

Leviticus: Holy God, Holy People
Purity Laws Concerning Childbirth: Defiled on Delivery
Leviticus 12:1-8 (page 75)

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Purification after childbirth (12:1-8)

- Purification after the birth of a son (vs 1-4)
- Purification after the birth of a daughter (v 5)
- Sacrificial offerings after childbirth (v 6-8)

Three keys to understanding the chapter:

- This is not about personal sin, but is focused on the purity of the tabernacle - the place of God's holy presence
- The major principle of these chapters is that nothing unclean enters the presence of the Lord.

The physical process of childbirth is contrary to the holiness of the Lord (12:1-5)

God used the purity laws as instructive tools regarding:

- the depravity or innate sinfulness of mankind (Rom 5:12-14; 1 Tim 2:11-15)
- the purity of God's presence (Rev 4:6-8; Isa 6:1-5)

Restoration and access to the holy presence of God is restored through ritual purification and sacrificial atonement (12:6-8)

- Purification could be accomplished by only one kind of blood - sacrificial blood (Heb 9:12-14)

The significance for us today is that:

- Jesus is the One Who purifies us, who makes us clean (Rom 5:17; 1 Cor 6:9-11; Heb 13:12)
- Jesus, through the resurrection, will ultimately make us whole - body, soul and spirit (Rev 21:25-27; 1 Cor 15:42-57; 1 John 3:1-3)
- Jesus will complete the work that He has begun in us (Phil 1:5-6; Titus 2:11-14)

Personally...

What is *one thing* that you learned today that you plan to think more about this week?

As we have studied the book of Leviticus, have you begun to see how *incompatible* our uncleanness is with God's perfect holiness? In what ways has that become clearer to you?

Read this statement and then consider (1) whether you agree or disagree and (2) why?..."The revelation that we shall all be changed, made pure, when we see Him (God) in glory is a doctrine we can only comprehend if we learn more about the revelation of His (God's) holy nature."