

# SERMON NOTES

## Holiness is About Life and Wholeness, Free From Sin

Leviticus 13 to 15 | 26 June 2022 | Rev Dr Aaron Tay

### Holiness is about Life and Wholeness, Free from Sin

- Leviticus 13 outlines how those with infectious skin diseases are ritually unclean because it shares properties similar to sin: it is infectious, it brings death to certain parts of its host and could eventually lead the host to total death.
- We need to beware of sin because sin will **harm us and others, spread** in our lives and even badly **affect other people**, causing **eternal death and separation from God**.
- Are there sins in our lives that need to be eliminated, like sexual immorality (homosexuality, sex before marriage, pornography) or sins of pride, anger and greed?
- Leviticus 13 also says that with respect to mildewed clothing, the priest should examine, isolate and wash the contaminated clothing – analogous to **spiritual washing**, where we receive the **grace** of God through worship and praise.
- But if the mildew – sin – remains after grace has been given, the mildewed clothing and houses are to be burnt and destroyed to prevent others from contracting the sin and being destroyed by it too.
- God created life, so life on earth is important from Him. Therefore, holiness is about life, and He wants our lives to be whole and lived well, free from sin and its consequences. Let us give up our sins and free ourselves from death: spiritual, emotional, physical or in terms of relationships.
- Leviticus 14 further reveals that God *desires* for us to be healed of sin. God knows that while we live in this fallen world, we will be infected by sin; when Jesus came to earth, he healed men

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#### Our Vision

To be disciples of Jesus Christ

#### Our Mission

We exist to make disciples who love God, love one another and love the lost



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physically too. God has blessed us with **five gifts of healing** to free us from sin and sickness:

- Healing by Design (Psalm 139:13-14): God has designed our bodies to allow for repair, regeneration and self-cure
  - Healing by Discovery of Medical Knowledge and Assistance by Medical Personnel or Self
  - Inner Healing through His peace and love
  - Healing through Prayer and Faith, such as when Jesus brought healing by his touch
  - Healing from Death: salvation and eternal life
- Just as God desires for us to be healed of sin, may we also desire and live in such a way that we are healthy in our body, soul (mind, emotions and will) and spirit.

## **We are to be Holy in EVERY Aspect of our Lives**

- Leviticus 1-10 focuses on holiness inside the Sanctuary while 11-15 focus on holiness outside the Sanctuary in everyday life and experiences (food, childbirth, sickness, clothing and homes, genital discharges), not only on Sundays.
- Types of sin that lead to death
  1. Making what is Holy something Common (secular, good, clean), such as consuming Holy Communion as a meal or preaching the Headlines at the sermon
  2. Making what is Common (secular, good, clean) something unclean, such as sniffing glue which would originally have been clean and not an addictive substance
- In order to bring us back to life, a sacrifice was needed, and through the blood of Christ we have been redeemed, reversing the process of sin leading to eternal death.

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- Through cleansing and consecration through sacrifice, we can bring holiness into every significant area of our lives, such as our family, relationships with others, use of our money and our work.
- When we consecrate our work and dedicate it to the Lord, we are making it a Holy vocation.
- God doesn't want us to just live good and clean lives; God wants us to lead Holy lives:
  1. Do we desire to live in a such a way that our life is Whole (healthy in body, soul and spirit; healthy relationships; faithful in work and church), free from sin and its consequences?
  2. Are we holy in every aspect of our lives, whether in church or in the world – at home, work, school or in the community?
  3. Are we willing to consecrate important aspects of our lives to God, such that we become holy unto the Lord? And we know that consecration always calls for sacrifice.

**Holiness does not come from ourselves but the grace of God. May we pray to the Lord, seeking to consecrate our lives to Him.**

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