



L.E.A.D. TRAINING

THE CLEANSING OF THE LEPER REVEALS THE GOSPEL

Torah Portion Metzarah-Leviticus 14-15



NOTE TO FAMILY LEADER: This week's teaching centers around what it means to be clean and unclean and how that relates to both YHWH and our fellow man. The main concept is to discuss how we become unclean before the Lord and how we can come back into right alignment with Him and those around us.

HEBREW WORD OF THE WEEK

Tame-אָמֵץ Strong's #H2931

- unclean and impure
- Ethically, religiously, ritually, of places

TALKING POINT: Although the main reason for ritual impurity was to prevent someone from coming to the temple and defiling that which was perfect and pure, the principle behind this concept shows us that God requires us to be clean when we come before Him.

READ: Leviticus 14:1-11

This is the story of the man who has leprosy and what he needs to do to become clean.

INSTRUCTIONS

Examine all the different aspects to this story and then begin to think through the scriptures of what you think they represent and symbolize.

1. Who does the leper represent?

ANSWER: Us, stained by sin

2. Who does the priest represent?

ANSWER: Yeshua-the only one who can take away sin and our uncleanness meets us outside the camp when we were outside the presence of God. (*Read Romans 5:8*)

3. What do the two living birds symbolize?

ANSWER: One dies so the other one could live - Yeshua represents one and we represent the other.

4. What does the earthen vessel represent?

ANSWER: This earth realm.

5. What does the cedar symbolize?

Answer: The roman cross bar that Yeshua was hung on.

6. It says to have scarlet and hyssop as part of the ingredients of the sacrifice. Why? Can you think of another place where those two items are mentioned with a sacrifice?

ANSWER: *Read John 19:28-30* "After this, Jesus, knowing that all things were now accomplished, that the Scripture might be fulfilled, said, "I thirst!" Now a vessel full of sour wine was sitting there; and they filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on hyssop, and put it to His mouth. So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit."

Read *Matthew 27:27-28* "Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him."

7. What does the blood and the running water connect to?

ANSWER: *Read John 19:34*- "But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out." ***Read John 7:38***- "He who believes in Me, as the scriptures has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

The water and blood mixed together symbolizes the water and blood of Yeshua over the earthen vessel—the earth. It also represents the water of His Word washing us clean through the blood of the Lamb.

8. What does the open field symbolize?

ANSWER: The spiritual realm of our soul being set free from the bonds of sin and free to fly.

9. After the sacrifice was made, they were allowed in the camp but outside their tent for seven days after the sacrifice. Why?

ANSWER: After Yeshua gave his life, the door was open for them to come in but they still had to make it personal by putting their new found belief into action. (Read James 2:26)

10. Why did he have to shave everything on seventh day?

ANSWER: Every last hair on the body had the potential of holding parts of his former life as a leper. To prevent it from ever coming back again, he was to remove all potential places where it could hide. In the same way, we are to remove all forms of sin and temptations that could easily cause *tzarat* again in our life. We need to take the time and audit everything in our life that could potentially allow the enemy to cause us to be unclean (not allowed to come close to Yah).

11. On the eighth day a sacrifice was made, and the blood was put on his right ear lobe, right thumb, and right big toe. Why? What do you think the blood represents? What does the right side of the body represent in scripture? What do we use our ears for? Thumb? Big toe?

ANSWER: The blood is the power of Yeshua. When put on the *ear* it represents Him taking over all that we listen to and all that goes into the mind. The *right thumb* is symbolic of authority and the strength of what we do. Everything we hold onto requires the thumb to hold it. No longer is it I "but Christ" (Gal. 2:20). And the blood on the *right toe* winks to the stability of how we walk. The big toe is **THE** toe that gives us stability and strength when we walk. He is to take control of where we go and how we get there.



PUTTING ALL THIS TOGETHER

The implications of all this is amazing. Just like the bird in Leviticus had to die so the other bird could live, so it is in what Christ did for us. The dove hovered over Him, choosing Him to be the divine “bird” that would sacrifice His life for the other “bird” (mankind) made in His image. That divine “dove” then gave His life as a clean vessel, willingly allowing them to cause His blood and water to flow. It is **this** blood that becomes the “living water” in which we must be immersed (baptized) to be set free from the law of sin and death. Just like the living bird was required by law to be wrapped in cedar, hyssop, and scarlet and immersed into the living water and blood, so we must be **“crucified with Christ”** (Galatians 2:20), **“take up [our] cross, and follow [Him]”** (Matthew 16:24) and be **“baptized into His death”** (Romans 6:3).



If we are to be set free from the curse of death which we deserve for breaking His Holy Word, then we must walk the same road that He walked. We must be wrapped in His scarlet robe, drink from the bitter hyssop branch of life and persecution, have our hands nailed to that cedar beam, and be baptized into the fountain of living water that flows from His veins. **Like the bird in Leviticus, to be free is to be covered by the blood and the living water.** Only then can we be free to fly into the heavens and become who we were truly created to be. And when He says we are free, we are free indeed!

TAKE AWAY POINTS

1. **Sin** separates us from God and causes us to not be allowed to come close to Him.
2. We can become *tame* from being around people that are unclean. When we allow unclean people access to our lives, we set ourselves up to be brought low.

NOTE TO PARENTS: If you have kids, this is a good time to connect this to who they hang around with. If uncleanness is easily transmitted to physical things, how much more is someone’s uncleanness contagious to others.

3. **Chair analogy** - use a chair and have one of your kids stand on it. Then ask them if it will be easier for them to pull someone up to their chair or for the person to pull them down to the floor. Then demonstrate it by having the adult stand on the chair and have the child pull them off. It doesn’t take much to pull them down.
4. When we do make mistakes that cause us to be unclean before God and others (ie. breaking trust with people, hurting people, etc.), and we repent of that sin

and are forgiven, understand that just like the man with leprosy was allowed to come back into the camp but was restricted for a time to make sure he was clean, so there will often be a time where trust must be built up again both with YHWH and with those we hurt.

FINAL CONCLUSION

This passage in Scripture is a beautiful example and foreshadow of the gospel of Yeshua. It shows that:

1. *We are all are “sinners and have fallen short of the glory of God—Romans 3:23*
2. *The “wages of sin is death” (outside the camp)—Romans 6:23*
3. *When we choose to recognize our uncleanness and take the necessary steps to apply the blood of Yeshua to the situation and follow it up with real action, then we are made clean and allowed to come back into fellowship with Him.*



Blessings and shalom!

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