



Message 4-29-17
Tazria-She Bears Seed
Leviticus 12:1-13:59

Metsora-Infected One
Leviticus 14:1-15:33
2 Kings 7:3-20
Hebrews 10:16-25

Introduction

This week we have a double portion. They both detail issues of ritual impurity and ritual purity. The first portion deals with several different types of ritual impurity and starts the discussion of tzara'at. The second portion continues the discussion of the ritual response to tzara'at, and is often read together with the portion Tazria.

Leviticus 14:8-14

8 And he who is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes and shave off all his hair and bathe himself in water, and he shall be clean. And after that he may come into the camp, but live outside his tent seven days. ⁹ And **on the seventh day** he shall shave off all his hair from his head, his beard, and his eyebrows. He shall shave off all his hair, and then he shall wash his clothes and bathe his body in water, and he shall be clean. ¹⁰ "And on the **eighth day** he shall take two male lambs without blemish, and one ewe lamb a year old without blemish, and a grain offering of three tenths of an ephah of fine flour mixed with oil, and one log of oil. ¹¹ And the priest who cleanses him shall set the man who is to be cleansed and these things before the LORD, at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ¹² And the priest shall take one of the male lambs and offer it for a guilt offering, along with the log of oil, and wave them for a wave offering before the LORD. ¹³ And he shall kill the lamb in the place where they kill the sin offering and the burnt offering, in the place of the sanctuary. For the guilt offering, like the sin offering, belongs to the priest; it is most holy. ¹⁴ **The priest shall take some of the blood of the guilt offering, and the priest shall put it on the lobe of the right ear of him who is to be cleansed and on the thumb of his right hand and on the big toe of his right foot.** (ESV)

It has always been seen that the seventh day or number seven means completion as in the seven days of creation with the number eight meaning the time beyond time or eternity. What if the number seven or seventh day also means the time of the tribulation or even the Great Tribulation? I am speculating here, thinking aloud, but then that would mean there must be a place for the number eight beyond simply being the completion of all things. Yes, it would be the completion of creation that the Almighty put in place in

seven days and making it that place the Jewish sages call the Olam Haba – the World to Come. Tazria and Metsora are about ritual impurity, and it speaks volumes about the world and what it has become. As advanced as we think we are, we really are not. Our morality is just like, and maybe worse, than that of our ancestors whom the Holy One decided to wipe out through the flood in Noah's day. He chose to cleanse the earth with water, a type of immersion that He brought the earth through, all the while keeping a remnant of mankind alive along with part of the animal kingdom in an Ark built of wood to float upon the water keeping Noah and his family from being able to be immersed in its waters. They would not be able to be cleansed, but they would be alive and would bring new life into a world changed by the immersion of water. It would be a type and shadow of what was to come when the Lord would purify the earth not with water but with fire so man could finally reach his potential to be the creation he was always meant to be.

Exodus 29:20 "You shall slaughter the ram, and take some of its blood and put *it* on the lobe of Aaron's right ear and on the lobes of his sons' right ears and on the thumbs of their right hands and on the big toes of their right feet, and sprinkle the *rest of the* blood around on the altar. (NAU)

We have already read about the ceremony that was used to set apart Aaron and his sons and would most likely be used to set apart all future priests. Blood from a sacrifice would be placed on the right ear lobe, the right thumb, and the big toe. This was done so the priest would understand that they would hear the word of the Lord, do it, and teach it. They would use their hands to do the work of the Lord and their feet to walk in the way of the Lord. What this all means is they would follow and do the Torah and teach it to all of Israel, and one day it would be taken into all the world so that mankind would hear the promises of the covenant and desire to follow it. This would not be blind obedience to the "law" as some call it but to understand that at the heart of the Torah stands the Messiah, whose shed blood seals the covenant, cleanses us, and brings us into the family known as Israel.

There are those who would say Israel is the Jewish people, but I would point out that the Lord goes to great pains to show us that Israel is more than one people. Many nations would enter the covenant and become part of this great nation – a people belonging to the Creator. Some say they are not about reconciliation of Judah, Ephraim, and the nations. They want to be shepherds of their flocks. How can you ever hope to be a shepherd if you are not about unifying the flock through Torah and Messiah. He is the Great Shepherd who will lead the nation of Israel. It won't be just about the Jewish people but about everyone who embraces Messiah and lives by Torah. The blood in the ceremony that set apart the priests is also used to cleanse us when we come before the altar to offer our sacrifice to the One who already gave Himself up for each and every one of us – Yeshua!

2 Kings 7:16-20

16 Then the people went out and plundered the camp of the Syrians. So a seah of fine flour was sold for a shekel, and two seahs of barley for a shekel, according to the word of the LORD. ¹⁷ Now the king had appointed the captain on whose hand he leaned to have

charge of the gate. And the people trampled him in the gate, so that he died, as the man of God had said when the king came down to him. ¹⁸ For when the man of God had said to the king, "Two seahs of barley shall be sold for a shekel, and a seah of fine flour for a shekel, about this time tomorrow in the gate of Samaria," ¹⁹ the captain had answered the man of God, "If the LORD himself should make windows in heaven, could such a thing be?" And he had said, "You shall see it with your own eyes, but you shall not eat of it." ²⁰ And so it happened to him, for the people trampled him in the gate and he died. (ESV)

What is it that makes a man doubt the promises of their Creator? We see the miracles happening before us. We read about them. We hear about them, but do we see them in our own lives? Are we blinded to the truth of what the Almighty can do for us if we call out to Him? Do we really believe only in what we can do, and the Lord has nothing to do with it? Think about it people? The prophet had spoken of what the Lord would do, and the servant of the king did not believe it. In the end, the prophet said what would happen to the captain who served the king and apparently believed in only what he could see when he needed to look with other eyes to see beyond the impossible to what the Lord could make possible.

Hebrews 10:16-25

16 "THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THEM AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY TORAHS UPON THEIR HEART, AND ON THEIR MIND I WILL WRITE THEM," *He then says,* ¹⁷ "AND THEIR SINS AND THEIR TORAHLESSNESS I WILL REMEMBER NO MORE." [Jeremiah 31:33-34]¹⁸ Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer *any* offering for sin. ¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Yeshua, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and since *we have* a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled *clean* from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; ²⁴ and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*, and all the more as you see the day drawing near. (NAU)

This covenant is called the "*new*" covenant when it is the covenant of Torah given to man from the beginning, but man never understood how to embrace it and make it his own. This covenant is not here but is to come because we are told that He will put His Torah in our hearts, write it upon our minds, and then He will no longer remember our lack of Torah in our lives any more. We do not have the Torah in our hearts or in our minds. We may think we do, but we don't. Shepherds are leading their flocks to the truth. The truth is when one knows Messiah. Then one can begin to learn Torah, put it to work in themselves, and reach out and teach others what they have come to understand. But this will not happen if we do not stop making excuses for why we do not follow the Torah. If we claim to be walking in the footsteps of Messiah, then we should walk according to the convent He walked in, and that covenant is Torah. If it was good enough for Yeshua, why

isn't it good enough for us? When will we stop making excuses for not trying to follow it? It has nothing to do with legalism. It has everything to do with Messiah.

1 Corinthians 1:9 God is trustworthy: it was he who called you into fellowship with his Son, Yeshua the Messiah, our Lord. (CJB)

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. (ESV)

The Lord is the one who tempts us not Satan. Satan is merely the vehicle God uses to test us. We either pass or fail people. Israel was tested in the wilderness and came up short. An entire generation except for two people were sentenced to die for their lack of faith including Moses. Moses would not enter the Promised Land in this life, but He would in the next one. However, the temptation and failure of the people did not start with the Israelites. It goes all the way back to the garden when Adam failed to step in when the serpent was tempting Chavah. He failed to protect his wife as many Shepherds fail to protect their families. We must not be so short-sighted as to miss the lesson the Lord is trying to teach us. We cannot do it on our own. We need someone who has already paved the way for us, and that person is none other than the Son of God – Yeshua!

You can cleanse yourself of your ritual impurity, leave the seventh day behind, and enter the eighth day. The Olam Haba is right there in front of you waiting for you to enter. It has nothing to do with being worthy. We are not worthy because we are unclean. Then to be cleansed, we must be immersed and have faith that the promise made by the Father to His Son is for us as well. The Bridegroom will come when we least expect Him or when we should be expecting Him based on what is happening in the word around us. We are told to be ready because we never know when the time for His return will come. Only the Father knows that, and the Son waits for His Father to send Him forth to redeem mankind in a way we have never seen before. We read about what happened when the Ruach HaKodesh, the Holy Spirit, came upon the Shalichim and the others who were gathered together on that day that the prophet Joel spoke about.

Joel 2:28 "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹ Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit. ³⁰ "And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. ³¹ The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ³² And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls. **3:1** "For behold, in those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, ² I will gather all the nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. And I will enter into judgment with them there, on behalf of my people and my heritage Israel, because they have scattered them among the nations and have divided up my land. (ESV)

Torah Man says: "Some people boast of being self-made men or women. That relieves God of a great responsibility."

Blessings in Messiah Yeshua,

Mordecai Silver

If you are not learning Torah, we invite you to attend Judaic Studies Institute, a Distance Learning Institute for Yeshua based Judaic Studies. Drop us a line at student.support@jsi-edu.org for more information. You can earn a certificate or diploma and take courses to help you grow in your understanding.

