

5 - OT X

There are strict rules in the OT against eating animals that die of themselves. The animal -- healthy ~~animal~~ animal is killed and is good for food. But when an animal dies and you don't know what disease it has had, it can be a great source of contagion. But that certainly is not the whole reason for this uncleanness, because of touching a dead body. There is a danger from a wrong idea of the body. I heard some time ago about a woman who had a little ^{boy} ~~body~~ and they had a good ^{friend} ~~friend~~ who died. And this when this lady died she told her little boy that the lady had gone to heaven. Then she went to the viewing and she left the little boy outside in the car wanting ^{him} ~~her~~ to remember her as he had known her living rather than as she might appear in the viewing, and when she came out she thoughtless said to him, Oh Helen looked so natural, she looked almost as if ~~she~~ she was sleeping. And he said, Helen. She ^{wasn't} ~~isn't~~ in there, she's in Heaven! And of course he was right. The dead body is not the person. The dead body is a corpse. Paul said that we are unclothed ~~in~~ when we died. It's an unnatural situation to be unclothed. God will give us a new body. But the body which ~~we~~ we had before is like an old coat. It is something which was very useful to us, something with which we are clothed, something which is so important to us that it is a vital part of us as long as we have it, but when it is discarded it is no longer a part of us. It is simply a corpse. Now for the person who has no hope, for the person who does not realize that the person is not the body it very easy to get a mistaken attitude toward the body of the ^{deceased.} ~~diseased~~ I've heard it said that when the noted infidel Ingersol died that his family simply could not ^{bear to} ~~loose~~ him and insisted on keeping the body in the home for a long time until finally the authorities insisted that he must be buried. There was 400 years ago, the mother of Charles V, the Emperor who was Luther's great antagonist, his mother-- while he was a very small child ---Johanna the Spanish girl who married Philip the son of the Emperor Maximilian, was travelling in Spain with her ^{husband} ~~husband~~ visiting different places and her young husband suddenly died, of disease or we don't know what the cause was. But she insisted that he be carried about with her and she continued the trip and went on for some weeks carrying his body about with ~~him~~ her.