
Day 56 – February 25

The Laws of Moses (1450 – 1400 BCE)

Purification

After Childbirth

For Leprosy

For Discharges

Concerning Death

Readings: *Leviticus 12:1-8; 14:1-32; 15:13-15, 28-30; Numbers 19:1-22*

Reflections:

- This whole section includes some laws regarding health and some that are just reinforcing concepts of purity in a physical, external way. These texts do not follow the teaching of Jesus' kingdom, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ." Rather these laws treat these groupings differently. So again, we can be glad for Jesus and the fullness of God's revelation in Christ.
- The note about men's and women's discharges is in Leviticus and therefore was specifically for Priests and suggests that this may not apply to all of Israel but only to those who serve in the sacrifices and the tabernacle services. Anyways, once again the Law gets into details that seem pretty specific. Who would like to report to their boss every time they had sex?
- These laws were not meant to reinforce a negative view about sexuality but rather issues around being clean. It may seem odd to us but we should remember the conditions in which they lived. They did not have regular baths or the ability to wash as we do today. These Laws again were simply there to teach through object lesson, symbols and images.