

## Regulations for Purification After Childbirth

### *Leviticus 12*

#### **Introduction:**

- Allen Ross, “Unclean commonly described what was contaminated, diseased, or impure; and when defilement was the reason for someone being unclean, then no sin was involved and so no forgiveness was required. The only thing needed was washing for cleansing and the sanctifying ritual for reentry into the sanctuary.”<sup>1</sup>

*Two keys to getting the most out of Leviticus...*

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

- Thomas Watson, “Study is a work of the brain, meditation of the heart.”<sup>2</sup>
- Thomas Manton, “The end of study is information, but the end of meditation is practice, or a work upon the affections.”<sup>3</sup>

**Leviticus 12 Theme:** In this chapter, God outlines for Moses the process by which a mother becomes *ceremonially* clean after giving birth to a child.

**I.** \_\_\_\_\_ **(1–8)**

**II.** \_\_\_\_\_ **(2–5)**

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<sup>1</sup> Ross, *Holiness to the Lord*, 244.

<sup>2</sup> Cited from Matthew Bingham, *A Heart Aflame for God*.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*

A. \_\_\_\_\_ (2–4)

B. \_\_\_\_\_ (5)

- Jay Sklar “We simply do not know why the length of impurity differs between boys and girls.”<sup>4</sup>

**III.** \_\_\_\_\_ (6–8)

A. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

- Mark Rooker, “It should further be noted that the sacrifices for male and female infants are identical. This observation supports the view that the male and female infants as well as male and female adults were considered equal in value before God.”<sup>5</sup>
- Jay Sklar, “The Lord mercifully provided careful directions on how to become ritually pure, so that the mother could once more participate fully in Israel’s covenant worship.”<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Jay Sklar, *Leviticus: An Introduction and Commentary*, ed. David G. Firth, vol. 3, Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries (Nottingham, England: Inter-Varsity Press, 2013), 179.

<sup>5</sup> Mark F. Rooker, *Leviticus*, vol. 3A, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2000), 185.

<sup>6</sup> Jay Sklar, *Leviticus: An Introduction and Commentary*, ed. David G. Firth, vol. 3, Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries (Nottingham, England: Inter-Varsity Press, 2013), 180.

**IV. \_\_\_\_\_ (Luke 2:21–24)**

- A. Circumcised Christ in response to the Abrahamic Covenant (21)
  - B. Followed the laws of purification in response to Leviticus 12 (22a)
  - C. Set apart their firstborn in response to Exodus 13 (22b–23; Ex. 13:2, 12, 15)
  - D. Participated in the sacrifices in response to Leviticus 12 (24)
- Dale Ralph Davis, “[God] placed [Christ] in a domestic context of quiet faith and humble obedience.”<sup>7</sup>

**Timeless Truths from Leviticus 12:**

1. God calls men *and* women to be true worshipers
2. God framed/fashioned your body for His glory (Ps. 139:14–16; Exod. 4:11)
3. God owns your body and requires you use it for His glory (1 Cor. 6:13, 19–20; Rom. 12:1–2)

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<sup>7</sup> Dale Ralph Davis, *Luke: The Year of the Lord's Favor*, Focus on the Bible Commentary (Ross-shire, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2021), 52.