24th May, 2020. 2020 Sungai Ara Gospel Hall

1. **Stay Home, Stay Safe.**
2. **Stay Far, Stay Safe.**
3. **Stay Clean, Stay Safe**.

From: **R792\_Rumination for Apr. 05, 2020** www. berita-bethel-ung.com

**II. STAY FAR, STAY SAFE.**

**For Israel**: Exodus 24:1
*He said unto Moses, Come up unto the LORD, thou,*

 *and…the elders of Israel; and* ***worship ye afar off****.*

 **Reasons:** The **G**lory of **G**od; The **S**tate of **S**inful Man. Cf. Isa. 1:4-6

 **For Gentiles:** ***G****entiles in the* ***F****lesh… were* ***Far off****…* Eph. 2:1, **11-13**

 **For Both Israel and Gentiles:**

 …***But now in Christ Jesus****… are made* ***nigh*** *by the blood of Christ*

 *Let us* ***draw near*** *with a true heart in* ***F****ull assurance of* ***F****aith,* Heb. 10:22

 *having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

From: **R792 – Reflections for The Week** www. berita-bethel-ung.com

**II. STAY FAR, STAY SAFE.**

 The Movements **C**ontrol Order (MCO) in Lev. 13, 14 to **C**ontrol a **C**ontagious Disease

 over three thousand years ago.

 [All quotes from the Holman Christian Standard Bible, HCSB]

1. **The Instructions: The Infected should see a priest. Lev. 13:2, NIV**

*When any one has…an infectious skin disease…* [leprosy, KJV]

*he must be brought to Aaron the priest…*

 Note: **F**or the “priest” read a “doctor” in our present context.

 **F**iguratively he could point to Christ.

 *Ṣārāʿat̠* translated *leprosy* (KJV) = infectious skin diseases (NIV)?

**B. The Infection:** Lev. 13:3

 If it is “unclean” or contagious, it must be treated as such.

 *The priest will examine the infection…after the priest examines him, he must pronounce him unclean…the priest shall pronounce him unclean: it is a plague.* Lev. 13:22

C. **The Isolation** or quarantine of the infected for fourteen days. It is a plague! Lev. 13:4
 1st. Stage – 1st week: The priest shall shut up him that hath the plague seven days:

 2nd Stage – 2nd week: the confirmation of the disease.

 **14 days in isolation in all**.

*And the priest shall look on him the seventh day: and, behold, if the plague in his sight be at a stay,and the plague spread… then the priest shall* ***shut him up seven days more****.* Lev. 13:5

*All the days wherein the plague shall be in him he shall be defiled; he is unclean:*

***he shall dwell alone****;* ***without [i.e. outside] the camp shall his habitation be.*** Lev. 13:46

**D. The Inhibitions: Lev. 13:45***And the (person) in whom the plague is,his clothes shall be rent, and his head bare,
and he shall* ***put a covering upon his upper lip****, and shall cry, Unclean, unclean*

(i.e. Stay a Distance away)

1. The person’s clothes are contaminated, so are his head and hair. And he needs to cover his nose and mouth **with a mask** to prevent the spread of the decease further.

2. The people must **socially distance** themselves away from him, as he cries out “*unclean*!”

**E. The Imposition:** **Lev. 13:59**
*This is the law of the plague…in a garment of woollen or linen…to pronounce it clean, or to pronounce it unclean. Then the priest shall command that they empty the house…
afterward the priest shall go in to see the house:* Lev. 14:36

1. All **his apparel** and all that the patient touches is “unclean”; where he stays is also unclean.

2. Beware of **his spit** or droplets. They are infectious. He must thoroughly wash himself.

*And if he that hath the issue* ***spit*** *upon him that is clean; then he shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.* Lev. 15:8

**F. The re-Institution process:**
*And when he that…is cleansed…; then he shall number to himself seven days for his cleansing, and wash his clothes, and bathe his flesh in running water, and shall be clean.* Lev. 15:13

**1.** The above Instructions in Leviticus **C**oncerning the **C**ontrol of Movements of an Infected person in the **C**ommunity are not much different from the ones which are now Imposed on our **C**ommunity by the Government to **C**ontain the spread of **C**OVID\_19!

**2**. **C**onsider that God had all these **C**ontrols already in hand over three thousand years (1490B.C.) ago for His people!

**3.** In the midst of all these Infectious diseases the Lord still told His people to trust Him

because He was the Jehovah *Who health thee.* They needed to obey Him. Exo. 15:26

 He said, *“If you will carefully obey the LORD your God, do what is right in His eyes,*

*pay attention to His commands, keep all His statutes, I will not inflict any illnesses*

*on you that I inflicted on the Egyptians. For I am Yahweh Who heals you.*

Is what is happening to this world, God’s judgment upon their **R**ejection of Him in so many of their institutions, relations, constitutions, recreations, etc.?

Then the solution is to **R**eturn to Him. **REFLECT**

**The Movements Control Order and Challenge for us:**

* **If You are a Sinner:**

 **Distance yourself and Stay Far** from Him (Stay Safe?!) lest His Judgment Fall on You.

 Cry out like the Publican: Lk. 18:13

*And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.*

**ONLY WAY TO STAY SAFE!!!**

* **If You are a Sinner Saved by Grace, Draw Near.**  Heb.10:22
***Let us draw near*** *with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*

**R794\_Rumination for Apr. 19, 2020**

**The Theme**: Stay **Clean (Wash), Stay Safe**

**The Text**: *He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit*: Jn. 13:10

**The Thots:**

Intro. **Stay Clean (Wash your Hands) and Stay Safe.**

 Washing to be Safe was also a Requirement in God’s Service:

**A. Wash the Whole Person to be Positionally Clean.
1**. The **C**lothes of the Patient…

a. If **C**ontaminated, they must be Burnt. Lev. 13:47-50, HCSB

 *If a fabric is contaminated…is to be shown to the priest.*

 *The priest is to examine the contamination and quarantine the contaminated fabric*

 *for seven days****.***

 *[If] …it is unclean…you must burn up the fabric.* 13:55, HCSB

b. If **C**leared, they must be **C**leaned (Washed): 13:54, 58, HCSB

 *The priest is to order whatever is contaminated to be washed and quarantined for another seven days*.

 *If the contamination disappears from the fabric…it is to be washed again,*

 *and it will be clean.* SANITISED?

**2**. The **C**ontacts of the **P**atient would be unclean,
 and they needed to wash themselves… Lev. 15:5-7, 10

 a. If they **P**hysically touched the **P**atient or his things;

 they needed to **wash** themselves.

* *Whosoever* ***toucheth*** *his bed shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean*
* *He that* ***sitteth*** *on any thing whereon he sat…shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water.*
* *He that* ***toucheth*** *the flesh of him…shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water.*

 **OR**

 *He* ***toucheth*** *that hath the issue, and hath not rinsed his hands in water, he shall wash his clothes, and bathe himself in water, and be unclean until the even.* 15:11

b. If the **P**atient’s **P**hlegm (spittle) fell on them…

 *If he that hath the issue spit upon him that is clean; then he shall wash his clothes,*

 *and* ***bathe himself in water****, and be unclean until the even.* 15:8

3. The **C**ured **P**atient:

a. He must wash his **C**lothes – *he that is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes…* Lev. 14:8

b. *And [****C****lean] wash himself in water, that he may be* ***C****lean: and after that*

 *he shall* ***C****ome into the* ***C****amp, and shall tarry abroad out of his tent seven days.*

* The **C**leansing **C**eremony Summarised: Lev. 14:9

*It shall be on the seventh day, that he shall shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he shall shave off: and he shall wash his clothes,*

*also he shall wash his flesh in water, and he shall be clean.*

**B. Washing was also the Rule for the Consecration of the Priests.** Lev. 8:1-13

1. The **C**ommand to Moses to Consecrate Aaron and his sons as Priests: Lev. 8:5-7

 *Moses said unto the congregation, This is the thing which the LORD commanded to be done*

*.*

2. The **C**onsecration: And Moses brought Aaron and his sons, and washed them with water. 8:6

 a. The **P**urification: Washed is *rāḥaṣin* (Heb.) from a…root = bathe (self), wash (self). Strong

 b. The **P**ublic Act: This was the only time Moses washed (lit. bathed) Aaron and his sons in

 public to **C**onsecrate them as priests before the **C**ongregation.

c. The **P**roclamation:

 After this, Moses anointed Aaron as high priest and his sons as priests. 8:7-13

 *And Moses brought Aaron's sons, and put coats upon them, and girded them with girdles, and put bonnets upon them; as the LORD commanded Moses.*

* Positionally this **P**ictures a **P**erson’s once-for-all Salvation before being constituted a **P**riest. Rev. 1:5

 *Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood.* .

 [that we might be constituted priests Cf. I Pet. 2:5, 9]

**C. Wash Often Only Certain Parts of the Body to be Practically Safe.**

1. **P**ublic Washing of Aaron and his sons by Moses – Positionally Saved, once for all! As Above.
2. **P**artial Washing of Hands and Feet for Priestly Service –

Before Priests could enter the Tabernacle to minister to the Lord, they must first wash at the Laver:

*For Aaron and his sons shall wash their hands and their feet thereat:* Exo. 30:19

*They shall wash their hands and their feet, that they die not: and it shall be a statute for ever*. Exo. 30:21

*And Moses and Aaron and his sons washed their hands and their feet thereat:* Exo. 40:31

**D. The Two-fold Principle of Washing as Taught by the Lord.** **Jn. 13:10**

1. **W**ashed **W**holly once for all to be **S**aved:

 *Jesus saith…He that is washed [Gk. louō]… = to bathe (the whole person)…is clean every whit*

2. **W**ashed **F**requently hands and **F**eet to **S**erve -

 *needeth not save to wash [nipto] his feet nipto = to cleanse (esp. the hands or the feet or the face.* Strong.

* A Bathed person needs only to clean his hands and feet to keep clean after that. Cf. I Jn. 1:7 *The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.*

**The MCO Advisory from the Scriptures:**

**Stay Home, Stay Safe** – Worship God in Spirit.

**Stay Far, Stay** the Distance: if you are a Sinner – Worship God Afar Off.

 Be the Publican Say: *God Be Merciful to me, a Sinner*

**Stay Clean, Stay Safe** – **Be Washed** in the Blood of Jesus.

 Be a **S**aint, **Draw Near** and **S**erve God.

*Lay aside the garments That are stained with sin, And be washed in the blood of the Lamb;
There’s a fountain flowing for the soul unclean, O be washed in the blood of the Lamb!*

 E.A. Hoffman

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