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Rabbi Bob Benbow

For those who do not know, the Portion name comes from the first word or words of the portion in Torah. This weeks Torah portion is named Metzora and it is translated as "Leprous."

### Torah Commentary:

*And YHVH spoke to Moses, saying, This shall be the Torah/law/teaching of the leper in the day of his cleansing: He shall be brought to the priest: and the priest shall go forth out of the camp; and the priest shall look, and, behold, the plague of leprosy be healed in the leper; then shall the priest command to take for him that is to be cleansed two birds [sparrows] alive and clean, and cedar wood, and scarlet, and hyssop: and the priest shall command that one of the birds be killed in an earthen vessel over running water: 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 killed over the running water: and he shall sprinkle on him that is to be cleansed from the leprosy seven times, and shall pronounce him clean, and shall let the living bird loose on the open field. 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. 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. (Lev. 14:1-9) On the eighth day, he would bring his offering of a trespass offering, a sin offering, a burnt offering, flour [meal offering], and oil. The priest would kill the trespass offering and take of the blood and put it on the right ear tip, the right thumb, and the first toe of his right foot. The oil would be sprinkled before YHVH seven times, and then put upon the blood of the trespass offering on the right ear, thumb, and toe, and the rest of the oil poured on the head of the one to be cleansed, and the priest would make atonement for him before YHVH. Atonement would also be made with the sin offering, and the burnt offering, and he would be clean, and be brought back into fellowship with YHVH. (Read Lev. 14:10-32) Look at the what was used for the cleansing: one clean bird*

slaughtered [living sacrifice], an earthenware vessel [temporary, broken after use], water [living], blood [the life is in the blood], cedar wood [a tree, strength, firmness], scarlet threads [bright red color from a lowly worm (coccus)], hyssop [cleansing herb], and a live clean bird, all dipped in water and blood, sprinkled upon the one being cleansed, and the live bird let go [freedom from captivity]. Spots; blemishes; uncleanness; contamination; separation from YHVH, and from others; being outside the camp; having others do for you what you cannot do for yourself; cleansing; humility; recognition of trespass and sin; bringing an offering; forgiveness; atonement; restoration, and life change: all through the blood of atonement, the blood of the living sacrificed for that one. *When the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the Torah/law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.* (Gal. 4:4,5) *For we have not a high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.* (Heb. 4:15) *So Messiah was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for Him shall He appear the second time without sin unto salvation.* (Heb. 9:28) Messiah Yeshua came to us in an earthly vessel/tent, both man and God. *And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.* (John 1:14) One Who came to do His Father's will. *And He went a little farther, and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me: nevertheless not as I will, but as You will.* (Matt. 26:39) *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, your reasonable service.* (Rom. 12:1) He was Living Water. Yeshua answered and said to her, *If you knew the gift of God, and Who it is that says to you, Give Me to drink; you would have asked of Him, and He would have given you living water.* (John 4:10) His blood was shed, His body was bruised and broken. *And they stripped Him, and put on Him a scarlet robe. And when they had plaited a crown of thorns, they put upon His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they bowed the knee before Him, and mocked Him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon Him, and took the reed, and smote Him on the head.* (Matt. 27:28-30) As many were astonished at You; His visage was so marred more than any man, and His form more than the sons of men. (Is. 52:14,15) Blood, and water, flowed down the wood that He was crucified on. *But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced His side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.* (John 19:34) Hyssop was used: *Now there was set a vessel full of vinegar: and they filled a sponge with vinegar, and put upon hyssop, and put to His mouth.* (John 19:29) *Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.* (Ps. 51:7) He was lowly. *Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and you shall find rest unto your souls.* (Matt. 11:29) He was put outside the "camp". *And He bearing His cross went forth*

*into a place call of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: ...for the place where Yeshua was crucified was nigh to the city.... (John 19:17,20b) He set the captive free; deliverance from bondage. The Spirit of Lord upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. (Luke 4:18, Is. 61:1) The blind receive their sight, and the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, and the poor have the gospel preached to them. (Matt. 11:5) His spirit, like a dove descended, and His Father was well pleased with Him. (Luke 3:22) He gives the oil of joy for the spirit of heaviness. His blood has set us free. Hear His Voice. Handle His Word rightly and in truth. Walk according to His Torah and walk in His Grace. Live a changed life in His strength and by His Spirit. Be humble before Him. Be holy as He is Holy. Selah!*