

Leviticus 14:1-57 Cleansing from Skin Disease Pt 1

In the previous portion of Leviticus, Moses and Aaron were given Instructions to train the Priests on recognizing and identifying the various signs and symptoms that could indicate an infectious skin disease. They were also instructed on how to prevent or treat the disease, if it occurred, to keep it from spreading throughout the camp.

Living in close proximity with one another, with their animals, could allow disease to spread rapidly if an infectious outbreak were to occur. Moses, Aaron, and the Priests had to become supernatural medical practitioners by YeHoVaH to recognize and treat diseases amongst the people without becoming infected themselves.

In this portion of Leviticus, Moses, Aaron, and the Priests were given regulations on how to ceremonially cleanse the person in order for them to rejoin the communal life, as well as the drastic measure of cleansing property that was no longer a threat to the community.

Lev 14:1 And the **LORD spake** unto Moses, saying,

YeHoVaH spoke.
Moses wrote.

Dt 8:3 And he humbled thee, and suffered thee to hunger, and fed thee with manna, which thou knewest not, neither did thy fathers know; that he might make thee know that man doth not live by bread only, but by every *word* that proceedeth out of the mouth of the LORD doth man live.

Yeshua quoted Moses in both Matthew and Luke when being tested/tempted by the devil.

Mt 4:4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Lk 4:4 And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

Lev 14:2 This shall be the law of the leper in the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought unto the priest:

He shall be brought unto the Priest. Verse one indicates when the person has been determined to have been declared unclean or leprous, he would be shut up outside the camp.

The next verse informs us that the Priest will now go forth out of the camp, where the leper has been shut up, and examine the person to determine if they have been healed.

Lev 14:3 And the priest shall go forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and, behold, *if* the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper;

Once it has been determined the person has been healed, a three-phase process begins.

Phase One occurs outside the camp.

Lev 14:4 Then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed **two birds** alive *and* **clean**, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop:

This verse does not specify what type of bird, only that it is a clean bird.

Bird – **06833** צִפּוֹר tsippowr {tsip-pore'} or צִפּוֹר tsippor {tsip-pore'}

Meaning: 1) bird, fowl 1a) bird (singular) 1b) birds (coll)

Usage: AV - bird 32, fowl 6, **sparrow 2**; 40

Clean – 02889 טָהוֹר tahowr {taw-hore'} or טָהוֹר tahor {taw-hore'}

Meaning: 1) pure, clean 1a) clean (ceremonially - of animals) 1b) pure (physically) 1c) pure, clean (morally, ethically)

Usage: AV - clean 50, pure 40, fair 2, purer 1, variant 1; 94

Twice the Hebrew word for birds in Verse 4 is used for sparrow in the Psalms.

Psalms 84:3 (KJV) Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, [even] thine altars, O LORD of hosts, my King, and my God.

Psalms 102:7 (KJV) I watch, and am as a sparrow alone upon the house top.

Lev 14:5 And the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water:

Lev 14:6 As for the living bird, he shall take it, and the cedar wood, and the scarlet, and the hyssop, and shall dip them and the living bird in the blood of the bird *that was* killed over the running water:

The blood of the bird, killed over running water, will be used to sprinkle the leper, that is to be cleansed, seven times.

The living bird will be released into an open field.

Lev 14:7 And he shall sprinkle upon him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose into the open field.

The releasing of the living bird is reminiscent of the scapegoat that was released during Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement.

YeHoVaH does not explain to Moses, Aaron, or the Priests why this process is done precisely this way. But like everything else, there are individuals who have developed their own reasonings, prophecies, and symbolisms to prove explanations for the process and their symbolic meanings that YeHoVaH does not provide.

Often, I find it quite difficult to talk rationally with people who are so full of symbolism and shadow pictures because they simply don't make sense. This is why their lives are often times a mess, a wreck, or a disaster in the making. It is hard for them to get on track because they don't know where the track is, and they won't allow people to help get them on track.

Phase Two

He shall wash his clothes and shave off all hair. Afterwards, the person can return to the camp but not go inside his/her tent for seven days.

Lev 14:8 And he that is to be cleansed shall wash his clothes, and shave off all his hair, and wash himself in water, that he may be clean: and after that he shall come into the camp, and shall tarry abroad out of his tent seven days.

This ritual was part of the preparation of the Levites for service in Numbers 8.

Nu 8:6 Take the Levites from among the children of Israel, and cleanse them.

Nu 8:7 And thus shalt thou do unto them, to cleanse them: Sprinkle water of purifying upon them, and let them shave all their flesh, and let them wash their clothes, and so make themselves clean.

Lev 14:9 But it shall be on the seventh day, that he shall shave all his hair off his head and his beard and his eyebrows, even all his hair he shall shave off: and he shall wash his clothes, also he shall wash his flesh in water, and he shall be clean.

The head is to be shaven.

The beard is to be shaven.

The eyebrows are to be shaven.

All hair is to be shaven.

Phase Three, Offerings

Lev 14:10 And on the eighth day he shall take two he lambs without blemish, and one ewe lamb of the first year without blemish, and three tenth deals of fine flour *for* a meat offering, mingled with oil, and one log of oil.

All animal sacrifices or offerings presented had to be without blemish.

Blemish – **08549** תָּמִים tamiym {taw-meem'}

Meaning: 1) complete, whole, entire, sound 1a) complete, whole, entire 1b) whole, sound, healthful 1c) complete, entire (of time) 1d) sound, wholesome, unimpaired, innocent, having integrity 1e) what is complete or entirely in accord with truth and fact (neuter adj/subst)

Usage: AV - without blemish 44, perfect 18, upright 8, without spot 6, uprightly 4, whole 4, sincerely 2, complete 1, full 1, misc 3; 91

To present a sacrifice without blemish meant the animal for sacrificing had to be inspected and determined to be sound, whole, complete, and without defect or spot.

Lev 14:11 And the priest that maketh *him* clean shall present the man that is to be made clean, and those things, before the LORD, *at* the door of the tabernacle of the congregation:

The Priest shall present the man before YeHoVaH and the Offerings.

Lev 14:12 And the priest shall take one he lamb, and offer him for a trespass offering, and the log of oil, and wave them *for* a wave offering before the LORD:

Log – **03849** לֹג log {lohg}

Meaning: 1) log 1a) a liquid measure equal to about one half litre

Usage: AV - log 5; 5

Lev 14:13 And he shall slay the lamb in the place where he shall kill the sin offering and the burnt offering, in the holy place: for as the sin offering *is* the priest's, so *is* the trespass offering: it *is* most holy:

This next process is somewhat similar to the process involved in ordaining the Priests.

Lev 14:14 And the priest shall take *some* of the blood of the trespass offering, and the priest shall put *it* upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot:

Lev 8:23 And he slew *it*; and Moses took of the blood of it, and put *it* upon the tip of Aaron's right ear, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot. Lev 8:24 And he brought Aaron's sons, and Moses put of the blood upon the tip of their right ear, and upon the thumbs of their right hands, and upon the great toes of their right feet: and Moses sprinkled the blood upon the altar round about.

The Oil

Lev 14:15 And the priest shall take *some* of the log of oil, and pour *it* into the palm of his own left hand:

Lev 14:16 And the priest shall dip his right finger in the oil that *is* in his left hand, and shall sprinkle of the oil with his finger seven times before the LORD:

Lev 14:17 And of the rest of the oil that *is* in his hand shall the priest put upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot, upon the blood of the trespass offering:

Lev 14:18 And the remnant of the oil that *is* in the priest's hand he shall pour upon the head of him that is to be cleansed: and the priest shall make an atonement for him before the LORD.

Lev 14:19 And the priest shall offer the sin offering, and make an atonement for him that is to be cleansed from his uncleanness; and afterward he shall kill the burnt offering:

Lev 14:20 And the priest shall offer the burnt offering and the meat offering upon the altar: and the priest shall make an atonement for him, and he shall be clean.

For the poor person, who could not afford as much, it was required ...

Lev 14:21 And if he *be* poor, and cannot get so much; then he shall take one lamb *for* a trespass offering to be waved, to make an atonement for him, and one tenth deal of fine flour mingled with oil *for* a meat offering, and a log of oil;

Lev 14:22 And two turtledoves, **or** two young pigeons, such as he is able to get; and the one shall be a sin offering, and the other a burnt offering.

Lev 14:23 And he shall bring them on the eighth day for his cleansing unto the priest, unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, before the LORD.

Lev 14:24 And the priest shall take the lamb of the trespass offering, and the log of oil, and the priest shall wave them *for* a wave offering before the LORD:

(Same as the Previous Verses)

Lev 14:25 And he shall kill the lamb of the trespass offering, and the priest shall take *some* of the blood of the trespass offering, and put *it* upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot:

Lev 14:26 And the priest shall pour of the oil into the palm of his own left hand:

Lev 14:27 And the priest shall sprinkle with his right finger *some* of the oil that *is* in his left hand seven times before the LORD:

Lev 14:28 And the priest shall put of the oil that *is* in his hand upon the tip of the right ear of him that is to be cleansed, and upon the thumb of his right hand, and upon the great toe of his right foot, upon the place of the blood of the trespass offering:

Lev 14:29 And the rest of the oil that *is* in the priest's hand he shall put upon the head of him that is to be cleansed, to make an atonement for him before the LORD.

Lev 14:30 And he shall offer the one of the turtledoves, or of the young pigeons, such as he can get;

Lev 14:31 *Even* such as he is able to get, the one *for* a sin offering, and the other *for* a burnt offering, with the meat offering: and the priest shall make an atonement for him that is to be cleansed before the LORD.

Lev 14:32 This *is* the law *of him* in whom *is* the plague of leprosy, whose hand is not able to get *that which pertaineth* to his cleansing.

Just as the Priest presented the leper and his offerings to YeHoVaH, we are to present ourselves unto YeHoVaH as living sacrifices.

Ro 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

Presenting offerings to YeHoVaH without blemish reminds me of the work of Yeshua in relation to us.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Messiah also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Eph 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

Eph 5:27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.