

Veritas Class  
August 31, 2014

Righteousness in Securing the Well-Being of the Vulnerable  
Deuteronomy 21:22–22:8

- I. Maintaining the Well-being of Female Prisoners of War (Deuteronomy 21:10–14)
- II. Maintaining the Well-Being of an Unloved Wife and a Firstborn Son (Deuteronomy 21:15–17)
- III. Maintaining the Well-being of the Parents and the Community of an Incurable Son (Deut 21:18–21)
- IV. Maintaining the Well-being of the Land (Deut 21:22–23)

A. The Problem (v. 22)

Three stages in the legal procedure involving a capital crime:

1. A person has been found guilty of a crime worthy of death.
2. The person has been executed.
3. The person's body is hung on a tree.

B. The Prescription (v. 23a-b)

1. Do not let the body exposed overnight.
2. Bury it on the day of the execution.

But why? Two additional sets of questions:

- a. What does *qēlālâ* mean?
- b. Why does Moses refer to God as *Elohim*?
- a' Is the person cursed because his body is hung from a tree?
- b' Or is he hung from a tree because he is cursed?

C. The Motive (v. 23c)

To prevent desecration of the land

D. This Policy in Israelite Life

1. The Old Testament
2. Qumran
3. New Testament Echoes

E. But what shall we do with it?

V. Maintaining the Well-being of Domestic Animals (Deut 22:1–4)

A. Righteousness Regarding Lost Property (vv. 1–3)

1. The basic principle, charging the return of straying animals to their owner (v. 1)
2. A qualification of the basic principle governing the case of an animal that has strayed so far from its owner that the finder does not know to whom it belongs (v. 2)
3. The extension of the principle to include donkeys, clothing, and any other property (v. 3)

B. Righteousness Regarding Abused Animals (v. 4)

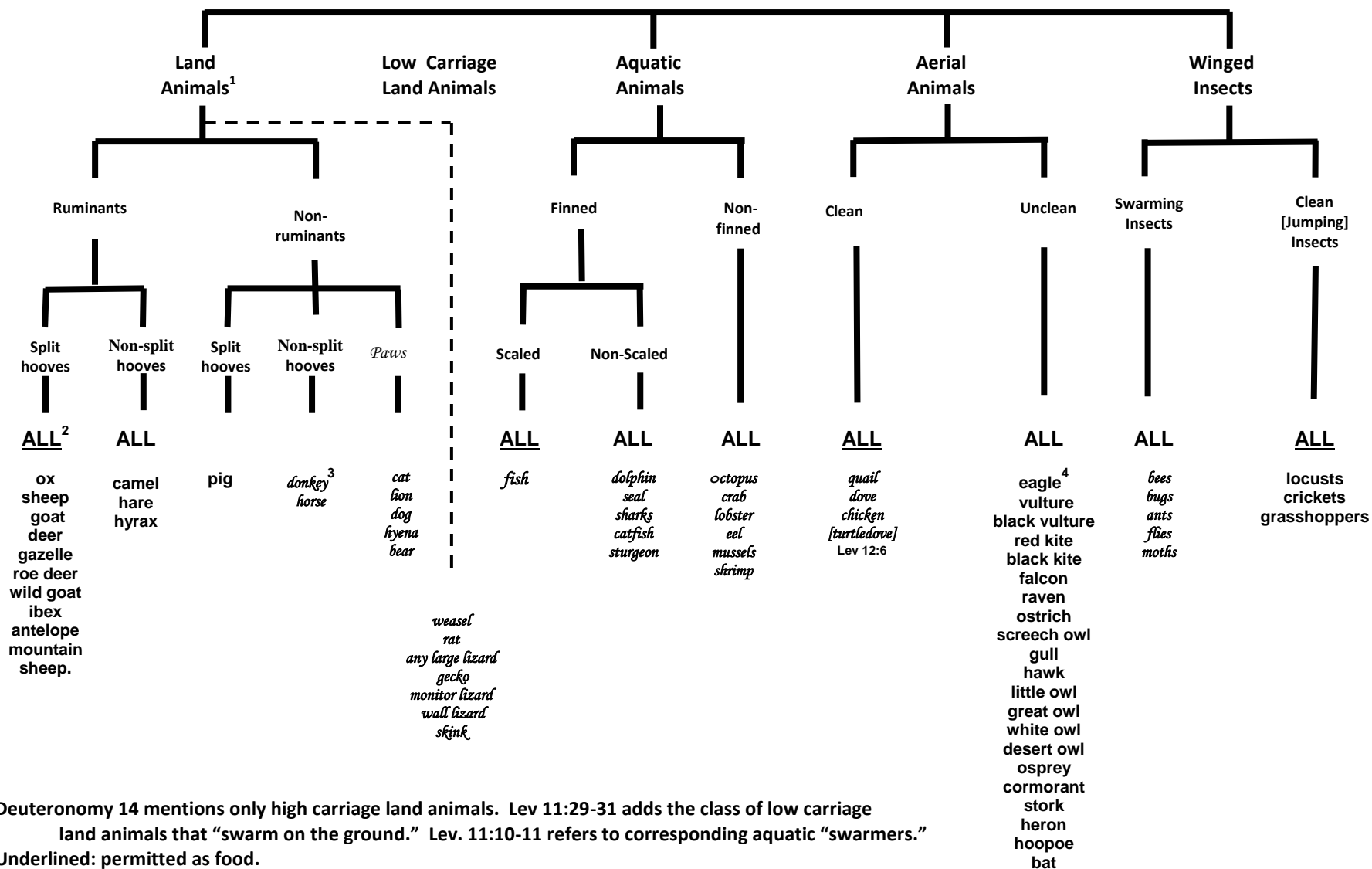
VI. Maintaining the Well-being of Wild Creatures (Deut 22:6–8)

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- V. **Maintaining the Well-being of Domestic Animals (Deut 22:1–4)**
  - A. **Righteousness Regarding Lost Property (vv. 1–3)**
    - 1. The basic principle, charging the return of straying animals to their owner (v. 1)
    - 2. A qualification of the basic principle governing the case of an animal that has strayed so far from its owner that the finder does not know to whom it belongs (v. 2)
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  - B. **Righteousness Regarding Abused Animals (v. 4)**
  - C. **Implications for Us?**
- VI. **Maintaining the Well-being of Wild Creatures (Deut 22:6–8)**
  - A. **The Context (v.6a)**
  - B. **The Response (vv. 6b-7a)**
  - C. **The Motivation (v. 7b)**
  - D. **Implications for Us?**

# Taxonomy of Clean and Unclean Animals according to Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14



<sup>1</sup> Deuteronomy 14 mentions only high carriage land animals. Lev 11:29-31 adds the class of low carriage land animals that “swarm on the ground.” Lev. 11:10-11 refers to corresponding aquatic “swarmers.”

<sup>2</sup> Underlined: permitted as food.

<sup>3</sup> Italic font: examples, not named in Leviticus 11 or Deuteronomy 14.

<sup>4</sup> The identity of some of these birds is uncertain.