

# Pearl Seeking

## TREASURING HIS WORD

Let's do a quick overview of the entire Torah portion:

Monday:	Lev. 12	Torah regarding childbirth
Tuesday:	Lev. 13:1-46	Torah regarding skin conditions
Wednesday:	Lev. 13:47-59	Torah regarding infection in garments
Thursday:	Lev. 14	Torah regarding cleansing of leper
Friday:	Lev. 15	Torah regarding discharges and emissions

In this week's Parsha Pearls lesson, we will be dealing with some mature content regarding all sorts of impurity. Therefore YMTOI will provide an overview of Torah protocol for cleansing of impurities, whether on man, garment or house. We leave it up to the parent to decide what content to read and discuss.

Parents and Teachers: we will be talking about the condition of tzara'at which is defined as leprosy but it is NOT leprosy as we recognize it. This is a physical manifestation of a spiritual sin that not only occurs on a man's body, but in the hair on the head and beard and also can appear on one's garment and house.

Please note this when teaching these chapters this week. Now, let's read Lev. 12-14.

## PARSHA POINTS

Yahweh spoke to Mosheh saying:

### *Torah Regarding Childbirth - Chapter 12*

- A woman who has given birth to a male child will NOT touch or come into that which is set-apart for 40 days (7 days + 33 days) - 12:1, 4
- On the eighth day the male child shall be circumcised - 12:3
- A woman who has given birth to a female child shall NOT touch or come into that which is set-apart for 80 days (14 days + 66 days) - 12:5
- After the days of her purification, she is required to bring 2 offerings to the priest at the Tent of Meeting (12:6):
  - a burnt offering - a lamb a year old
  - a sin offering - a young pigeon or turtledove
- If she is unable to bring a lamb as a burnt offering, then she may bring 2 young pigeons and 2 turtledoves; one is for the burnt offering and the other is for the sin offering - 12:8
- The priest shall then bring her offerings before Yahweh to make atonement for her, thus completing her days of purification - 12:7



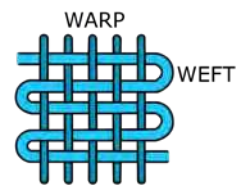
## ***Torah Regarding Skin Conditions Leading to Leprosy - Chapter 13:1-46***

- A person must be brought before Aharon or one of his sons the priests if he discovers any of the following on his skin:
  - a swelling, scab, or a bright spot that becomes a leprous infection - 13:2, 38-39
  - raw flesh following a leprous infection - 13:14-16
  - a boil on the skin - 13:18-19
  - a burn that becomes a bright spot - 13:24-25
  - an infection on the head or beard - 13:29-30
  - a reddish-white outbreak on a bald head - 13:42-43
- The priest will follow the Torah Yahweh outlined for all these cases to determine whether the person is clean or unclean - 13:2-46
- A leper must (13:45-46):
  - tear his garments
  - uncover his head
  - cover his upper lip
  - cry out, "Unclean, Unclean!"
  - dwell alone, outside the camp (**machaneh**)



## ***Torah Regarding Infection in a Garment - Chapter 13:47-59***

- Any leprous infection in garments made out of the following materials must be examined by the priest (13:47-49):
  - linen, warp or weft of linen (**pishtim**)
  - wool, warp or weft of wool (**tsemer**)
  - leather, any leather object
- The priest shall inspect any garment with reddish or greenish colored spots - 13:49
- In all these cases, the priest shall follow the Torah which Yahweh outlined in order to pronounce whether it is clean or unclean - 13:49-59



## ***Torah Regarding Cleansing for one Cleared of Leprosy - Chapter 14:1-32***

- The priest shall go out of the camp to examine one who had leprosy (**tzara'at**), in order to determine if they are healed from their infection - 14:1-3
- In all these cases, the priest shall follow the Torah Yahweh outlined regarding required cleansing and offerings before he may declare the infected one clean - 14:2-32



## ***Torah Regarding a Plague of Leprosy that Yahweh puts on the House - Chapter 14:34-53***

- If one suspects they have leprosy in their house, the one who owns the house shall come and inform the priest - 14:35
- The priest shall then (14:36-48):
  - command that the house be emptied so that the whole house is not made unclean - 14:36
  - look at the plague to see if there are sunken places that are greenish or reddish in color deep in the wall - 14:37
  - go out of the house and shut it up for 7 days - 14:38
  - come back after 7 days and see if the plague has spread on the walls of the house - 14:39
  - command that the stones with the plague in them be removed and thrown outside the city, to an unclean place - 14:40
  - let the house with the plague be scraped and the dust poured outside the city, to an unclean place - 14:41
  - have new stones replace the stones that were taken out of the unclean house and have mortar to plaster the house - 14:42
  - pronounce that the house has active leprosy and is unclean if the plague comes back after the stones are replaced - 14:43-44
  - have the house that is pronounced unclean be demolished and its stones, timber, and plaster brought outside the city, to an unclean place - 14:45
- However, if the priest determines that the plague has not spread in the house after it was plastered, the house shall be pronounced clean - 14:48
- In all these cases, the priest shall follow the Torah Yahweh outlined regarding required cleansing and offerings before he may declare the infected house clean - 14:36-53



# DIGGING DEEPER

Parents/Teachers may choose to use these prompts for further discussion of the Torah portion.

- Why do you think the people had to come to the priest for all these conditions? Do you think these manifestations were more of a spiritual ailment than a medical one?
- Notice that Yahweh requires that the unclean be quarantined or separated from the rest of the community. Discuss why set-apartness is significant to Yahweh. Discuss why cleanliness is important and how it keeps us safe.
- Read the story of Na'aman the leper. (2 Kings 5)
- Can you recall a brother and sister who were given leprosy by Yahweh for a time period? (Ex. 4:6; Num. 12:10)
- Discuss tzara'at and its connection to hidden sin and Yahweh exposing it. Discuss its progression from man to cloth to house.
- How would we act differently if we knew that our sins would come back to us in the form of a skin condition, in our clothes or our homes for everyone to see?
- Find verses in the New Testament that talk about Yeshua healing those with leprosy and what His command to them always was (hint: has to do with priest).

