

# Not The Way It's Supposed to Be

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Leviticus 12

*Read Chapter 12*

**Big Idea: Procreation Has Been Corrupted, Now Leading to Defilement and the Need To Be Cleansed.**

**Big Idea, Paraphrased: Things Are Not the Way They Are Supposed To Be.**

## 1.) Corruption Portrayed

### A.) Childbirth leads to Uncleanness.

Verse 2, "*If a woman has conceived, and borne a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days,*"

Verse 5, '*But if she bears a female child, then she shall be unclean two weeks*'

### B.) Procreation is Commanded

Genesis 1:28, "*...Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it...*"

Genesis 9:1, "*...Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth.*"

Genesis 9:7, "*And as for you, be fruitful and multiply; Bring forth abundantly in the earth And multiply in it.*"

### C.) Procreation is Blessed

Genesis 9:1, "*So God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them: "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth."*

*"...The children whom God has graciously given your servant."* Genesis 33:5

Psalms 127:3, "*Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, The fruit of the womb is a reward.*"

#### D.) Procreation is Cursed

Genesis 3:16, "...I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children..."

#### E.) Corruption is a Departure from the Original or from what is pure and correct

#### F.) Corruption is best understood as a departure from Shalom

*"the webbing together of God, humans, and all creation in justice, fulfillment, and delight is what the Hebrew prophets call Shalom. We call it peace, but it means far more than mere peace of mind or a cease-fire between enemies. In the Bible, shalom means universal flourishing, wholeness and delight – a rich state of affairs in which natural needs are satisfied and natural gifts fruitfully employed, a state of affairs that inspires joyful wonder as its Creator and Savior opens doors and s the creatures in whom he delights. Shalom, in other words, is the way things out to be." —Cornelius Plantinga*

#### G.) Shalom is the way things ought to be— all things in right relationship to God.

Isaiah 2:2-4, "Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And all nations shall flow to it. 3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, To the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore."

*"It would include, for instance, strong marriages and secure children. Nations and races in this brave new world would treasure differences*

*in other nations and races as attractive, important, complementary. In the process of making decisions, men would defer to women and women to men until a crisis arose. Then, with good humor all around, the person more naturally competent in the area of the crisis would resolve it to the satisfaction and pleasure of both. Government officials would still take office (somebody has to decide which streets are cleaned on Tuesday and which on Wednesday), but to nobody's surprise they would tell the truth and freely praise the virtues of other public officials...Highway overpasses would be free of graffiti. Tow truck drivers and erring motorists would be serene on inner-city streets." —Cornelius Plantinga*

## **2.) Corruption Addressed**

### **A.) Gracious Physical Provision**

- i.) Rest
- ii.) Circumcision
- iii.) A Trip to the Tabernacle

### **B.) Gracious Spiritual Provision**

- i.) Separation
- ii.) Covenant
- iii.) Atonement

*Read Leviticus 12:3*

*verse 7, "...**7** Then he shall offer it before the Lord, and make atonement for her."*

verse 8, "...So the priest shall make atonement for her, and she will be clean."

### **3.) From Corruption To Shalom**

#### **A.) Physical Corruption will Remain Until Christ Returns.**

1 Corinthians 15, "*the last enemy that will be destroyed is death.*" (v. 26)

*Romans 8:18-25*

#### **B.) Spiritual Corruption is Being Replaced by Shalom.**

2 Corinthians 5:17-21, "**17** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new...*

**19** *that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself...21* *For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*"

*Ephesians 4:20*

*Romans 12:2*

2 Corinthians 10:5, "...*bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,*"