

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS

July 8, 2026

Leviticus 11:9-23

Introduction:

1. When God sets conditions, it is not our right to decide what conditions are necessary.
 - a) Leviticus 11.4-8: Both conditions had to be met for an animal to be clean.
 - b) Application: Salvation and Worship. (Mark 16.16; Acts 2.38; John 4.23,24)
2. Leviticus 11-15 sets the standard for what is clean and unclean.
 - a) Leviticus 11: clean and unclean animals. (Lev. 11.46,47)
 - b) God has always made a distinction. (Gen. 7.1-3; 8.20; 9.2,3)
3. Why did God place restrictions on what could be eaten? (Lev. 11.44; 20.25,26)

I. CLEAN AND UNCLEAR WATER CREATURES

- A. **Leviticus 11.9:** *“These you may eat of all that are in the water”* Permissive.
 1. **Leviticus 11.9:** There are two conditions: fins and scales.
 2. **Leviticus 11.9:** There are two locations: seas and rivers.
- B. The prohibition: What was excluded from their diet.
 1. **Leviticus 11.10:** The exact negative counterpart of verse 9.
 2. **Leviticus 11.10:** *“all that move in the water or any living thing which is in the water”* This expands the prohibition beyond fish.
 3. **Leviticus 11.11:** *“They shall be an abomination to you”*
 - a) Abomination (sheqets): Lit., detestable. Used only for unclean animals.
 - b) To eat what is abominable is to become abominable. (Lev. 20.25)
 4. **Leviticus 11.12:** Reiterated for emphasis.

II. CLEAN AND UNCLEAR BIRDS

- A. **Leviticus 11.13:** *“these you shall regard as an abomination among the birds”*
 1. **Leviticus 11.13-19:** Distinct from previous restrictions. No conditions.
 2. Bible translations vary greatly. Ancient classification was different than today.
 3. *“After its kind”* (vs. 14,15,16,19). Restricts the entire family.
- B. Are these restrictions based on the moral or abnormal nature of these animals?
 1. God created all the fish and birds. (Gen. 1.20,21)
 2. God takes care of all the animals. (Ps. 104.10,11,16-18,21,27-30)

III. CLEAN AND UNCLEAR INSECTS

- A. **Leviticus 11.20:** *“All flying insects that creep on all fours”* Lit., swarming.
- B. **Leviticus 11.21,22:** The exception to the rule. Locusts, crickets, grasshoppers.
 1. The only exception given in the entire chapter. God is often very granular emphasizing our need for biblical precision. (cf. 1 Cor. 4.6)
 2. Who had a regular diet of locusts? (Matt. 3.4)
- C. **Leviticus 11.23:** The general rule restated