **1** Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, **2** “Give the following instructions to the people of Israel. “Of all the land animals, these are the ones you may use for food. **3** You may eat any animal that has completely split hooves and chews the cud. **4** You may not, however, eat the following animals that have split hooves or that chew the cud, but not both. The camel chews the cud but does not have split hooves, so it is ceremonially unclean for you. **5** The hyrax chews the cud but does not have split hooves, so it is unclean. **6** The hare chews the cud but does not have split hooves, so it is unclean. **7** The pig has evenly split hooves but does not chew the cud, so it is unclean. **8** You may not eat the meat of these animals or even touch their carcasses. They are ceremonially unclean for you. **9** “Of all the marine animals, these are ones you may use for food. You may eat anything from the water if it has both fins and scales, whether taken from salt water or from streams. **10** But you must never eat animals from the sea or from rivers that do not have both fins and scales. They are detestable to you. This applies both to little creatures that live in shallow water and to all creatures that live in deep water. **11** They will always be detestable to you. You must never eat their meat or even touch their dead bodies. **12** Any marine animal that does not have both fins and scales is detestable to you. **13** “These are the birds that are detestable to you. You must never eat them: the griffon vulture, the bearded vulture, the black vulture, **14** the kite, falcons of all kinds, **15** ravens of all kinds, **16** the eagle owl, the short-eared owl, the seagull, hawks of all kinds, **17** the little owl, the cormorant, the great owl, **18** the barn owl, the desert owl, the Egyptian vulture, **19** the stork, herons of all kinds, the hoopoe, and the bat. **20** “You must not eat winged insects that walk along the ground; they are detestable to you. **21** You may, however, eat winged insects that walk along the ground and have jointed legs so they can jump. **22** The insects you are permitted to eat include all kinds of locusts, bald locusts, crickets, and grasshoppers. **23** All other winged insects that walk along the ground are detestable to you. **24** “The following creatures will make you ceremonially unclean. If any of you touch their carcasses, you will be defiled until evening. **25** If you pick up their carcasses, you must wash your clothes, and you will remain defiled until evening. **26** “Any animal that has split hooves that are not evenly divided or that does not chew the cud is unclean for you. If you touch the carcass of such an animal, you will be defiled. **27** Of the animals that walk on all fours, those that have paws are unclean. If you touch the carcass of such an animal, you will be defiled until evening. **28** If you pick up its

carcass, you must wash your clothes, and you will remain defiled until evening. These animals are unclean for you. **29** “Of the small animals that scurry along the ground, these are unclean for you: the mole rat, the rat, large lizards of all kinds, **30** the gecko, the monitor lizard, the common lizard, the sand lizard, and the chameleon. **31** All these small animals are unclean for you. If any of you touch the dead body of such an animal, you will be defiled until evening. **32** If such an animal dies and falls on something, that object will be unclean. This is true whether the object is made of wood, cloth, leather, or burlap. Whatever its use, you must dip it in water, and it will remain defiled until evening. After that, it will be ceremonially clean and may be used again. **33** “If such an animal falls into a clay pot, everything in the pot will be defiled, and the pot must be smashed. **34** If the water from such a container spills on any food, the food will be defiled. And any beverage in such a container will be defiled. **35** Any object on which the carcass of such an animal falls will be defiled. If it is an oven or hearth, it must be destroyed, for it is defiled, and you must treat it accordingly. **36** “However, if the carcass of such an animal falls into a spring or a cistern, the water will still be clean. But anyone who touches the carcass will be defiled. **37** If the carcass falls on seed grain to be planted in the field, the seed will still be considered clean. **38** But if the seed is wet when the carcass falls on it, the seed will be defiled. **39** “If an animal you are permitted to eat dies and you touch its carcass, you will be defiled until evening. **40** If you eat any of its meat or carry away its carcass, you must wash your clothes, and you will remain defiled until evening. **41** “All small animals that scurry along the ground are detestable, and you must never eat them. **42** This includes all animals that slither along on their bellies, as well as those with four legs and those with many feet. All such animals that scurry along the ground are detestable, and you must never eat them. **43** Do not defile yourselves by touching them. You must not make yourselves ceremonially unclean because of them. **44** For I am the LORD your God. You must consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. So do not defile yourselves with any of these small animals that scurry along the ground. **45** For I, the LORD, am the one who brought you up from the land of Egypt, that I might be your God. Therefore, you must be holy because I am holy. **46** “These are the instructions regarding land animals, birds, marine creatures, and animals that scurry along the ground. **47** By these instructions you will know what is unclean and clean, and which animals may be eaten and which may not be eaten.”

12 1 The LORD said to Moses, **2** “Give the following instructions to the people of Israel. If a woman becomes pregnant and gives birth to a son, she will be ceremonially unclean for seven days, just as she is unclean during her menstrual period. **3** On the eighth day the boy’s foreskin must be circumcised. **4** After waiting thirty-three days, she will be purified from the bleeding of childbirth. During this time of purification, she must not touch anything that is set apart as holy.

And she must not enter the sanctuary until her time of purification is over. **5** If a woman gives birth to a daughter, she will be ceremonially unclean for two weeks, just as she is unclean during her menstrual period. After waiting sixty-six days, she will be purified from the bleeding of childbirth. **6** “When the time of purification is completed for either a son or a daughter, the woman must bring a one-year-old lamb for a burnt offering and a young pigeon or turtledove for a purification offering. She must bring her offerings to the priest at the entrance of the Tabernacle. **7** The priest will then present them to the LORD to purify her. Then she will be ceremonially clean again after her bleeding at childbirth. These are the instructions for a woman after the birth of a son or a daughter. **8** “If a woman cannot afford to bring a lamb, she must bring two turtledoves or two young pigeons. One will be for the burnt offering and the other for the purification offering. The priest will sacrifice them to purify her, and she will be ceremonially clean.”

Mark 5:21 - 43

5 21 Jesus got into the boat again and went back to the other side of the lake, where a large crowd gathered around him on the shore. **22** Then a leader of the local synagogue, whose name was Jairus, arrived. When he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet, **23** pleading fervently with him. “My little daughter is dying,” he said. “Please come and lay your hands on her; heal her so she can live.” **24** Jesus went with him, and all the people followed, crowding around him. **25** A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding. **26** She had suffered a great deal from many doctors, and over the years she had spent everything she had to pay them, but she had gotten no better. In fact, she had gotten worse. **27** She had heard about Jesus, so she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his robe. **28** For she thought to herself, “If I can just touch his robe, I will be healed.” **29** Immediately the bleeding stopped, and she could feel in her body that she had been healed of her terrible condition. **30** Jesus realized at once that healing power had gone out from him, so he turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my robe?” **31** His disciples said to him, “Look at this crowd pressing around you. How can you ask, ‘Who touched me?’” **32** But he kept on looking around to see who had done it. **33** Then the frightened woman, trembling at the realization of what had happened to her, came and fell to her knees in front of him and told him what she had done. **34** And he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace. Your suffering is over.” **35** While he was still speaking to her, messengers arrived from the home of Jairus, the leader of the synagogue. They told him, “Your daughter is dead. There’s no use troubling the Teacher now.” **36** But Jesus overheard them and said to Jairus, “Don’t be afraid. Just have faith.” **37** Then Jesus stopped the crowd and wouldn’t let anyone go with him except

Peter, James, and John (the brother of James). **38** When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw much commotion and weeping and wailing. **39** He went inside and asked, "Why all this commotion and weeping? The child isn't dead; she's only asleep." **40** The crowd laughed at him. But he made them all leave, and he took the girl's father and mother and his three disciples into the room where the girl was lying. **41** Holding her hand, he said to her, "Talitha kum," which means "Little girl, get up!" **42** And the girl, who was twelve years old, immediately stood up and walked around! They were overwhelmed and totally amazed. **43** Jesus gave them strict orders not to tell anyone what had happened, and then he told them to give her something to eat.

Psalm 38:1 - 22

38 1 O LORD, don't rebuke me in your anger or discipline me in your rage!**2** Your arrows have struck deep, and your blows are crushing me. **3**Because of your anger, my whole body is sick; my health is broken because of my sins. **4** My guilt overwhelms me— it is a burden too heavy to bear.**5** My wounds fester and stink because of my foolish sins. **6** I am bent over and racked with pain. All day long I walk around filled with grief. **7** A raging fever burns within me, and my health is broken. **8** I am exhausted and completely crushed. My groans come from an anguished heart. **9** You know what I long for, Lord; you hear my every sigh. **10** My heart beats wildly, my strength fails, and I am going blind. **11** My loved ones and friends stay away, fearing my disease. Even my own family stands at a distance. **12** Meanwhile, my enemies lay traps to kill me. Those who wish me harm make plans to ruin me. All day long they plan their treachery. **13**But I am deaf to all their threats. I am silent before them as one who cannot speak. **14** I choose to hear nothing, and I make no reply. **15** For I am waiting for you, O LORD . You must answer for me, O Lord my God. **16** I prayed, "Don't let my enemies gloat over me or rejoice at my downfall." **17**I am on the verge of collapse, facing constant pain. **18** But I confess my sins; I am deeply sorry for what I have done. **19** I have many aggressive enemies; they hate me without reason. **20** They repay me evil for good and oppose me for pursuing good. **21** Do not abandon me, O LORD . Do not stand at a distance, my God. **22** Come quickly to help me, O Lord my savior.

Proverbs 10:8 - 9

10 8 The wise are glad to be instructed, but babbling fools fall flat on their faces. **9** People with integrity walk safely, but those who follow crooked paths will be exposed.