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|  | **LightHouse Ranch**  **Bible Study** |

**Leviticus 11 – Clean and Unclean**

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**Clean and Unclean -** [Leviticus 11](swordsearcher://bible/le11)

We have come to a new major division in Leviticus, that of walking with the LORD. The beginning of this 2nd major division ([chapters 11-15](swordsearcher://bible/le11-15)), we have the LORD’s Words on sanctification and purity.

Many times we make a false distinction , between being on the way to God and the walk with God; but to God Himself, there seems to be no such distinction. I believe the reason for this is that the way to God is not enough, it also takes the walk, and conversely, in order to walk with God, we must first learn how to approach a holy God – one is no good without the other, it takes both. Chapter 11 of Leviticus shows us that God is interested in every facet of our lives whether we are on the way or walking with God because the key is humility and obedience. In fact, after Jesus taught His disciples about the Kingdom in chapter 17 of Matthew, the disciples asked Him, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”, Jesus’ answer was conversion and humility:

[**Matthew 18:2**](swordsearcher://bible/matt18.2-4) And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,  
**Matthew 18:3** And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.  
**Matthew 18:4** Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

**Jesus immediately went** from the way to God **to an individual’s** walk with God **as He taught**:

[**Matthew 18:5**](swordsearcher://bible/matt185-6) And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.  
**Matthew 18:6** But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and *that* he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

Jesus is present when one humbles himself before God - no matter who he is - He will work with the humble individual, ([Psalm 34:18](swordsearcher://bible/ps34.18); [51:17](swordsearcher://bible/ps57.17)), and equally as important, will point him in the direction of the road to sanctification, teaching him to walk before God and be pleasing in His sight. ([Colossians 1:3-12](swordsearcher://bible/col1.3-12)) The key is knowing that God is holy and the way to God is by sacrifice ([Romans 12:1-2](swordsearcher://bible/romans%2012:1-2)), and the walk with God is through sanctification ([II Corinthians 6:14-18](swordsearcher://bible/2cor6.14-18)) – one isn’t good enough it takes both – and hearts are purified by faith – You can’t have purity without faith. ([Acts 15:9](swordsearcher://bible/acts%2015.9)) We are to sanctify (separate) ourselves because God is the One who sanctifies us – again, it takes both. ([Leviticus 20:7-8](swordsearcher://bible/le20.7-8); [I Peter 1:1-8](swordsearcher://bible/1pe1:1-8))

We find, in the eleventh chapter of Leviticus, God being interested right down to the personal diet of the individual that comes to Him. And, did you notice that above we spoke about two things with one not good enough? (Way and Walk, Humility and Conversion, Sacrifice and Sanctification – one is not enough both are needed. Why would God be interested in a person’s diet? In this chapter, God will define “clean” and “unclean” animals as God wants His people of Israel to eat the “clean” animals, and not to eat the “unclean” animals. We will find that it takes two characteristics of these animals for them to be considered “clean” and one of them is not enough. The application for today makes me stand in complete awe of God’s character and His Word.

Much of the difference between “clean: and “unclean” is the very diet of the animals themselves. Many of the “unclean animals” eat “road kill” or other things already dead and these animals may have transferable parasites, with some of these parasites capable of being transferred from animal to human. The parallel is striking, just as sin will not come in the presence of the holy God – a person carrying a transferable parasite should not be in the presence anyone else in the camp. I don’t think Moses or the ancient Egyptians knew about this, but God does, and He places this knowledge in His Word by the inspiration of the Holy Ghost for Israel’s benefit.

**I. The Beasts ye shall Eat**

[**Leviticus 11:1**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.1-3) And the LORD spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying unto them,  
**Leviticus 11:2** Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These *are* the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that *are* on the earth.  
**Leviticus 11:3** Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, *and* cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat.

**These beasts shall Ye not Eat**  
[**Leviticus 11:4**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.4-8) Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: *as* the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he *is* unclean unto you.  
**Leviticus 11:5** And the coney, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he *is* unclean unto you.  
**Leviticus 11:6** And the hare, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he *is* unclean unto you.  
**Leviticus 11:7** And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he *is* unclean to you.  
**Leviticus 11:8** Of their flesh shall ye not eat, and their carcase shall ye not touch; they *are* unclean to you.

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| **Interpretation and Application of what makes a beast “clean”** | | |
| Beast | Interpretation | Application |
| To be essentially clean it must:  1.) Divide the hoof  2.) Cheweth the cud | Hoof separates the ox from the earth  Neither the 1st nor the 2nd are sufficient of itself – it takes 1 and 2 | Come out from them - Be Ye separate  1.) “outward walk with God”  2.) “inward digestion of God’s Word” |
| Not the camel – It chews the cud but does not divide the hoof | | Today, an individual must digest God’s Word and walk with God. One of these alone is insufficient – it takes both. Can’t have one without the other. |
| Not the coney– It chews the cud but does not divide the hoof | |
| Not the hare – It chews the cud but does not divide the hoof | |
| Not the swine – It divides the hoof but does not chew the cud | |

**II. Fish - These shall Ye Eat that are in the Waters**  
[**Leviticus 11:9**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.9) These shall ye eat of all that *are* in the waters: whatsoever hath fins and scales in the waters, in the seas, and in the rivers, them shall ye eat.

**These are Abominations to You**  
[**Leviticus 11:10**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.10-20) And all that have not fins and scales in the seas, and in the rivers, of all that move in the waters, and of any living thing which *is* in the waters, they *shall be* an abomination unto you:  
**Leviticus 11:11** They shall be even an abomination unto you; ye shall not eat of their flesh, but ye shall have their carcases in abomination.  
**Leviticus 11:12** Whatsoever hath no fins nor scales in the waters, that *shall be* an abomination unto you.  
**Leviticus 11:13** And these *are they which* ye shall have in abomination among the fowls; they shall not be eaten, they *are* an abomination: the eagle, and the ossifrage, and the ospray,  
**Leviticus 11:14** And the vulture, and the kite after his kind;  
**Leviticus 11:15** Every raven after his kind;  
**Leviticus 11:16** And the owl, and the night hawk, and the cuckow, and the hawk after his kind,  
**Leviticus 11:17** And the little owl, and the cormorant, and the great owl,  
**Leviticus 11:18** And the swan, and the pelican, and the gier eagle,  
**Leviticus 11:19** And the stork, the heron after her kind, and the lapwing, and the bat.  
**Leviticus 11:20** All fowls that creep, going upon *all* four, *shall be* an abomination unto you.

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| **What makes a fish a clean animal** | | |
| Fish | Interpretation | Application |
| To be clean the fish must have  1.) scales  2.) fins | The fish must have fins to navigate in the water, and fins to resist the propulsion of waters influence | Need the walk of faith to direct through this world and Holy Spirit Power “stand fast” against world’s draw |
| Fins would not work without the scales to be a clean animal | | |
| Neither one is sufficient of itself – It takes both to be clean | | |

**III.** **Creeping Things Yet these may Ye Eat of every flying, creeping thing**  
[**Leviticus 11:21**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.21-22) Yet these may ye eat of every flying creeping thing that goeth upon *all* four, which have legs above their feet, to leap withal upon the earth;  
**Leviticus 11:22** *Even* these of them ye may eat; the locust after his kind, and the bald locust after his kind, and the beetle after his kind, and the grasshopper after his kind.

**These shall be an Abomination – Even to touch it**  
**Leviticus 11:23** But all *other* flying creeping things, which have four feet, *shall be* an abomination unto you.  
**Leviticus 11:24** And for these ye shall be unclean: whosoever toucheth the carcase of them shall be unclean until the even.  
**Leviticus 11:25** And whosoever beareth *ought* of the carcase of them shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even.  
**Leviticus 11:26** *The carcases* of every beast which divideth the hoof, and *is* not clovenfooted, nor cheweth the cud, *are* unclean unto you: every one that toucheth them shall be unclean.  
**Leviticus 11:27** And whatsoever goeth upon his paws, among all manner of beasts that go on *all* four, those *are* unclean unto you: whoso toucheth their carcase shall be unclean until the even.  
**Leviticus 11:28** And he that beareth the carcase of them shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: they *are* unclean unto you.  
**These among the creeping things**

**Leviticus 11:29** These also *shall be* unclean unto you among the creeping things that creep upon the earth; the weasel, and the mouse, and the tortoise after his kind,  
**Leviticus 11:30** And the ferret, and the chameleon, and the lizard, and the snail, and the mole.  
**Leviticus 11:31** These *are* unclean to you among all that creep: whosoever doth touch them, when they be dead, shall be unclean until the even.  
**Leviticus 11:32** And upon whatsoever *any* of them, when they are dead, doth fall, it shall be unclean; whether *it be* any vessel of wood, or raiment, or skin, or sack, whatsoever vessel *it be*, wherein *any* work is done, it must be put into water, and it shall be unclean until the even; so it shall be cleansed.  
**Leviticus 11:33** And every earthen vessel, whereinto *any* of them falleth, whatsoever *is* in it shall be unclean; and ye shall break it.

**IV. Unclean ovens, ranges and pots**  
[**Leviticus 11:34**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.34-38) Of all meat which may be eaten, *that* on which *such* water cometh shall be unclean: and all drink that may be drunk in every *such* vessel shall be unclean.  
**Leviticus 11:35** And every *thing* whereupon *any part* of their carcase falleth shall be unclean; *whether it be* oven, or ranges for pots, they shall be broken down: *for* they *are* unclean, and shall be unclean unto you.  
**Leviticus 11:36** Nevertheless a fountain or pit, *wherein there is* plenty of water, shall be clean: but that which toucheth their carcase shall be unclean.  
**Leviticus 11:37** And if *any part* of their carcase fall upon any sowing seed which is to be sown, it *shall be* clean.  
**Leviticus 11:38** But if *any* water be put upon the seed, and *any part* of their carcase fall thereon, it *shall be* unclean unto you.

**What about an animal that dies?**[**Leviticus 11:39**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.39-40) And if any beast, of which ye may eat, die; he that toucheth the carcase thereof shall be unclean until the even.  
**Leviticus 11:40** And he that eateth of the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even: he also that beareth the carcase of it shall wash his clothes, and be unclean until the even.

**Every creeping thing**  
[**Leviticus 11:41**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.41-42) And every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth *shall be* an abomination; it shall not be eaten.  
**Leviticus 11:42** Whatsoever goeth upon the belly, and whatsoever goeth upon *all* four, or whatsoever hath more feet among all creeping things that creep upon the earth, them ye shall not eat; for they *are* an abomination.

**Sanctify Yourselves – Obedience is the first step to sanctification**  
[**Leviticus 11:43**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.43-45) Ye shall not make yourselves abominable with any creeping thing that creepeth, neither shall ye make yourselves unclean with them, that ye should be defiled thereby.  
**Leviticus 11:44** For I *am* the LORD your God: ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I *am* holy: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.  
**Leviticus 11:45** For I *am* the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I *am* holy.

**The Law of the beasts**  
[**Leviticus 11:46**](swordsearcher://bible/le11.46-47) This *is* the law of the beasts, and of the fowl, and of every living creature that moveth in the waters, and of every creature that creepeth upon the earth:  
**Leviticus 11:47** To make a difference between the unclean and the clean, and between the beast that may be eaten and the beast that may not be eaten.

**V. What God hath Cleansed don’t call Unclean**

**After Saul’s conversion at Damascus, God is going to have a talk with Peter concerning “clean” and “unclean” beasts, fowl, etc., as Peter is ministering at Lydda and Joppa:**

**Aeneas is healed by the power of God**

[**Acts 9:32**](swordsearcher://bible/acts9.32-35) And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all *quarters*, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda.  
**Acts 9:33** And there he found a certain man named AEneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy.  
**Acts 9:34** And Peter said unto him, AEneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.  
**Acts 9:35** And all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

**Tabitha is raised from the dead at Joppa**  
[**Acts 9:36**](swordsearcher://bible/acts9.36-42) Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.  
**Acts 9:37** And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid *her* in an upper chamber.  
**Acts 9:38** And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring *him* that he would not delay to come to them.  
**Acts 9:39** Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.  
**Acts 9:40** But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning *him* to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.  
**Acts 9:41** And he gave her *his* hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.  
**Acts 9:42** And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord.

**Peter stays a few days with Simon the Tanner at Joppa**  
[**Acts 9:43**](swordsearcher://bible/acts9.43) And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner.

**Meanwhile, a Gentile in Caesarea is fasting and seeking God**

[**Acts 10:1**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.1-7) There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian *band*,  
**Acts 10:2** *A* devout *man*, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.  
**Acts 10:3** He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.  
**Acts 10:4** And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.  
**Acts 10:5** And now send men to Joppa, and call for *one* Simon, whose surname is Peter:  
**Acts 10:6** He lodgeth with one Simon a tanner, whose house is by the sea side: he shall tell thee what thou oughtest to do.  
**Acts 10:7** And when the angel which spake unto Cornelius was departed, he called two of his household servants, and a devout soldier of them that waited on him continually;

**Cornelius sends two household servants to Joppa to call on Peter**  
[**Acts 10:8**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.8) And when he had declared all *these* things unto them, he sent them to Joppa.

**Meanwhile, Peter is seeking God and is hungry**

[**Acts 10:9**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.9-16) On the morrow, as they went on their journey, and drew nigh unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour:  
**Acts 10:10** And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance,  
**Acts 10:11** And saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth:  
**Acts 10:12** Wherein were all manner of fourfooted beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air.  
**Acts 10:13** And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat.  
**Acts 10:14** But Peter said, Not so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean.  
**Acts 10:15** And the voice *spake* unto him again the second time, What God hath cleansed, *that* call not thou common.  
**Acts 10:16** This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven.

**Right at this time, Cornelius’ men arrive**  
[**Acts 10:17**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.17-23) Now while Peter doubted in himself what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men which were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate,  
**Acts 10:18** And called, and asked whether Simon, which was surnamed Peter, were lodged there.  
**Acts 10:19** While Peter thought on the vision, the Spirit said unto him, Behold, three men seek thee.  
**Acts 10:20** Arise therefore, and get thee down, and go with them, doubting nothing: for I have sent them.  
**Acts 10:21** Then Peter went down to the men which were sent unto him from Cornelius; and said, Behold, I am he whom ye seek: what *is* the cause wherefore ye are come?  
**Acts 10:22** And they said, Cornelius the centurion, a just man, and one that feareth God, and of good report among all the nation of the Jews, was warned from God by an holy angel to send for thee into his house, and to hear words of thee.  
**Acts 10:23** Then called he them in, and lodged *them*. And on the morrow Peter went away with them, and certain brethren from Joppa accompanied him.

**Peter entered into Casarea**   
[**Acts 10:24**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.24-27) And the morrow after they entered into Caesarea. And Cornelius waited for them, and had called together his kinsmen and near friends.

**Acts 10:25** And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped *him*.  
**Acts 10:26** But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.  
**Acts 10:27** And as he talked with him, he went in, and found many that were come together.

**Peter addresses the crowd of Gentiles at Cornelius’ house**  
[**Acts 10:28**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.28-29) And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.  
**Acts 10:29** Therefore came I *unto you* without gainsaying, as soon as I was sent for: I ask therefore for what intent ye have sent for me?

**Cornelius tells Peter why he sent for Peter**  
[**Acts 10:30**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.30-33) And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing,  
**Acts 10:31** And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God.  
**Acts 10:32** Send therefore to Joppa, and call hither Simon, whose surname is Peter; he is lodged in the house of *one* Simon a tanner by the sea side: who, when he cometh, shall speak unto thee.  
**Acts 10:33** Immediately therefore I sent to thee; and thou hast well done that thou art come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded thee of God.  
**Peter reveals about what God had just taught Peter**

[**Acts 10:34**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.34-41) Then Peter opened *his* mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:  
**Acts 10:35** But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.  
**Acts 10:36** The word which *God* sent unto the children of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ: (he is Lord of all:)  
**Acts 10:37** That word, *I say*, ye know, which was published throughout all Judaea, and began from Galilee, after the baptism which John preached;  
**Acts 10:38** How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

**Acts 10:39** And we are witnesses of all things which he did both in the land of the Jews, and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree:  
**Acts 10:40** Him God raised up the third day, and shewed him openly;  
**Acts 10:41** Not to all the people, but unto witnesses chosen before of God, *even* to us, who did eat and drink with him after he rose from the dead.

**Jesus commanded us to give out the Word**[**Acts 10:42**](swordsearcher://bible/acts10.42-48) And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God *to be* the Judge of quick and dead.  
**Acts 10:43** To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.  
**Acts 10:44** While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.  
**Acts 10:45** And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.  
**Acts 10:46** For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter,  
**Acts 10:47** Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?  
**Acts 10:48** And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

**What was it that the Lord taught Peter? As Peter rehearsed what transpired at Cornilius’ house**

[**Acts 11:16**](swordsearcher://bible/acts11.16-18) Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.  
**Acts 11:17** Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as *he did* unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?  
**Acts 11:18** When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.

**VI. The Church at Jerusalem hears Peter’s Testimony**

**Judaizers plague the first church**

[**Acts 15:1**](swordsearcher://bible/acts15.1-2) And certain men which came down from Judaea taught the brethren, *and said*, Except ye be circumcised after the manner of Moses, ye cannot be saved.  
**Acts 15:2** When therefore Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and disputation with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas, and certain other of them, should go up to Jerusalem unto the apostles and elders about this question.

**Paul and Barnabus are on their way to the Church Council in Jerusalem**[**Acts 15:3**](swordsearcher://bible/acts15.3-4) And being brought on their way by the church, they passed through Phenice and Samaria, declaring the conversion of the Gentiles: and they caused great joy unto all the brethren.

**Acts 15:4** And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and *of* the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them.

**A certain sect of the Pharisees are attending the Council**  
[**Acts 15:5**](swordsearcher://bible/acts15.5) But there rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying, That it was needful to circumcise them, and to command *them* to keep the law of Moses.

**Peter gives his testimony**  
[**Acts 15:6**](swordsearcher://bible/acts15.6-12) And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.  
**Acts 15:7** And when there had been much disputing, Peter rose up, and said unto them, Men *and* brethren, ye know how that a good while ago God made choice among us, that the Gentiles by my mouth should hear the word of the gospel, and believe.  
**Acts 15:8** And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as *he did* unto us;  
**Acts 15:9** And put no difference between us and them, purifying their hearts by faith.  
**Acts 15:10** Now therefore why tempt ye God, to put a yoke upon the neck of the disciples, which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?  
**Acts 15:11** But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved, even as they.  
**Acts 15:12** Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

**James gives God’s Word on the matter**  
[**Acts 15:13**](swordsearcher://bible/acts15.13-18) And after they had held their peace, James answered, saying, Men *and* brethren, hearken unto me:  
**Acts 15:14** Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.  
**Acts 15:15** And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written,  
**Acts 15:16** After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up:  
**Acts 15:17** That the residue of men might seek after the Lord, and all the Gentiles, upon whom my name is called, saith the Lord, who doeth all these things.  
**Acts 15:18** Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

**VII. James is quoting Amos’ prophecy**

[**Amos 9:8**](swordsearcher://bible/amos9.8-15) Behold, the eyes of the Lord GOD *are* upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith the LORD.  
**Amos 9:9** For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as *corn* is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth.  
**Amos 9:10** All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us.  
**Amos 9:11** In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old:  
**Amos 9:12** That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith the LORD that doeth this.  
**Amos 9:13** Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him that soweth seed; and the mountains shall drop sweet wine, and all the hills shall melt.  
**Amos 9:14** And I will bring again the captivity of my people of Israel, and they shall build the waste cities, and inhabit *them*; and they shall plant vineyards, and drink the wine thereof; they shall also make gardens, and eat the fruit of them.  
**Amos 9:15** And I will plant them upon their land, and they shall no more be pulled up out of their land which I have given them, saith the LORD thy God.

**The decision of the First Church Council**  
[**Acts 15:19**](swordsearcher://bible/acts%2015.19-31) Wherefore my sentence is, that we trouble not them, which from among the Gentiles are turned to God:  
**Acts 15:20** But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and *from* fornication, and *from* things strangled, and *from* blood.  
**Acts 15:21** For Moses of old time hath in every city them that preach him, being read in the synagogues every sabbath day.  
**Acts 15:22** Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; *namely*, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:  
**Acts 15:23** And they wrote *letters* by them after this manner; The apostles and elders and brethren *send* greeting unto the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia:  
**Acts 15:24** Forasmuch as we have heard, that certain which went out from us have troubled you with words, subverting your souls, saying, *Ye must* be circumcised, and keep the law: to whom we gave no *such* commandment:  
**Acts 15:25** It seemed good unto us, being assembled with one accord, to send chosen men unto you with our beloved Barnabas and Paul,  
**Acts 15:26** Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Acts 15:27** We have sent therefore Judas and Silas, who shall also tell *you* the same things by mouth.  
**Acts 15:28** For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things;  
**Acts 15:29** That ye abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood, and from things strangled, and from fornication: from which if ye keep yourselves, ye shall do well. Fare ye well.  
**Acts 15:30** So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together, they delivered the epistle:  
**Acts 15:31** *Which* when they had read, they rejoiced for the consolation.