

Parashat Tazria / פרשת תזריע

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Sin, Leprosy, and being clean.

This Weeks Reading List:

Torah: Leviticus 12:1-13:59

Haftarah: 2 Kings 4:42-5:19

B'rit HaChadashah: John 6:8-13 Matthew 8:1-4

This week's parsha discusses a lot about leprosy. Someone who had leprosy had to be separated from the rest of the community until the person became clean (remember, the nature of the disease requires one to be healed from leprosy because left on its own there was no cure). Parashat Tazria deals with the pronouncement of cleanliness; as you know, cleanliness was not made only by the person himself, but also had to be made by a priest. This is why Yeshua pointed those whom he cleansed from leprosy to do as Moshe commanded to be a testimony to the people, and to the priests.

Leviticus 13:1-3

13:1 ADONAI said to Moshe and Aharon, 13:2 "If someone develops on his skin a swelling, scab or bright spot which could develop into the disease tzara'at, he is to be brought to Aharon the cohen or to one of his sons who are cohanim. 13:3 The cohen is to examine the sore on his skin; if the hair in the sore has turned white, and the sore appears to go deep into the skin, it is tzara'at, and after examining him the cohen is to declare him unclean. (CJB)

Matthew 8:1-4

8:1 After Yeshua had come down from the hill, large crowds followed him. 8:2 Then a man afflicted with tzara'at came, kneeled down in front of him and said, "Sir, if you are willing, you can make me clean." 8:3 Yeshua reached out his hand, touched him and said, "I am willing! Be cleansed!" And at once he was cleansed from his tzara'at. 8:4 Then Yeshua said to him, "See that you tell no one; but as a testimony to the people, go and let the cohen examine you, and offer the sacrifice that Moshe commanded." (CJB)

Luke 5:12-14

5:12 Once, when Yeshua was in one of the towns, there came a man completely covered with tzara'at. On seeing Yeshua, he fell on his face and begged him, "Sir, if you are willing, you can make me clean." 5:13 Yeshua reached out his hand and touched him, saying, "I am willing! Be cleansed!" Immediately the tzara'at left him. 5:14 Then Yeshua warned him not to tell anyone. "Instead, as a testimony to the people, go straight to the cohen and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moshe commanded." (CJB)

As we study the scriptures, we find treasures of understanding about each commandment. The Lord reveals to us ways they symbolically affect our walk with HaShem and the cleanliness of heart that we are called to walk in. According to the scriptures, we are to be judged clean by a priest. We have a high Priest who judges clean and not clean and we have a High Priest who has made us clean through the offering of the perfect sacrifice. It is not up to us to judge who is or is not clean but rather to allow for the truth that Yeshua's sacrifice was enough to make clean all who choose to accept His sacrifice.

Be Blessed in Yeshua our Messiah!

הללויה לאדוננו מורנו ורבינו ישוע מלך המשיח לעולם ועד:

Hallelujah for our Lord, our Teacher, our Rabbi,
"Yeshua" King Messiah forever and ever