

TORAH STUDY REMAINS IMPORTANT FOR ALL BELIEVERS



- Old Testament almost sounds like a different Bible than the New Testament
- Difficulty has been that we read the last books first!
- When the writers of the NT said “Word” or “Scripture” they were referring to the OT and the Torah
- NO New Testament until about 200 A.D.
- **RSV John 5:46 “If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote of me. 47 But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words?”**

YEHOVEH'S HOLINESS TRUMPS EVERYTHING!

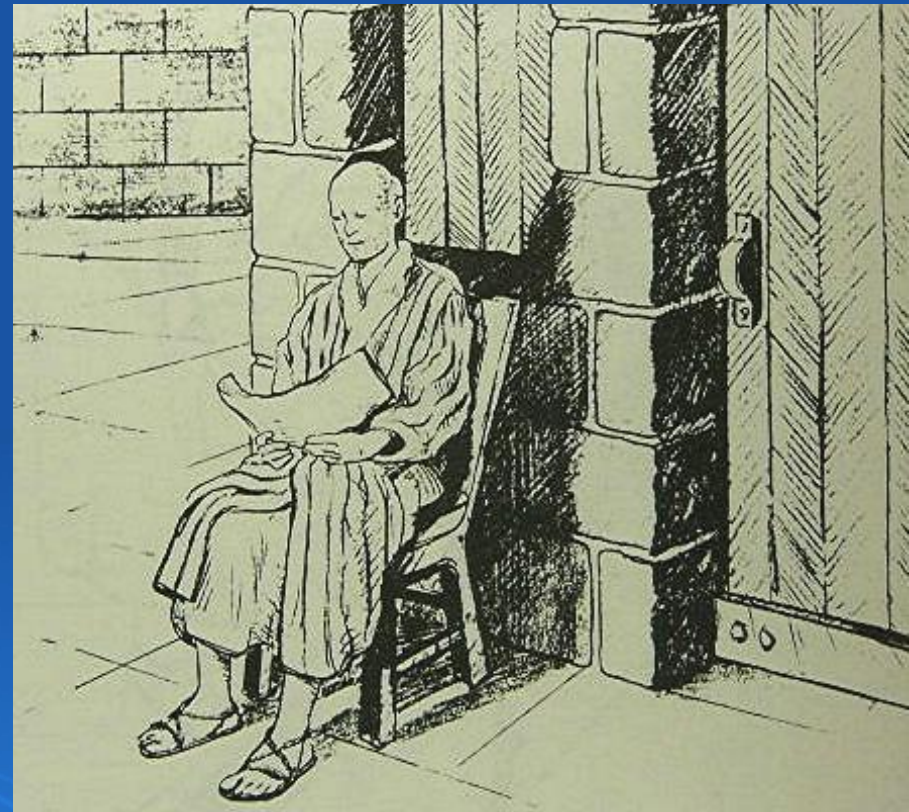
- Our American individualism bristles at the Biblical disinterest in the discomfort of a single individual
- God's holiness tolerates NO threat
- Truth = taking God for who He is, not who we'd like Him to be
- OT + NT (entire Bible) gives us more complete picture than one or the other alone



LEVITICUS 13:2

A LIST OF GENERAL SYMPTOMS

- Anyone with a rash, swelling, or discoloration must go see the priest
- ONLY THE PRIEST can determine if it is tzara'at or not
- Some conditions require a 7 day isolation.....but INSIDE the camp....a period of “limbo”
- If after 7 days, condition has not worsened, another 7 days is called for
- If after 14 days condition has NOT worsened, is CLEAN



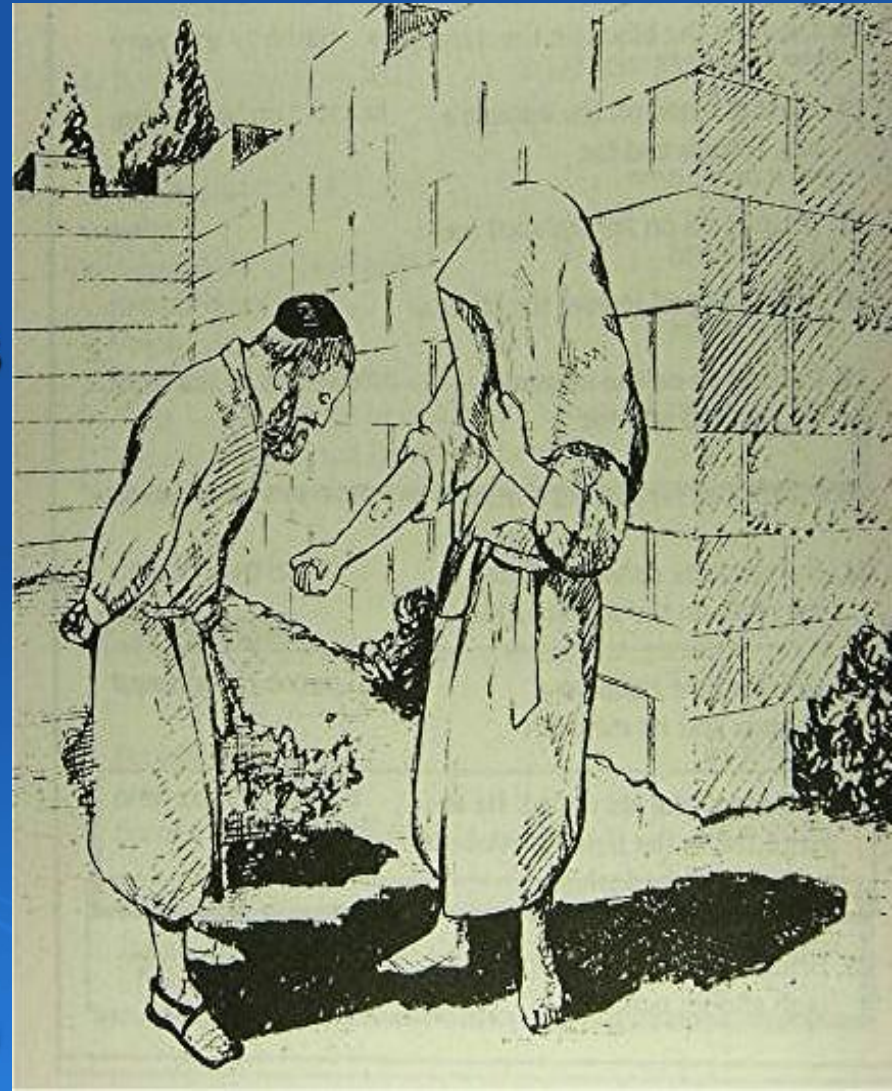
TZARA'AT: CONSIDERED TO INDICATE A SPIRITUAL CONDITION

- Tzara'at thought by Israelites to mean a person committed an offense against Yehoveh
- Therefore many sacrifices offered IN CASE of an unknown sin (to avoid tzara'at)
- NOT THE INTENTION
- We are NEVER to assume someone's illness or misfortune is directly tied to a trespass
- Israelites' were very superstitious
- Someone with tzara'at became a social outcast

LEV.13:9 – 17

CHRONIC SKIN DISEASES

- Not “old”.....rather ongoing or re-occurring
- A little different criteria
- If “RAW” skin is present, it is deemed tzara'at
- NO 7 day “limbo” period....put outside the camp
- White skin could indicate EITHER 1) tzara'at or 2) healing



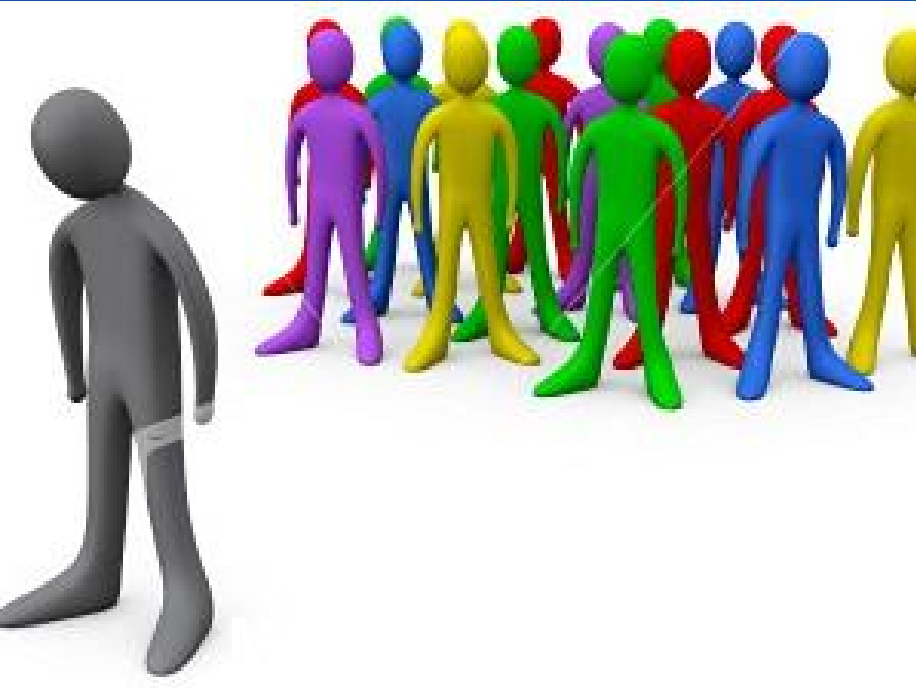
LEV. 13:18-46

SECONDARY INFECTIONS

- **METSORA** = A person who is infected with tzara'at
 - A *Metsora* is UNCLEAN, ritually impure
- 1) Garment must be *torn*
(Hebrew “parum”)
Indicates *mourning*
 - 2) Head must be *bared*
Indicates *shame*
 - 3) Cover upper *lip*
Indicates *unclean*



METSORA SET OUTSIDE THE CAMP



➤ Person with tzara'at is and outcast that is:

- 1) shunned by Yehoveh
- 2) separated from his family
- 3) must live “outside the camp”

Yehoveh sees all unbelievers as UNCLEAN due to their sinful state

TZARA'AT SEEN AS OUTWARD SIGN OF INWARD CONDITION



- God demonstrated this on Moses
- (Moses had tzara'at, NOT LEPROSY)
- Moses made acutely aware of his unclean spiritual condition
- It took an act of God to heal tzara'at
- Yeshua made the incurably unclean (you, me, everybody) clean!

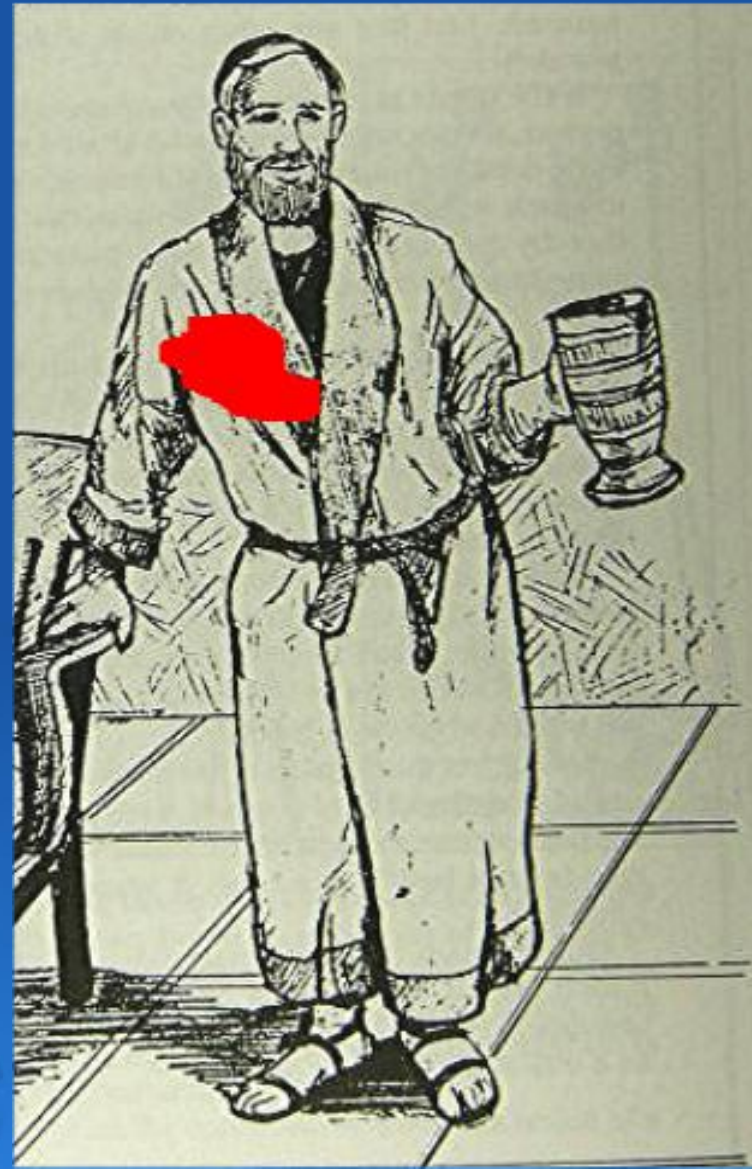
LEV.13:47-59

TZARA'AT ON CLOTHING

- Tzara'at can be found on leather and fabric
- Underlying issues of tzara'at, Kosher eating, woman's impurities, are

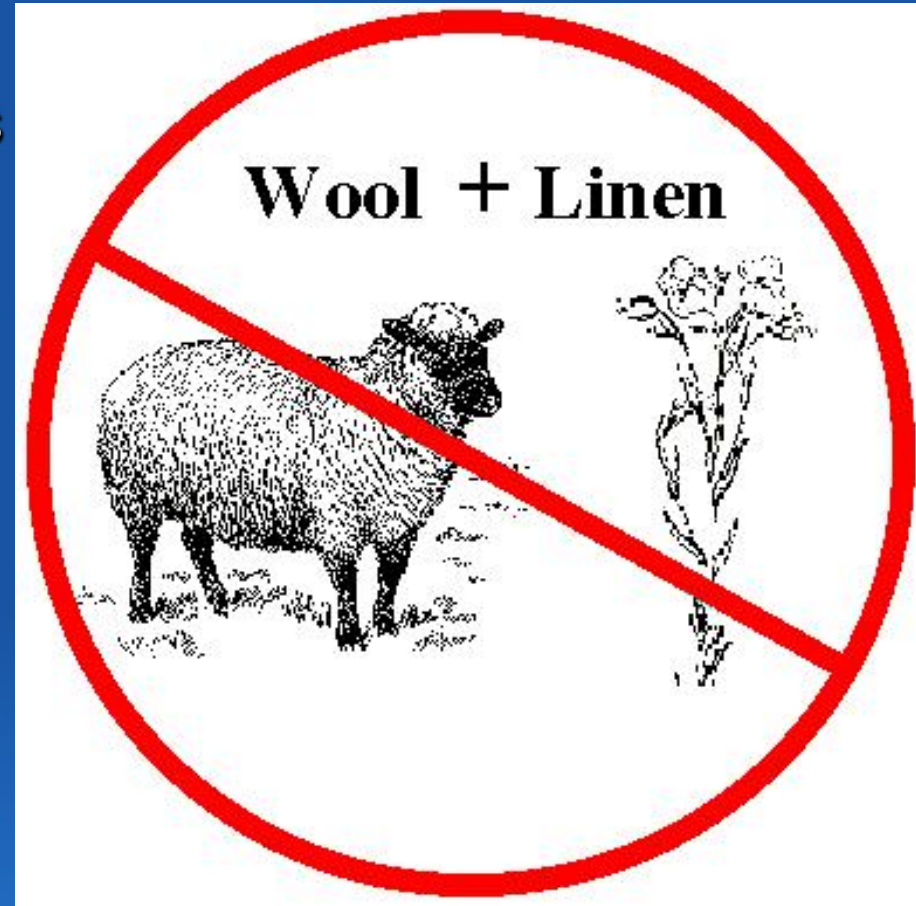
**HOLINESS and
UNCLEANNES**

These two things are
incompatible

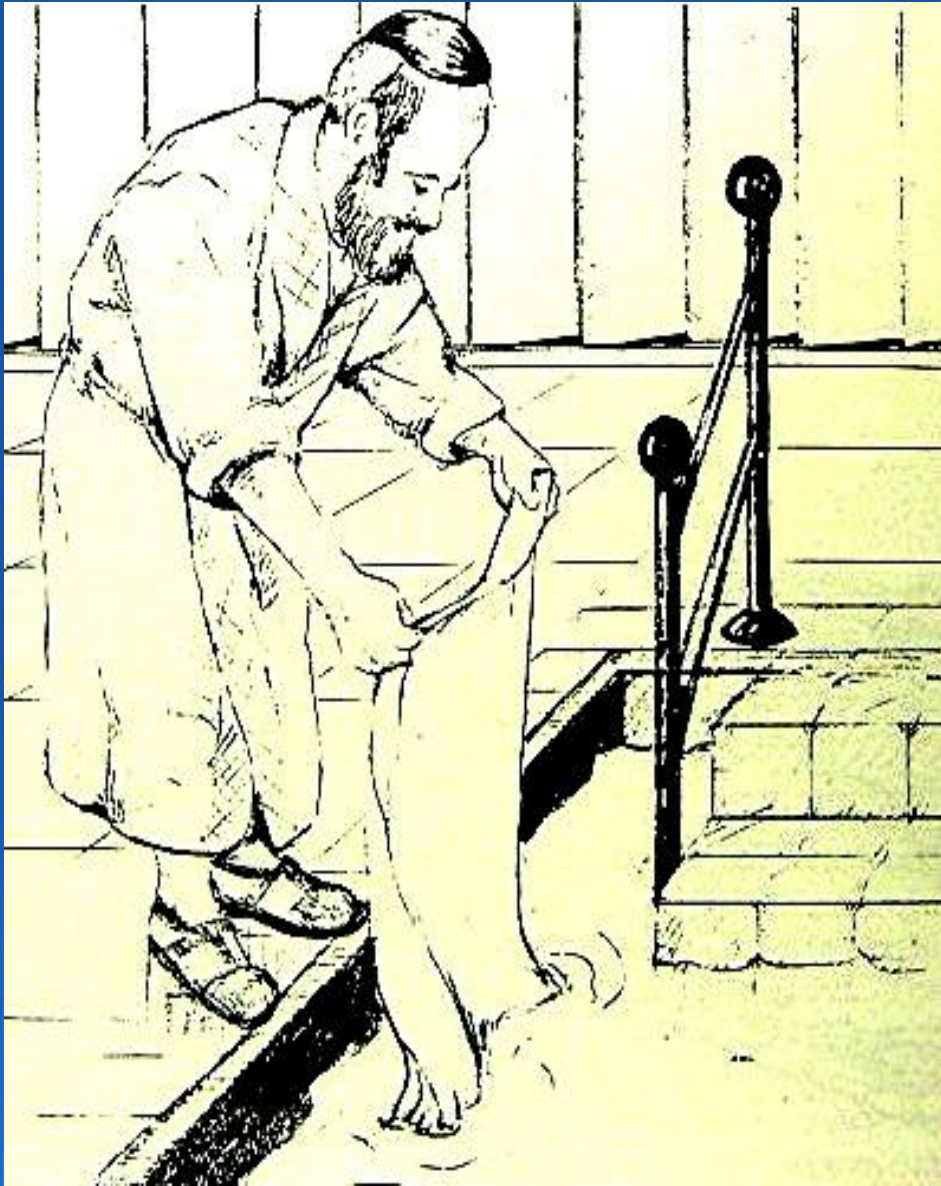


NO MIXTURE OF WOOL AND LINEN

- Once aspect of HOLINESS is **Whole-ness**
- Wool is from an animal, Linen is from plant life
- It is the **MIXTURE** of things that is the problem
- Priest inspects suspected object.....if thought to have tzara'at, object is isolated for 7 days
- If it is deemed to have tzara'at the object must be BURNED



WATER IMMERSION KEY TO PURIFICATION



- Leviticus rituals, John the Baptist's ministry, and Yeshua's ministry ALL involved water immersion
- WHY WATER?
- Like kosher eating, choice of sacrificial animals, clean and unclean designations, WATER for purification was simply *God's declaration*

PURPOSE FOR PROCEDURES WAS TO DISTINGUISH CLEAN FROM UNCLEAN!

- NOT about diseases and plagues
- This is one of the primary duties of a modern Christian.....to distinguish clean from unclean
- Tzara'at is a physical SIGN of inward sin, as well as a physical JUDGMENT for the sin
- **GEMARA** (Jewish commentary on the *Mishnah*) lists 7 sins which cause tzara'at
- The PRIMARY sin is called “*Lashon Hara*”, which means “forbidden speech”
- Generally refers to slander, or talking evil of someone
- Regarded as being as bad as murder