

Church Discipline Protects God's People Leviticus 13-14

I. An Overview of Leviticus 13-14

- 13:1-44 Instructions to the priests to test for leprosy in a person
13:45-46 Isolation required for the person with leprosy
13:47-59 Instructions to the priests to test for leprosy in garments, infected ones burned.
14:1-32 Instructions to the priests to pronounce a leper cleansed. A guilt offering, sin offering, grain offering, and burnt offering were made on behalf of the person.
14:33-57 Instructions to the priests to test for leprosy in houses, house burned if it had leprosy.

II. Were these instructions for health reasons or did they teach some spiritual truth?

III. Do the leprosy regulations provide a spiritual analogy to church discipline?

- Both require removal from God's people to prevent further "infection."

1 Corinthians 5:5-13

- Both situations involved "public" situations.
- The process of removal required input from leaders.

¹⁵ "If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

¹⁶ "But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that **BY THE MOUTH OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES EVERY FACT MAY BE CONFIRMED.** ¹⁷ "If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.

¹⁸ "Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven. Matthew 18:15-18 (NASB)



¹⁰ Reject a factious man after a first and second warning, ¹¹ knowing that such a man is perverted and is sinning, being self-condemned. Titus 3:10-11 (NASB)

¹⁷ Obey your leaders and submit *to them*, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you. Hebrews 13:17

- The process of restoration required input from the leaders.

2 Corinthians 2:4-8

