
Pearl Seeking

TREASURING HIS WORD

Let's do a quick overview of the entire Torah portion:

Monday:	Lev. 9	Ordination of Aharon and his sons
Tuesday:	Lev. 10:1-11	The strange fire of Nadab and Abihu
Wednesday:	Lev. 10:12-20	Instruction to Aharon, El'azar and Ithamar regarding their food portion
Thursday:	Lev. 11:1-23	Clean and Unclean animals: food vs. non-food
Friday:	Lev. 11:24-47	Clean and Unclean animals: food vs. non-food

In this week's Parsha Pearls lesson, we will be studying the Torah distinguishing between clean and unclean animals: more specifically that which may be eaten by man and that which is NOT eaten. Yahweh revisits this topic in parsha Re'eh and we will include that in our lesson as well as another verse that deals with what we are to do with the carcass of animals. Now, let's read Lev. 11; 17:15-16 & Deut. 14:3-21.

PARSHA POINTS

- Yahweh spoke to Mosheh and Aharon the Torah regarding the clean (**tahor**) creatures which may be eaten, and the unclean (**tamei**) creatures, which may NOT be eaten. This instruction pertains to every living being: the beasts, the birds, the creeping creature in the waters, and every being that swarms on the earth - 11:1-2, 46-47; Deut. 14:3
- Yahweh commanded that the Yisra'elites be set-apart, for He is set-apart - 11:44-45
- Yahweh reminded them that He was the one who brought them out of the land of Mitsrayim, to be their Elohim - 11:45

Torah Regarding the Living Creatures Which May Be Eaten

• Land Animals

- From among the beasts that are on the earth, you may eat whatever meets the following criteria (11:1-3, Deut. 14:6):
 - a split hoof completely divided
 - chews the cud



- These are examples of they which may be eaten because they chew the cud and have a split hoof (Deut. 14:4-6):

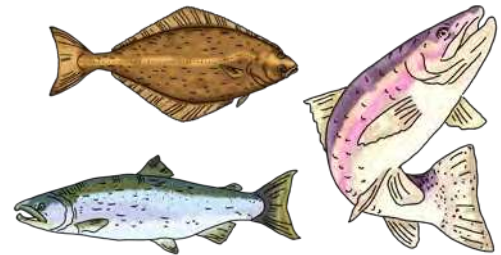
- ox
- sheep
- goat
- deer
- gazelle
- roebuck
- wild goat
- mountain goat
- antelope
- mountain sheep



• **Water Creatures**

- From those that are in the waters - sea and rivers, you may eat whatever meets the following criteria (11:9; Deut. 14:9):

- has fins
- has scales



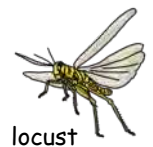
• **Birds**

- Every clean bird you do eat - Deut. 14:11, 20

• **Winged Insects**

- Of every flying insect that creeps on all fours, you may eat whatever has jointed legs above their feet with which to leap on the earth - 1998 version of ISR (11:21-22):

- the locust, the destroying locust after its kind - the arbeh-locust, the solam-locust, the hargol-locust and the hagab-locust after its kind
- the cricket after its kind
- the grasshopper after its kind



locust

cricket

grasshopper

Torah Regarding the Living Creatures Which May NOT Be Eaten

• **Land Animals**

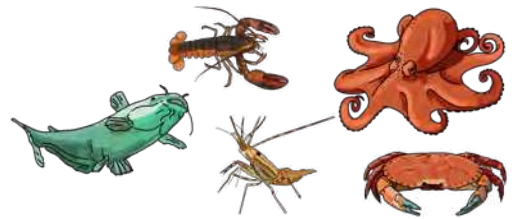
- These are the living creatures which may NOT be eaten among the beasts that are on the earth (11:4-8, 6-7; Deut. 14:7-8):

- Every beast that does NOT have both a split hoof completely divided and chews the cud is unclean
- These are examples of those that chew the cud but do NOT have a split hoof
 - camel
 - rabbit
 - hare
- The following has a split hoof that is completely divided, but does NOT chew the cud:
 - pig



• **Water Creatures**

- All that is in the water (seas and rivers) that does NOT have both fins and scales is an abomination (**sheketz**) to you; their flesh you do NOT eat - 11:10-12; Deut. 14:10



• **Birds**

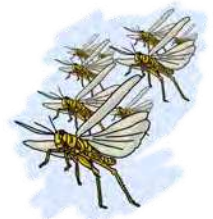
- These are the birds that are NOT eaten (11:13-19; Deut. 14:12-18):

- | | |
|---|--|
| ▪ eagle | ▪ seagull |
| ▪ vulture, black vulture, carrion vulture | ▪ little owl, fisher owl, great owl, white owl |
| ▪ red kite | ▪ pelican |
| ▪ falcon after its kind | ▪ stork |
| ▪ buzzard after their kinds | ▪ heron after its kind |
| ▪ raven after its kind | ▪ hoopoe |
| ▪ ostrich | ▪ bat |
| ▪ nighthawk, hawk after its kind | |



• **Winged Insects**

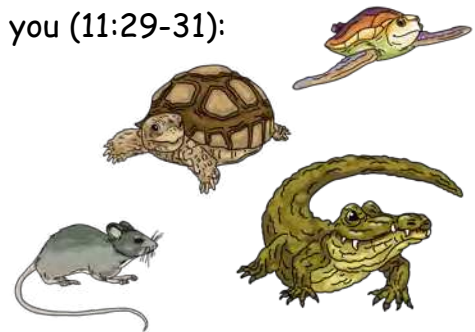
- Every flying insect that creeps on all fours is an abomination to you - 11:20, 23
- Every creeping insect that flies is unclean for you, they are NOT eaten - Deut. 14:19



• **Creeping Creatures**

- These are the creeping creatures that are unclean to you (11:29-31):

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| ▪ mole | ▪ land crocodile |
| ▪ mouse | ▪ sand reptile |
| ▪ tortoise after its kind | ▪ sand lizard |
| ▪ gecko | ▪ chameleon |



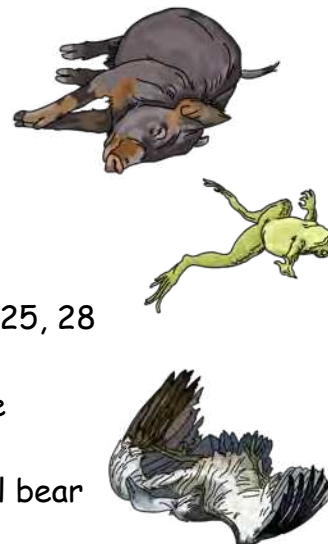
• **Swarming Creatures**

- Every swarming creature that swarms on the earth is an abomination, NOT to be eaten - 11:41
- Whatever crawls on its stomach, whatever goes on all fours, and whatever has many feet, you do NOT eat, for they are an abomination - 11:42
- We are NOT to make ourselves abominable with any swarming creature or make ourselves unclean with them - 11:43-44



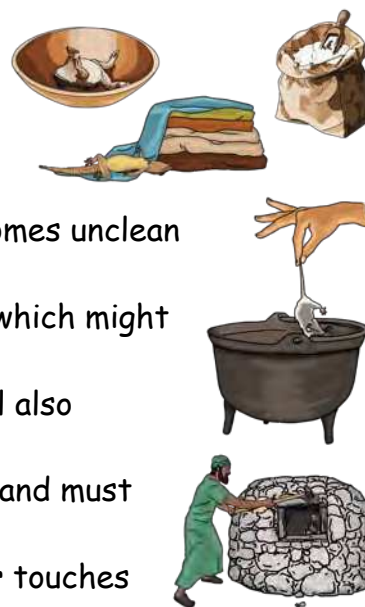
Torah Regarding Contact With A Carcass

- Their carcasses (**nevelah**) you do NOT touch. They are unclean to you - 11:8
- They are an abomination to you: their carcasses, you abominate (detest) - 11:11
- Anyone touching the carcass of anything dead is unclean until evening - 11:24-28, 31
- Anyone who picks up their carcass has to wash his garments - 11:25, 28
- Anyone who eats a carcass or what was torn by a beast, whether a native or stranger, shall wash their garments and bathe, and be unclean until evening - 17:15
- Anyone who does NOT wash or bathe after eating a carcass shall bear their crookedness - 17:16



Torah Regarding Carcasses on Objects

- Whatever their carcass falls upon becomes unclean until evening and must be put in water, whether it is (11:32):
 - wooden object
 - sack
 - garment
 - any object in which work is done
 - skin
- If their carcass falls into any earthen vessel, that vessel becomes unclean and has to be broken - 11:33
- If water from the unclean vessel comes upon any of the food which might be eaten, that food then becomes unclean - 11:34
- Any drink which may be drunk from the unclean earthen vessel also becomes unclean - 11:34
- If their carcass falls on an oven or cooking range it is unclean and must be broken down - 11:35
- A fountain or well is considered clean, but if some of its water touches their carcass, that water is unclean - 11:36
- If their carcass falls on a planting seed which will be sown, the seed is clean - 11:37
- But if a carcass falls on seed that has water on it, the seed is unclean - 11:38



Torah Regarding Carcass of a Clean Animal

- If any animal which is clean dies and someone touches its carcass, that person is unclean until evening - 11:39
- If a person eats its carcass, they must wash their garments and are unclean until evening - 11:40



DIGGING DEEPER

Parents/Teachers may choose to use these prompts for further discussion of the Torah portion.

- Research the structure and primary function of the animals that are unclean and forbidden for food. For example, what do all the tamei (unclean) birds, land and sea animals have in common?

