

Midrash *Metzarah* (“Leper”) Leviticus 14:1 – 15:33

Previous chapter: Diagnosis of Leprosy; This Portion: Cleansing & Purification
No procedure for healing - just cleansing after the leprosy is healed; no physician – just the Priest

The Cleansing of Lepers

Leviticus 14:1:32

The Law of the Leper:

He shall be isolated while he is unclean

The Priest determines his healing

The Priest must go to the leper (he’s outside the camp)

The Priest doesn’t heal – he only examines

1st Healing (by God), then Cleansing

How did Yeshua “fulfill” this law?

Matthew 8:1-4

Natural Law says not to touch the leper

Yeshua healed & cleansed at the same time

The Cleansing Sacrifice:

Verses 4-7

2 Birds (alive & clean)

Cedar Wood

Scarlet (from a worm) wool

Hyssop

Kill one bird in “living water”

Dip the other bird, cedar,
scarlet & hyssop in its blood

Sprinkle blood 7 times

Release the living bird

} Compare to Red Heifer

Psalm 22:6-8
& Isaiah 1:18
Numbers 19

Use of Hyssop: (Psalm 51:7)

Passover
Red Heifer
Yeshua

Exodus 12:22
Numbers 19:6
John 19:29

The Cleansing Procedure:

Verses 8-9

Outside the camp:

Wash clothes

Shave all hair

Head = Pride, Haughtiness

Beard = Mouth (speaking)

Eyebrows = Jealousy (thru eyes)

Numbers 8:7
Numbers 8:7

Washing

Wash his body

Numbers 8:7
Exodus 19:10
& Eph 5:26-27

Come into the camp:

Confined to his tent for 7 days

Wash clothes again

Shave all hair again

Wash his body again

Sacrifice on 8th day:

Trespass Offering: He Lamb (Ram)

(Sin against fellow man)

Blood on ear, thumb & toe

Oil on ear, thumb & toe

Verses 10-20
(Bible’s longest
sentence???)

Sin Offering:

She Lamb (Ewe)

Burnt Offering:

Ram

Meal Offering

Alternate Sacrifice for the Poor:

Trespass Offering:

He Lamb (Ram)

Sin Offering:

Pigeon or Dove

Burnt Offering:

Pigeon or Dove

Verses 21-32

Leprosy in Houses (after they come into The Land)

Leviticus 14:33-57

As with the leprous person, the Priest determines uncleanness

House must be prepared for “cleansing”

Priest inspects for visible signs (mildew or something Supernatural??)

If present, then shut up house for 7 days

If it's spread, remove the walls where the mold is

To the “unclean place” outside the camp

Replace the walls with new stone

If it returns, tear down the house!

Any person who had gone into the house is unclean for one day

Wash his clothes

The house is made clean thru the same sacrifice as above

Laws Concerning Uncleanness

Leviticus 15:1-33

While this chapter discusses several types of bodily emissions, they all come from within:

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?” Jer 17:9

Discharge from the Flesh:

Everybody and everything he has touched is unclean:

Those who contacted anything: wash clothes & body; unclean until evening

Pottery is broken; wooden vessels are washed in water

The sacrifice is the same as the leprous person

Discharge from Sexual Intercourse:

Both man & woman are to wash & are unclean until evening

And likewise for anything they touched

Woman's Monthly Cycle:

Anything or anybody she touched:

Must be washed & is unclean until evening

She and any sexual partner

Unclean for 7 days

Sacrifice (as above) on the 8th day

Woman's Discharge beyond her Monthly Cycle:

Cannot be clean until 7 days after the flow stops

If it is continuous, then

The predicament of the woman with the “issue of blood”

Matt 9:20 & Mark 5:25

Significance of the Good Samaritan

Luke 10:25-37

Yeshua Heals the Leper

“...for a testimony unto them.”

Mark 1:40-45

What this Means to us Today

Mankind's sinfulness emanates from the heart (defective DNA – spelled S-I-N!)

The Bible never tells of a healed heart ... always a new (sanctified) heart

“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.”

Psalms 51:10

“A new heart also I will give you, and a new spirit will I put within you; and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you a heart of flesh.”

Ezek 36:26

The Believer's Bar of Soap

“If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

I John 1:9

Haftarah:

II Kings 7:3-20

Lepers used as “weapons” against the Syrians

Brit Chadashah:

Mark 1:40-45

Only Yeshua can heal the leper