

Torah Cycle 2018-19

Parshah: Tazria

(Leviticus 12-13)

Outline of *Tazria*

Ch. 12 – Purification after Childbirth

Ch. 13 – *Tzaraat*:

- Of the Body (1-28)

- Of the Head (29-46)

- Of Garments & Utensils (47-59)

[Ch. 14 – - Of Houses]

Imagine ...

Exodus 4:6

Adonai furthermore said to [Moses], “Now put your hand into your bosom.” So he put his hand into his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was **leprous** like snow.

*“**Tzaraat** is not a physical illness requiring the attention of an ordinary doctor. Rather, it is a **disease of the soul.**”*

✎ R' Zalman Sorotzkin (1881-1966)

Or ...

...a disease of one's light.

עוֹר
(or)

Skin

אוֹר
(or)

Light

13:2 – If a person will have on the **skin** (עוֹר, or) of his flesh a **s'eit** (שׂאֵת), or a **sapachat** (סַפַּחַת), or a **baheret** (בַּהֲרַת), and it will become a *Tzaraat* affliction on this skin of his flesh, he shall be brought to Aaron the Kohen, or to one of his sons the Kohanim.

Change in...



- **S'eit** (שׂאֵת) = “swelling/uprising” Volume
- **Sapachat** (סַפַּחַת) = “eruption/scab” Function
- **Baheret** (בַּהֲרַת) = “brightness” Color

– Wrong Degree
– Wrong Way
– Wrong Time

13:3-8

7- Day Quarantine

Reduce?

or

Spread?



CLEAN!

טהור

(*tahor*)



UNCLEAN!

טמא

(*tamei*)

13:9-11

A mixture of healthy and unhealthy skin?



UNCLEAN!

13:12-17 - ... if the *Tzaraat* will cover the entire skin of the affliction from his head to his feet ... the Kohen shall look – and behold! – the affliction has covered his entire flesh, then he shall declare the affliction to be **clean** (*tahor*). Having turned completely white, it is **clean** (*tahor*).

Completely covered with *tzaraat*?



CLEAN!



**Completely
Unhealthy**



CLEAN

**Mixture of
Healthy &
Unhealthy**



UNCLEAN

**Completely
Healthy**



CLEAN

Revelation 3:15-16

“I know your deeds, that you are neither **cold** nor **hot**. I wish that you were **cold** or **hot**. So because you are **lukewarm**, and neither **hot** nor **cold**, I will spit you out of My mouth.”

Leviticus 13:45-46

As for the *metzora* who has the infection, his clothes shall be torn, and the hair of his head shall be uncovered, and he shall cover his mustache and cry, “**Tamei! Tamei!**” He shall remain *tamei* all the days during which he has the infection; he is *tamei*. He shall live alone; his dwelling shall be outside the camp.

13:18-23 - If flesh will have had a *shachin* (שחין) on its skin, and it will have healed, and on the place of the *shachin* there will be a ...

- **Shachin** (שחין) = “inflammation”

Exodus 9:8-9

Then Adonai said to Moses and Aaron, “Take for yourselves handfuls of furnace soot, and let Moses throw it toward the sky in the sight of Pharaoh. It will become fine dust over all the land of Egypt and will become **boils** [*shachin*] breaking out with sores on man and beast through all the land of Egypt.”

... **13:23** - ... it is the scarring of the inflammation. The Kohen shall declare him clean (*tahor*).

Old “inflammations” are a potential site for *Tzaraat*.

Internal Source

13:24-28 – If a person will have a burn from fire on his skin, and the healed skin of the burn is ...

Old “burns” are a potential site for *Tzaraat*.

External Source

13:29-30 – (Affliction of the scalp or beard)

- **Netek** (נתק) – *tzaraat* of the scalp or beard

Hidden *tzaraat* is still *tzaraat*...

... and the most embarrassing kind!

13:31-37 – (v.33) ...then he shall shave himself, but he shall not shave the *netek*.

13:38-44

- **Bohak** (בהק) – eczema (?)

Eczema is eczema.
Baldness is baldness.
(Keep calm and carry on.)

Leviticus 13:45-46

As for the *metzora* who has the infection, ...

- his clothes shall be torn, and ...
- the hair of his head shall be uncovered, and ...
- he shall cover his lips ...
- and cry, “**Tamei!** **Tamei!**”
- He shall remain *tamei* all the days during which he has the infection. He is *tamei*. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp.

Mourning

The walking dead.

Are you one?