

Name: _____

Date: _____

A HOLY NATION

“For I am the Lord who brings you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy.” (Leviticus 11:45)

Objectives

<i>Knowledge of God’s Will</i>	God is holy, and His people needed to be holy for Him to dwell among them. The purpose of the Mosaic laws was to transform the Israelites into a holy nation.
<i>Knowledge of God</i>	God is holy.
<i>Good Works</i>	Living a holy life means removing anything that is eating away at our spiritual life, avoiding anything that is spiritually unclean, and cutting out any worldly values or principles that are dead to God.

A. Holiness in the Camp (Num 5:1–5)

1. *Leprosy:* Leprosy was a deadly disease that first appeared on the victim’s skin, before spreading and attacking other parts of the body. It affected the victim’s nerves, making them lose all sense of pain, causing them to injure themselves without realizing it. It was so contagious that God commanded all lepers to be immediately removed and confined outside the camp.
2. *Discharge:* In the Bible, “discharge” referred to unclean fluids and substances from the body. Spiritually, discharge refers to the evil thoughts and desires that comes from our hearts (Mt 15:19–20).
3. *Corpses:* Dead bodies, if left unburied, are a source of disease and sickness. Leaving them also meant risking contamination, especially if the dead had a contagious disease, so God’s instruction was that the dead be removed from the camp, and any who touched a dead person was considered defiled until ceremoniously cleansed.

B. Holiness Among the People (Num 5:5–10; Lev 6:1–7)

1. *When we offend our brother, we offend God:* When we commit a sin against someone, we are also committing a sin against God (Mt 25:40). In other words, the way we treat others affects our relationship with God.
2. *True repentance requires action:* Admitting that we are wrong may be difficult for us to do. But in order to live in harmony, we must set aside our pride, because God loves the humble at heart.
3. *With peace, there is holiness:* When we strive for peace and harmony, we become more holy (Heb 12:14). With strife and discord, negative feelings arise and create schisms.

Life Application

1. What Does it Mean to Live a Holy Life?

- a. *Leprosy:* Can you name one thing that is eating away at your spiritual life? Do you have any worldly habits or influences that are slowly eroding your spirituality?
- b. *Discharge:* If you were to look back at this past week, how many thoughts and desires did you have that you knew were against God’s word? What were they? Can you explain where these thoughts and desires came from, or where they originated?
- c. *Corpses:* Are there any worldly values, principles, or ideologies that you consider normal and acceptable, yet are considered ‘spiritually dead’ by God?

2. Becoming a Holy Nation

- a. What is holiness in the camp?
- b. What is holiness among the people?

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Lesson 7 Homework Assignment

A Holy Nation

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse (Leviticus 11:45):

1. What special privilege did the Israelites receive? How were they to receive this?
2. “For out of the _____ proceed evil _____, _____, adulteries, fornications, thefts, _____, _____, blasphemies. These are the things which _____ a _____ [.]” (Matthew 15:19–20a)
3. Pick one of the ways the Israelites kept the camp holy and explain its spiritual teachings.
4. Why is it important to strive for peace? What happens if we don't?
5. What was the purpose of the laws that God gave to the Israelites?
6. In what way is sin similar to leprosy? What happens to our spiritual lives when sin becomes a habit?
7. What are some practical ways we can aim for “holiness in the camp”?