

Diagnosis of Disease

Leviticus Chapter 13

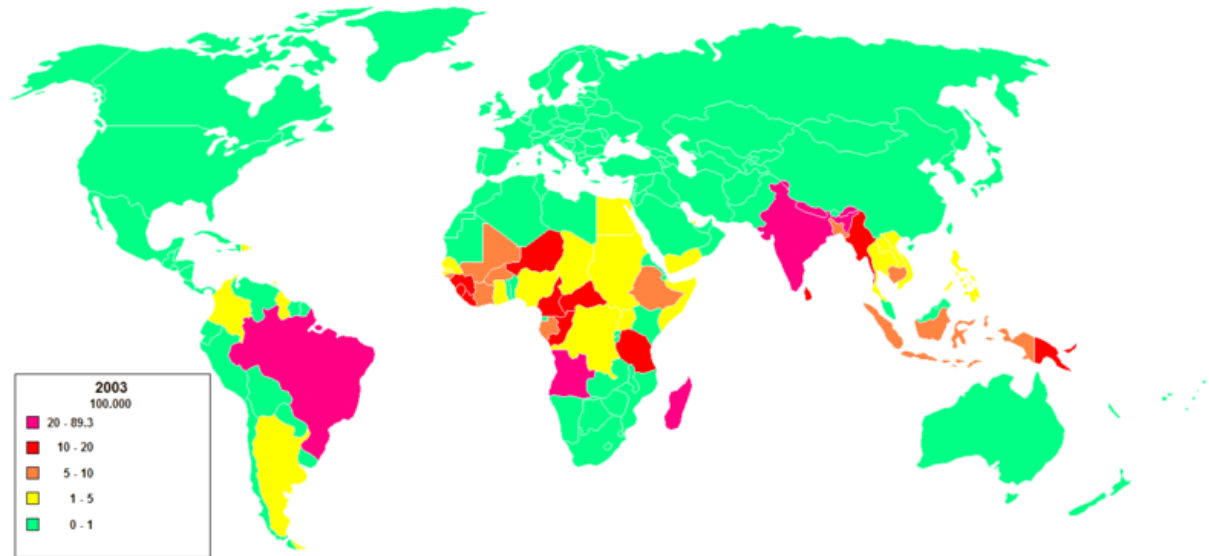
Chapter 13 is the Process of Diagnosis
Chapter 14 is the Sacrifice after the Cure

Leprosy will be named in this chapter but when looking at some of the descriptions the reader will find that the diseases examined is broader than Hansen's disease. (Leprosy).

Leprosy is an infectious disease that has been known since biblical times. It is characterized by disfiguring skin sores, nerve damage, and progressive debilitation.

Symptoms include:

- Skin lesions that are lighter than your normal skin color
 - Lesions have decreased sensation to touch, heat, or pain
 - Lesions do not heal after several weeks to months
- Numbness or absent sensation in the hands, arms, feet, and legs
- Muscle weakness



While Leprosy is relatively non-existent in the United States there are approximately 15 million who suffer from this disease in the world today.

This chapter will present us with two things to look at:

1. Leprosy - A Picture of Sin
2. The Priest - Identifying Sin

Lev 13:1 **1) It's Leprosy!** vs 1-17

Then the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying,

Lev 13:2 "When a man has on the skin of his body a swelling or a scab or a bright spot, and it becomes an infection of leprosy on the skin of his body, then he shall be brought to Aaron the priest or to one of his sons the priests.

Lev 13:3 "The priest shall look at the mark on the skin of the body, and if the hair in the infection has turned white and the infection appears to be deeper than the skin of his body, it is an infection of leprosy; when the priest has looked at him, he shall pronounce him unclean.

A Good
Diagnosis

- "The Priest Shall Look" - 23 times in this Chapter
- It was the priest that diagnosed the problem.
- Leprosy can begin insignificantly (a spot, a swelling)
- Leprosy is an infection that goes deeper than skin deep

- Lev 13:4 "But if the bright spot is white on the skin of his body, and it does not appear to be deeper than the skin, and the hair on it has not turned white, then the priest shall isolate {him who has} the infection for seven days.
- Lev 13:5 "The priest shall look at him on the seventh day, and if in his eyes the infection has not changed {and} the infection has not spread on the skin, then the priest shall isolate him for seven more days.
- It is interesting that the individual was isolated or quarantined. In cases such as infectious diseases or as a type of sin, the safety of the community is more important than that of the rights of the individual.
- Lev 13:6 "The priest shall look at him again on the seventh day, and if the infection has faded and the mark has not spread on the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him clean; it is {only} a scab. And he shall wash his clothes and be clean.
- Lev 13:7 "But if the scab spreads farther on the skin after he has shown himself to the priest for his cleansing, he shall appear again to the priest.
- The Priest doesn't make quick judgments. The individual will return again and again to the priest. Just as with sin in a person's life, it may be sin but still the priest doesn't make a snap decision.
- Lev 13:8 "The priest shall look, and if the scab has spread on the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is leprosy.
- Lev 13:9 "When the infection of leprosy is on a man, then he shall be brought to the priest.
- Lev 13:10 "The priest shall then look, and if there is a white swelling in the skin, and it has turned the hair white, and there is quick raw flesh in the swelling,
- Lev 13:11 it is a chronic leprosy on the skin of his body, and the priest shall pronounce him unclean; he shall not isolate him, for he is unclean.
- Lev 13:12 "If the leprosy breaks out farther on the skin, and the leprosy covers all the skin of {him who has} the infection from his head even to his feet, as far as the priest can see,
- Lev 13:13 then the priest shall look, and behold, {if} the leprosy has covered all his body, he shall pronounce clean {him who has} the infection; it has all turned white {and} he is clean.
- Lev 13:14 "But whenever raw flesh appears on him, he shall be unclean.
- Lev 13:15 "The priest shall look at the raw flesh, and he shall pronounce him unclean; the raw flesh is unclean, it is leprosy.
- Lev 13:16 "Or if the raw flesh turns again and is changed to white, then he shall come to the priest,
- Lev 13:17 and the priest shall look at him, and behold, {if} the infection has turned to white, then the priest shall pronounce clean {him who has} the infection; he is clean.
- We see that the priest must look carefully. He will look at the specific area in question but also the eyes as well as his whole body. Thorough Diagnosis is accomplished by a complete examination not just looking at one area.
 - The priest as to get pretty close to the infected area to examining if it is on the surface, if this a raw wound, if it turning white or reddish, what color the hair is, if it is spreading or swelling.
 - Leprosy spreads. It doesn't just affect one area. It will spread to other areas.
 - Leprosy can go into remission. (but the damage left by the disease is usually irreversible.)
- Lev 13:18 **2) It's Just a Boil** vs 18-28
Possible
Misdiagnosis
- Lev 13:19 "When the body has a boil on its skin and it is healed,
- Lev 13:19 and in the place of the boil there is a white swelling or a reddish-white, bright spot, then it shall be shown to the priest;
- Lev 13:20 and the priest shall look, and behold, {if} it appears to be lower than the skin, and the

hair on it has turned white, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is the infection of leprosy, it has broken out in the boil.

Lev 13:21 "But if the priest looks at it, and behold, there are no white hairs in it and it is not lower than the skin and is faded, then the priest shall isolate him for seven days;

Lev 13:22 and if it spreads farther on the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is an infection.

Lev 13:23 "But if the bright spot remains in its place and does not spread, it is {only} the scar of the boil; and the priest shall pronounce him clean.

Lev 13:24 "Or if the body sustains in its skin a burn by fire, and the raw {flesh} of the burn becomes a bright spot, reddish-white, or white,

Lev 13:25 then the priest shall look at it. And if the hair in the bright spot has turned white and it appears to be deeper than the skin, it is leprosy; it has broken out in the burn. Therefore, the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is an infection of leprosy.

Lev 13:26 "But if the priest looks at it, and indeed, there is no white hair in the bright spot and it is no deeper than the skin, but is dim, then the priest shall isolate him for seven days;

Lev 13:27 and the priest shall look at him on the seventh day. If it spreads farther in the skin, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is an infection of leprosy.

Lev 13:28 "But if the bright spot remains in its place and has not spread in the skin, but is dim, it is the swelling from the burn; and the priest shall pronounce him clean, for it is {only} the scar of the burn.

- The priest takes the caution to determine if the condition is leprosy or just a boil or bursitis. This takes time, treatments and re-examination.
- Imagine what it would do to someone if they were declared to have leprosy and all they had was a zit or a rash.
- Galatians 6:1 "*Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness;*"
 - It may not be a quick fix. It may take time.

Lev 13:29 **3) A Concealed Condition** vs 29-44

"Now if a man or woman has an infection on the head or on the beard,

Lev 13:30 then the priest shall look at the infection, and if it appears to be deeper than the skin and there is thin yellowish hair in it, then the priest shall pronounce him unclean; it is a scale, it is leprosy of the head or of the beard.

Lev 13:31 "But if the priest looks at the infection of the scale, and indeed, it appears to be no deeper than the skin and there is no black hair in it, then the priest shall isolate {the person} with the scaly infection for seven days.

Lev 13:32 "On the seventh day the priest shall look at the infection, and if the scale has not spread and no yellowish hair has grown in it, and the appearance of the scale is no deeper than the skin,

Lev 13:33 then he shall shave himself, but he shall not shave the scale; and the priest shall isolate {the person} with the scale seven more days.

- The priest needs to have the condition revealed.
- It is revealed to determine it has spread.

Lev 13:34 "Then on the seventh day the priest shall look at the scale, and if the scale has not spread in the skin and it appears to be no deeper than the skin, the priest shall pronounce him clean; and he shall wash his clothes and be clean.

Lev 13:35 "But if the scale spreads farther in the skin after his cleansing,

Lev 13:36 then the priest shall look at him, and if the scale has spread in the skin, the priest need not seek for the yellowish hair; he is unclean.

- Lev 13:37 "If in his sight the scale has remained, however, and black hair has grown in it, the scale has healed, he is clean; and the priest shall pronounce him clean.
- Lev 13:38 "When a man or a woman has bright spots on the skin of the body, {even} white bright spots,
- Lev 13:39 then the priest shall look, and if the bright spots on the skin of their bodies are a faint white, it is eczema that has broken out on the skin; he is clean.
- The priest needs to make a clear diagnosis between dry skin and leprosy.
 - The KJV says, "Then the priest shall look: and, behold, if the bright spots in the skin of their flesh be darkish white; it is a freckled spot that groweth in the skin; he is clean."
 - The priest needs to make a clear diagnosis between a freckle and leprosy.
 - God knows that man is capable of calling normal behavior "SIN". The priest needs to be cautious.
- Lev 13:40 "Now if a man loses the hair of his head, he is bald; he is clean.
- Lev 13:41 "If his head becomes bald at the front and sides, he is bald on the forehead; he is clean.
- Baldness is not leprosy nor is it sin.
 - But if there is a sore on the bald head...
- Lev 13:42 "But if on the bald head or the bald forehead, there occurs a reddish-white infection, it is leprosy breaking out on his bald head or on his bald forehead.
- Lev 13:43 "Then the priest shall look at him; and if the swelling of the infection is reddish-white on his bald head or on his bald forehead, like the appearance of leprosy in the skin of the body,
- Lev 13:44 he is a leprous man, he is unclean. The priest shall surely pronounce him unclean; his infection is on his head.
- The priest cannot overlook the disease because of a undesired trait. An Senior Citizen cannot be rude and be given a pass because they are now old. A handicapped person cannot take advantage of other people or be exempted from being giving because of their disability.
 - "Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns; I am thankful that thorns have roses." - Alphonse Karr

<u>LEPROSY (sin)</u>	<u>PRIESTLY DUTY</u>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It begins small, subtle. (a spot) 2. It is deeper than just on the surface. 3. It is painless in its first stages. 4. It grows slowly. 5. It often remits for a while and then returns. 6. It numbs the senses - one cannot feel in the afflicted area, it desensitizes. 7. It causes decay and deformity. 8. It gives a person a repulsive appearance. 9. While it may no longer be contagious it can and will affect others. 10. Only curable by God. The Priest does nothing to cure. He is an observer. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. He is the person how can diagnose sin 2. He needs to be concerned about the individual as well as the community. 3. He must look closely and carefully at all the details even if it is not pleasant. 4. He cannot make quick / prejudiced decisions. 5. He must look at more than the one infected area. 6. He must give a treatment a re-examination 7. He must be cautious not to call unpleasant traits sin. 8. He cannot ignore sin. 9. God's word determines what is leprous (sin)

- by the time of Jesus, priests would throw rocks at lepers to keep the unclean lepers away. The believed that the leprosy was a judgment on them for their sin. Jesus approach was different.
- Luke 5:12-14 "And it came to pass, when he was in a certain city, behold a man full of leprosy: who seeing Jesus fell on [his] face, and besought him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And he put forth [his] hand, and touched him, saying, I will: be thou clean. And immediately the leprosy departed from him. And he charged him to tell no man: but go, and shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing, according as Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them."

Lev 13:45
Of an Unclean
Person

4) Results vs 45-59

"As for the leper who has the infection, his clothes shall be torn, and the hair of his head shall be uncovered, and he shall cover his mustache and cry, 'Unclean! Unclean!'

Lev 13:46

"He shall remain unclean all the days during which he has the infection; he is unclean. He shall live alone; his dwelling shall be outside the camp.

- The Person declared UNCLEAN must
 - Tear his clothes
 - His hair uncovered but,
 - His moustache covered
 - As people approach or he approaches people he must declare he is UNCLEAN
 - Live alone
 - And live outside the camp
- This is to last the entire time he is unclean.

Lev 13:47
Of An Unclean
Garment

"When a garment has a mark of leprosy in it, whether it is a wool garment or a linen garment,

- The Garment that has a spot (probably a mold or mildew rather than leprosy)

Lev 13:48

whether in warp or woof, of linen or of wool, whether in leather or in any article made of leather,

- The warp is the vertical strands. The woof is the horizontal strands.

Lev 13:49

if the mark is greenish or reddish in the garment or in the leather, or in the warp or in the woof, or in any article of leather, it is a leprous mark and shall be shown to the priest.

Lev 13:50

"Then the priest shall look at the mark and shall quarantine the article with the mark for seven days.

- The priest needs to see it. He will mark the spot and quarantine it for 7 days.

Lev 13:51

"He shall then look at the mark on the seventh day; if the mark has spread in the garment, whether in the warp or in the woof, or in the leather, whatever the purpose for which the leather is used, the mark is a leprous malignancy, it is unclean.

Lev 13:52

"So he shall burn the garment, whether the warp or the woof, in wool or in linen, or any article of leather in which the mark occurs, for it is a leprous malignancy; it shall be burned in the fire.

- If it spreads it must be burned.

Lev 13:53

"But if the priest shall look, and indeed the mark has not spread in the garment, either in the warp or in the woof, or in any article of leather,

Lev 13:54

then the priest shall order them to wash the thing in which the mark occurs and he shall quarantine it for seven more days.

Lev 13:55

"After the article with the mark has been washed, the priest shall again look, and if the mark has not changed its appearance, even though the mark has not spread, it is unclean; you shall burn it in the fire, whether an eating away has produced bareness on the top or on the front of it.

- If it hasn't grown, the garment will be washed and quarantined again for 7 days. If it is still there, even if it hasn't grown it is to be burned.

Lev 13:56

"Then if the priest looks, and if the mark has faded after it has been washed, then he shall tear it out of the garment or out of the leather, whether from the warp or from the woof;

Lev 13:57

and if it appears again in the garment, whether in the warp or in the woof, or in any article of leather, it is an outbreak; the article with the mark shall be burned in the fire.

- If after the first quarantine the spot is faded the priest will tear it out. If another spot appears on the remaining garment it is to be burned.
- Sometimes we need to get rid of the things that cause disease (sin) in our lives.

- Lev 13:58 "The garment, whether the warp or the woof, or any article of leather from which the mark has departed when you washed it, it shall then be washed a second time and will be clean."
- Lev 13:59 This is the law for the mark of leprosy in a garment of wool or linen, whether in the warp or in the woof, or in any article of leather, for pronouncing it clean or unclean.
- If the spot in the garment is gone after the first quarantine, the garment is washed a second time and is declared clean.

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