

Veritas Class

January 4, 2015

A. Guarding the Purity of the Camp of Israel (23:9-14)

Introduction

1. **Theme: A Call for Purity (v. 9)**
2. **Exposition: The Threats to the Purity of the Camp (vv. 10–13)**
3. **The Rationale (v. 14)**

Conclusion: The Significance of 23:9–14

- a. “Cleanliness is next to godliness.”
- b. The camp of Israel as a microcosm of Eden and Israel as the restored holy people of YHWH (cf. 7:6; 14:1, 21; 26:17).
- c. The new Israel as microcosm of Eden and the holy residence of God.
 - (1) Individually (1 Cor 6:18–20)
 - (2) Collectively (2 Cor 6: 14–18)
4. It is not what enters that defiles us, but what comes out (Mark 7:14–23).

B. Guarding the Well-being of Refugees (23:15–16)

Introduction

- a. The Context
 - b. The Background (chapter 15)
 - c. The Ancient Near Eastern Context
1. **The Negative Command (v. 15a)**
 2. **The Positive Commands (vv. 15b–16)**
 - a.

b.

3. The Significance of the Policy

- a. The whole land of Israel is to be treated as a sacred place of asylum.
- b. The policy calls for extra-ordinary generosity and compassion, without asking about the rightness or wrongness of the refugee's flight from his master.
- c. For a New Testament counterpart, see Onesimus in Philemon.

C. Guarding the Sanctity of Worship (23:17–18)

1. The First Problem: Devoting Children to Pagan Worship (v. 17)

The meaning of *qēdēšâ* and *qādēš*

2. The Second Problem: Dirty Money (v. 18)

The meaning of “fee of a prostitute” and “wages of a dog.”