

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Seven

The Complete Pervasion of Sin

The 13th and 14th chapters of the book of Leviticus deal with the identifying and cleansing of the disease of leprosy. Leprosy is a disease that is presented in the Old Testament as being typical of sin. Like leprosy, sin permeates throughout the whole body. Leprosy affects all the joints of the body, it will spread throughout the skin, the joints, and the head of the body. Furthermore, it is pointed out in Leviticus that leprosy can affect clothing garments of the individual or the walls of a house in which he lives. Similarly, sin permeates not only our physical body and brings about aging, disease, and death of the body, but it also permeates the thoughts and actions of our mind and influences every decision of the unregenerate person. Furthermore, sin permeated the whole house of mankind. Additionally, God cleansed his house from sin.

Throughout the 13th and 14th chapters, the High Priest would look upon the condition of the man and pronounce him to be either clean or unclean after observing him for seven days. What I think or what you think about sin is not nearly as important as to what our High Priest thinks about sin. Our High Priest is Jesus Christ and it is he that declares us to be either clean or unclean of sin. Lev. 13:3 "And the priest shall look on the plague in the skin of the flesh: and when the hair in the plague is turned white, and the plague in sight be deeper than the skin of his flesh, it is a plague of leprosy: and the priest shall look on him, and pronounce him unclean.

4 If the bright spot be white in the skin of his flesh, and in sight be not deeper than the skin, and the hair thereof be not turned white; then the priest shall shut up him that hath the plague seven days: 5 And the priest shall look on him the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague in his sight be at a stay, and the plague spread not in the skin; then the priest shall shut him up seven days more: 6 And the priest shall look on him again the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague be somewhat dark, and the plague spread not in the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean: it is but a scab: and he shall wash his clothes, and be clean."

Subsequently, those who are to be cleansed from the disease of leprosy were to undergo a washing and a sprinkling: Lev. 14:2 "This shall be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought unto the priest: 3 And the priest shall go

forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and, behold, if the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper; 4 Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop: 5 And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water: 6 As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird that was killed over the running water: 7 And he shall sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose into the open field. 8 And he that is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, and shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he may be clean: and after that he shall come into the camp, and shall tarry abroad out of his tent seven days."

Please note in the above example that the living bird was dipped in the blood of the sacrificed bird and let go free in an open field. In like fashion, we are cleansed from sin as the Just (Jesus Christ) suffered for the unjust (elect). Furthermore, in regeneration the elect child of God is sprinkled with the blood of Jesus and we are pronounced clean by our Heavenly Father.