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Hebrew Metaphysic: Life, Holy, Clean, Righteousness, and Sacrifice

Doug Kennard, Biblical Studies Department, Bryan College, Dayton, TN 37321

Abstract

Metaphysical development in Hebrew biblical texts is especially elucidated through a series of word studies with a shifting emphasis that each cross-pollinates the others. Life is "whole being with movement". Holy is ontologically "separate". Clean is ontologically "appropriate for cult". Righteousness is "appropriate in covenant". Uncleanness and sin remove the appropriateness for cult and covenant, thus removing Israelites and Tabernacle from being holy. Purification sacrifice recovers for holy and clean, and for humans also provides forgiveness.

Keywords: Life, Soul, Death, Sheol, Holy, Common, Clean, Unclean, Righteousness, Unrighteousness, Sacrifice, Purification, Atonement, Forgiveness

Metaphysical development in Hebrew biblical texts is especially elucidated through a series of word studies with a shifting emphasis that each cross-pollinates the others. Life is "whole being with movement". Holy is ontologically "separate". Clean is ontologically "appropriate for cult". Righteousness is "appropriate in covenant". Uncleanness and sin remove the appropriateness for cult and covenant, thus removing Israelites and Tabernacle from being holy. Purification sacrifice recovers for holy and clean, and for humans also provides forgiveness. The textual development to illustrate and warrant these concepts on the subsequent pages is summarized by the author together in a chart (fig. 1) that crystallizes the essence of each word in their relationship to others.

If a person is interested in understanding the Old Testament meaning of these terms then these word studies are critical to appreciate the ancient Near Eastern nuance of each idea and to understand many biblical texts. Such an informed perspective is essential for a proper framing of an interpretation of passages that include these words (*life, holy, clean, righteousness, and sacrifice*). Likewise, in developing a broad theology or metaphysic of the Old Testament, these word studies are essential for its framing and content. These contents and framework of an Old Testament metaphysic is especially what this paper is setting out to show. The big picture showing overlapping relationships of these concepts is presented in Fig. 1 but also developed textually over the pages that follow.

Life and Death

The Hebrew concept of life is showcased in word studies of חָיָה/*ḥyh* and נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*. The Hebrew concept of *death* is seen in word studies of מוּת/*mwt* and שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol*. Life is the opposite of death but occasionally some are restored to life from the dead (1 Kings 17:22; 2 Kings 13:21). Furthermore, the boundary between these concepts overlaps as is especially evident when someone is ill or oppressed and laments in the psalms, indicating dying but not disposed of yet.

Contemporary concepts of life and death have a great deal of overlap with these biblical ones but they do not divide the lines in the same place. For example, a contemporary biological definition of life would be the congruence of several of the following attributes: motility, metabolism, growth, irritability, dynamic equilibrium, self-replication, and mutability. This concept of life includes plants, animals, humans, and microbial organisms. Whereas, the Hebrew concept of life excludes plants as nonliving structure at the climax of the form of Creation (Genesis 1:11–12; days 1–3 of Creation develop the form of the Creation parallel to Creation days 4–6 which develop the contents of Creation). Plants are never said to be alive in biblical Hebrew or in second Temple[1] Jewish literature (Jewish documents from fifth century BC through second century AD). The microbial is not discussed with regard to life in the Bible or in second Temple Jewish literature, though both bodies of literature mention mildew and leaven as growing like plants in ways that the Hebrew does not describe as life (for example, Exodus 12; Leviticus 13:39; 25, 5; Matthew 13:33).

Furthermore, contemporary concepts of death, such as the *1981 President's Commission for the Study of Ethical Problems in Medicine and Biomedical Behavioral Research* (1981) framed a focus on death with scientific precision as the irreversible cessation of: (1) circulatory and respiratory functions, and (2) all functions of the entire brain, including brain stem. Such a definition of death also excludes plants and the microbial. This definition would include the lack of biological functioning which the Hebrew concept of death also describes. However, the Hebrew concept of death based on this word study includes a continued cognitive functioning of life beyond the grave and a personification of death reaching into the troubles of this life to draw the vulnerable into the death experience. So the definitions and the lines are

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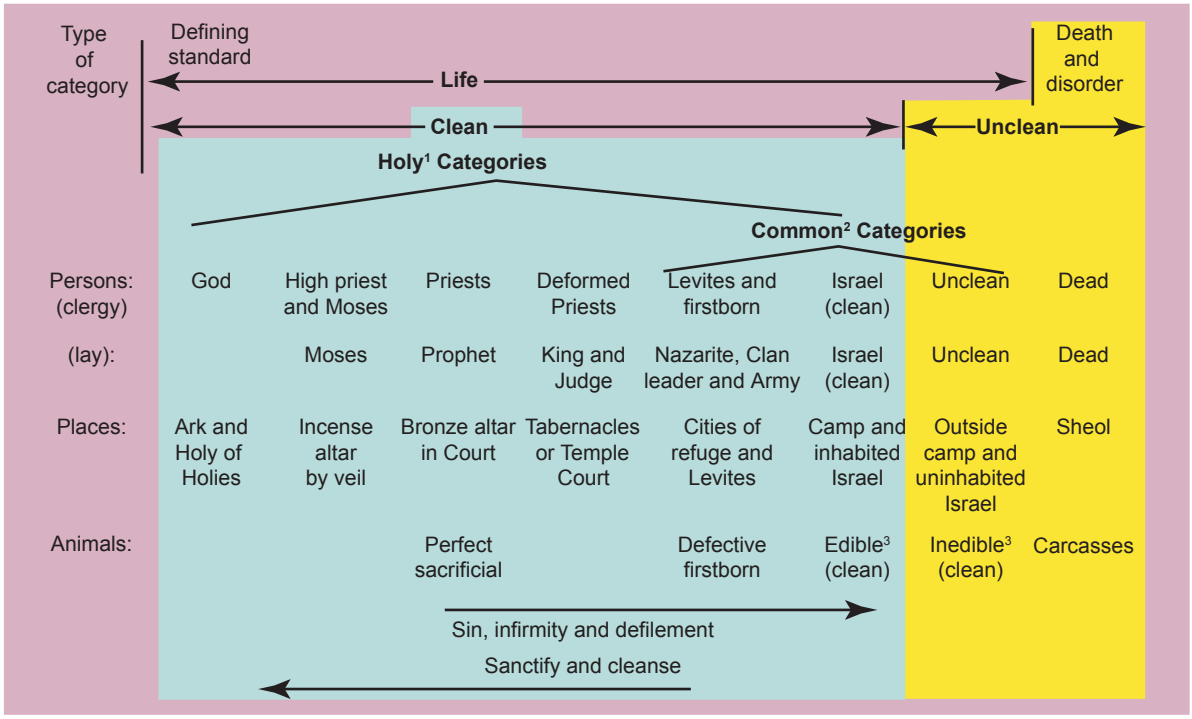

Fig. 1. Life, clean and holy, and Old Testament view. Notes:
[1] Holy is any separate category set off from those to the right that do not measure up to its level of being.
[2] Common is all those categories to the right that do not measure up to the separated holy category, within the range of common categories.
[3] Land animals are greater than animals of sea and air within this category.

different from the biblical concepts of life and death and those of our contemporary context.

The primary word for life in Hebrew is חָיָה/*ḥyh* and its cognates. The word occurs 764 times in the Old Testament. About 70% of the instances refer to human life, 17% refer to animals and 11% refer to God as living, נֶפֶשׁ/*npš* is a strong secondary word for life at least 43% of its uses (295 times) clearly indicating life. Both words are strongly connected to the experience of life rather than an abstract principle of life (Knibb 1998; Schmick 1980). Both words contribute to a meaning of **wholistic living, moving, accomplishing and being blessed.**

God is the living God,[2] which is synonymous to identifying that God is a soul נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*.[3] Both words combine to communicate that God is vibrant, active and acts in the midst of human situations. God is the source of life originally (Genesis 1:29–30; 2:7). Special emphasis on the living (חָיָה/*ḥyh*) quality of God is developed within the former prophets of Samuel and Kings, and the latter prophets of Jeremiah and Ezekiel. Perhaps, the precarious situations (and the obvious need to trust God) highlight God as alive to meet the need and redeem Israel from whatever the risk. However, God is developed as alive from 19 Old Testament books, so that it is a broadly developed conception as well. God lives forever (Daniel 12:7, עוֹלָם/*olam*) which serves as a contextual model informing the only clear passage in the Old Testament where humans awake in personal resurrection to live forever (Daniel 12:2, עוֹלָם/*olam*). Additionally, Hosea 6:2 fostered a sentiment among Pharisaic second Temple Judaism that began to see this biblical text describe the general resurrection and even a Messianic resurrection on the third day.[4]

[1] Ezra's and Herod's Temple is the second Temple after the Babylonian destruction of Solomon's Temple.
[2] Numbers 14:21, 28; Deuteronomy 5:26; 32:40; Joshua 3:10; Judges 8:19; Ruth 3:13; 1 Samuel 14:39, 45; 17:26, 36; 19:6; 20:3, 21; 25:26, 34; 26:10, 16; 28:10; 29:6; 2 Samuel 2:27, 4:9; 12:5; 14:11; 15:21; 22:47; 1 Kings 1:29; 2:24; 17:1, 12; 18:10, 15; 22:14; 2 Kings 3:14; 4:30; 5:16, 20; 19:4, 16; 2 Corinthians 18:13; Job 19:25; 27:2; Psalms 18:41; 42:2; 84:2; Isaiah 37:4, 17; 49:18; Jeremiah 4:2; 5:2; 10:10; 12:16; 16:14–15; 22:24; 23:7–8, 36; 38:16; 44:26; 46:18; Ezekiel 5:11; 14:16, 18, 20; 16:48; 17:16, 19; 18:3; 20:3, 31, 33; 33:11, 27; 34:8; 35:6, 11; Daniel 12:7; 6:20, 26; Hosea 1:10; 4:15; Zephaniah 2:9.
[3] Not pantheism, nor a soul containing other souls but that God is Himself biblically described as a soul (Leviticus 26:11, 30; 1 Samuel 21:35; Psalm 11:5; Proverbs 6:16; Isaiah 1:14; 42:1; Jeremiah 5:9, 29; 6:8; 9:9; 12:7; 13:17; 51:14; Ezekiel 25:18; Amos 6:8).
[4] The Scriptural rationale for why Jesus' resurrection is predicted to occur on the third day must be seen through the slight targum evidence interpreting the Scriptures as describing the general resurrection of the elect occurring on the third day (*Testament of Hosea* 6:2 interprets this text to be resurrection whereas the text speak of the reviving of Israel on the third day; *Targum Jonothan* on Isaiah 27:12f. describes salvation as being accomplished on the third day, implying a resurrection); there is also mention of third day resurrection in *Midrash Rabbah* on Genesis 22:4; 42:18; Exodus 19:16; Joshua 2:16; Jonah 2:1; Ezra 8:32. There may be some recapitulation of this third day resurrection in Jesus resurrection as the first fruits (Cf. Thiselton 2000, pp. 1196–1197; Kennard 2008, pp. 333–337, 348–349, Wright 2003, pp. 321–322.

Jesus and Paul[5] might be informed by such a view in predicting and recording as predicted that Jesus will resurrect on the third day (Matthew 12:40; 16:21; 17:9, 12, 22–23; 20:18–19, 27:63; Mark 8:31; 9:12, 31: Luke 9:22, 44; 17:25; 18:32; 24:7; John 2:19; 1 Chronicles 15:4). This concept of everlasting life develops further (discussed under שְׁאוֹל/*šʾol* below) as continued movement and blessing beyond the grave under Pharisaic and sectarian second Temple Judaism.[6] Jesus in the gospel of John draws such everlasting life back into this life so that the two expressions of life (earthly and everlasting life) are coterminous for the believer now in Christ (John 3:16, 36; 11:25; and possibly 4:14 and 6:40).

Ezekiel develops that the four "living" creatures which look like animals in the immediate presence of God are "alive" (Ezekiel 1:5, 13–22; 3:13; 10:1–22; 11:22; similar imagery continues in Revelation 4:6–9; 5:6; 6:1, 6; 7:11; 14:3; 15:7; 19:4). By their description these "living" creatures are likely *cherubim*, the security and worship leaders for Yahweh's heavenly throne room. Their movement may be quickly back and forth but in these texts it is always in close proximity to the divine presence.

There is no description of vegetation being alive; plants are treated as less than the level of life. Neither are plants said to die but they can be cut down or dry (for example, Isaiah 37:24; Jonah 4:7). The only instance that connects a plant with life is the tree of life which as an actual object is not described as alive but is involved by God to "bestow life contributing to wholeness" (Genesis 2:9; 3:22, 24). The second Temple Jewish apocalypse *The Life of Adam and Eve* conjectures that God placed the *cherubim* to protect humans from the tree of life (in Genesis 3:22–24 so that they would not be fixed in our corrupted condition without any hope of change.[7] Contrary to this, the tree of life develops into a metaphor for extending vitality and benefit (Proverbs 3:18; 11:30; 13:12; 15:4), and eventually appears again in the final form of the Kingdom (Revelation 2:7; 22:2, 14). However, ultimately it is God who gives, sustains, or does not preserve life (Job 33:4; 36:6; Psalms 27:1; 36:9; 64:1; Jeremiah 2:13; 17:13).

The word for life (חַיָּה/*ḥyh*) indicates movement and activity in a few instances where inanimate objects are described. For example, "living" (חַיָּה/*ḥyh*) water is that which is flowing, even very gently so as to fulfill the criteria for ritually purifying washing or *mikvot* (Genesis 26:19; Leviticus 14:6, 52; 15:13; Numbers 19:17; Song of Solomon 4:15; Zechariah 14:8). Leviticus 14:6 connects the חַיָּה/*ḥyh* "movement" of water with that of animals, a "living" bird is killed over "living" water and then another "living" bird is sprinkled with the dead bird's blood and then released in an open field in the process of cleansing a leper (Leviticus 14:6–7, 50–53). Eventually, in Kingdom "living" water will flow from Jerusalem (Zechariah 14:8; Revelation 7:17; 21:6). This benefit of living water is something Jesus promises as internal for believers, resulting in everlasting life (John 4:10, 14).

Animals are alive and are often referred to as "lives"[8] and "souls" or "persons" נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*.[9] Often these terms combine together to emphasize the vibrant moving characteristic of the animals (נֶפֶשׁ חַיָּה) and translated in the Septuagint with the parallel phrase "living souls" (ψυχῶν ζωσῶν; Genesis 1:21–24; 9:10, 12, 15). That is, animals do not have a soul or life, they are wholistically souls and lives.[10] These living souls are described as fish, animals of the field, domesticated animals, rodents, and insects. For example, they are called "lives" (חַיָּה/*ḥyh*) of the field as wild animals (Exodus 23:11, 29; Leviticus 17:13; 25:7; 26:6, 22; Job 5:22–23). The concept of animal life is broadly developed from 16 different books of the Old Testament.

Extending the animal imagery, 1 Samuel 2:15 identifies that uncooked raw meat, neither grilled nor boiled, is "living" or "whole" (חַי/*ḥy*) even though it has just been killed and the fat portions have not been cut off it yet, to be offered in sacrifice to God. So "life" in this instance is an appropriate designation of an animal carcass before it is prepared for eating and sacrifice. Likewise, in the midst of human domination of animals (for obtaining food) there is a restriction (Genesis 9:4). Living flesh אַךְ־בָּשָׂר בְּנַפְשׁוֹ/*ʾd btr bnpšw*) and blood (דָּם/*dm*), which emblems this condition of life, are both excluded from human diet. This restriction excludes from human diet meat that is still alive, such as swallowing goldfish and first kill celebrations where the animal begins to be devoured while still alive. Letting 1 Samuel 2:15 inform this

[5] However, Paul may have only meant in 1 Corinthians 15:4 that the fact of the Messiah's resurrection fulfills Scripture (on the basis of Isaiah 53:11–12; Psalm 16:8–11).

[6] *4 Maccabees* 7.19; 16.25; 18.19; *Testament of Joseph* 18.1; *Jubilees* 5.10; 10.17; 22.22; *2 Baruch* 48.22b; *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 3.11–16, 20–21; 7.5, 9; 13.11; 20.17–20, 25–27; 4Q228 frag. 1 1.9; 4Q266, frag. 11; 4QMTT C; 1QS 3.7–12.

[7] *The Life of Adam and Eve*—apocalypse 16.28.

[8] Genesis 1:20–30; 2:19–20; 3:1, 14; 7:3, 14, 21; 8:1, 17–21; 9:2–5, 10–11; 37:20, 33; Exodus 21:35; 22:4; 23:11, 29; Leviticus 5:2; 11:2, 10, 27, 46–47; 14:4–7; 51–53; 16:10, 20–21; 17:13; 25:7; 26:6, 22; Numbers 35:3; Deuteronomy 7:22; 1 Samuel 17:46; 2 Samuel 21:10; 2 Kings 14:9; 2 Corinthians 25:18; Job 5:22–23; 37:8; 39:15; 40:20; Psalms 50:10; 68:10, 30; 74:19; 104:11, 20, 25; 148:10; Ecclesiastes 4:15; 6:8; Isaiah 35:9; 40:16; 43:20; 46:1; 56:9; Jeremiah 12:9; 27:6; 28:14; Ezekiel 5:17; 14:15, 21; 26:5; 31:6, 13; 32:4; 33:27; 34:5, 25, 28; 38:20; 39:4, 17; Daniel 8:4; Hosea 2:12, 18; 4:3; 13:8; Zephaniah 2:14–15.

[9] Genesis 1:20, 24, 30; 2:19; 9:10–16; Leviticus 11:10, 46; 24:18; Proverbs 12:10; Ezekiel 47:9.

[10] In contrast, animals have a spirit (רוּחַ) like man that provides life and departs from their body at their death (Ecclesiates 3:19–21; 12:7).

Genesis 9:4 statement of life would likely identify whole *sushi* and similar raw uncooked meat as "alive" (נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*) and thus inappropriate for one's diet on the basis of the Noahic Covenant as well. The Septuagint of 1 Samuel 2:15 omits the last words of the verse likely because ζωή doesn't include dead uncooked meat within its semantic field. However, such a whole corpse view would be further supported by the instances that נֶפֶשׁ/*npš* as a normal word for "life" instead refers to human corpses (Leviticus 19:28; 21:1, 11; 22:4; Numbers 5:2, 6; 6:6, 11; 9:6–10; 19:11, 13; Haggai 2:13).

Extending the imagery in a different direction, Genesis 6:17–19 identifies that all flesh (both human and animal) is alive. With Adam and Eve given the task of subduing to rule the world. Adam expresses hope by identifying that Eve is the "mother of all living" (Genesis 3:20). Likely, such a reference indicates Eve as a progenitor of the human race and the queen over all life.

Humans are alive (חָיָה/*ḥyh*, Genesis 2:7; 3:17; 7:11; 9:28; 11:11–26; Exodus 1:14). Human life is also indicated by 68% of the instances of נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*[11] (Brown Driver, and Briggs 1953, p. 659; Wolff 1974, pp. 24–25). These holistic uses include נֶפֶשׁ/*npš* as "life" or "person" in 29% of the instances.[12] Additionally, the word נֶפֶשׁ/*npš* stands as a pronoun 25% of the times it is used.[13] It is an unfortunate philosophical perversion that takes "soul" (נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*) as an immaterial aspect of humanity because there is a strong emphasis on נֶפֶשׁ/*npš* being holistic such that נֶפֶשׁ/*npš* can even be put in irons (Psalm 105:18). As such, it is far better to take נֶפֶשׁ/*npš* as a "living thing" rather than a quality possessed.

The concept of life is opposite of death (מָוֶת/*mwt*)[14] and often in near contexts with close development of death 13% of the instances of חָיָה/*ḥyh*.[15] For instance, to "crush life" brings one close to death (Psalms 88:3; 143:3; Lamentations 3:53). Additionally, when נֶפֶשׁ/*npš* is "cut off" or "required" by God then it means someone is killed (Genesis (9:5; 37:21; Exodus 12:15, 19; 21:23; Leviticus 7:20, 21; 24:17–18).

Eventually all humans will die and go to experience שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol*. However, the psalmist in difficult times encourages prayer for living forever in the sense that we do not wish to see שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* prematurely (Psalms 49:9 and 89:48). That is, in the Old Testament context of suffering, life is fleeting and it wastes away (Job 7:7, 16). In such suffering, no one can ever be sure of life (Job 24:22).

[11] Genesis 9:5; 19:19; 32:30; 35:18; 37:21; 44:30; Exodus 4:19; 12:15, 19; 21:23, 30; Leviticus 7:20–21; 24:17–18; Numbers 21:4–5; 35:31; Deuteronomy 6:5; 10:12; 11:13, 18; 13:3; 24:6; 26:16; 28:65; 30:2, 6, 10; Joshua 22:5; 23:14; Judges 9:17; 12:3; 18:25; 1 Samuel 1:10; 17:55; 18:1; 19:5, 11; 20:1, 17; 22:23;23:15; 24:11; 25:29, 26:21, 24; 28:9, 21; 2 Samuel 1:9; 4:8–9; 11:11; 16:11; 18:13; 19:5; 23:17; 1 Kings 1:12; 2:4, 23; 8:48; 17:21–22; 19:2–4, 10, 14; 20:31, 39, 42; 2 Kings 1:13–14; 2 Corinthians 1:11; 6:38; 15:2; 28:9; Esther 7:3, 7; Job 2:4, 6; 9:21; 12:10; 13:14; 27:8; 31:31, 39; 33:18; Psalms 16:10; 19:7; 22:20, 29; 23:3; 24:4; 25:1, 20; 26:9; 31:13; 33:19–20; 34:22; 35:4, 12, 17; 38:12; 40:14; 54:3; 56:6, 13; 59:3; 63:9; 69:1; 70:2; 71:10; 72:13–14; 74:19; 78:50; 86:2, 4, 13–14; 88:3; 89:48; 94:21; 97:10; 107:5; 116:4, 7–8; 119:109; 121:7; 138:3; 143:11; Proverbs 1:18–19; 6:26; 7:23; 12:10; 13:3, 8; 14:25; 16:17; 18:7; 20:2; 21:23; 22:33; 23:14; 24:12, 14; 29:10, 17, 24; 31:6, Song of Solomon 6:12; Isaiah 10:18; 38:17; 43:4; Jeremiah 4:30; 11:21; 19:7, 9; 20:13; 21:7, 9; 22:25; 31:12; 34:20–21; 38:2, 16; 39:18; 40:14–15; 44:30; 45:5; 46:26; 48:6; 49:37; 51:6; Lamentations 1:11, 19; 2:12, 19; Ezekiel 18:4, 27; 32:10; 33:5–6, 9; Amos 2:14–15; Jonah 1:14; 4:3; Micah 6:7; Acts 2:41.

[12] Genesis 9:4; 12:5; 14:21; 17:14; 36:3; 46:15, 18; Exodus 1:5; 12:4, 16; 16:16; 31:14; Leviticus 2:1; 4:2; 5:1–4, 15–17; 6:2; 7:18–27; 17: 10–15; 18:29; 19:8; 20:6; 22:6, 11; 23:29–30; 27:2; Numbers 5:6; 9:13; 15:27–31; 16:38; 19:13, 18–22; 31:19, 28, 35, 40, 46; 35:11, 15, 30; Deuteronomy 10:22; 24:7: 27:25; Joshua 2:13–14; 9:24; 10:28–39; 11:11; 20:3, 9; Judges 5:18, 21; 16:16; 18:25; 1 Samuel 22:22; 2 Samuel 5:8; 1 Corinthians 5:21; 11:19; Esther 8:11; 9:16; Psalms 3:2; 107:9; Proverbs 10:3; 11:25, 30; 13:4, 19; 16:24, 26; 19:2, 15; 21:10; 25:13, 25; 27:7; 28:17, 25; Isaiah 32:6; 49:7; Jeremiah 2:34; 31:25; 43:6; 52:29–30; Lamentations 3:25; 5:9; Ezekiel 13:18–20; 17:7; 18:4; 22:25, 27; 27:13.

[13] Meaning: "I": Genesis 12:13; 19:20; 27:42; 32:30, 44; Job 6:11; 10:1; Psalms 119:20, 25, 28, 81, 129, 167; 120:6; 130:5–6; 131:29; 139:14; 143:6; Exodus 7:28; Song of Solomon 1:7; 3:1–4; Isaiah 26:9; 61:10; Jeremiah 4:31; 6:8; Lamentations 3:17, 20, 24; Ezekiel 4:14; 23:18; Jonah 2:7; Micah 7:1; Zechariah 11:8. Meaning "me": Numbers 23:10; Judges 16:30; 1 Kings 20:32, Job 19:2; Psalms 6:4; 7:2, 5: 17:9, 13; 35:7; 41:4; 49:15; 55:18; 66:16; 69:18; 71:13, 23; 88:14; 94:19; 109:20; 119:175; 120:2; 141:8; 142:4, 7; 143:3, 12; Jeremiah 18:20; Lamentations 3:51. "My": Psalm 54:14: Lamentations 3:58. "Myself": Genesis 49:6; Psalms 11:1; 13:2; 34:3, 4; 35:15; 42:4; 103:1–2, 22; 104:1, 35; 131:2; 143:8; 146:1; Ecclesiastes 4:8; Jeremiah 4:19; 5:9, 29. "Our" Isaiah 26:8. "We"; Psalms 123:4; 124:7. "Us": Psalms 124:4–5. "You": Genesis 27:19, 31; Leviticus 26:15; Deuteronomy 12:15, 20, 21; 14:26; 1 Samuel 1:26; 20:3; 25:26; Esther 4:13; Job 16:4; 19:18; Isaiah 51:23; 55:2–3; Jeremiah 14:19; 38:20; Ezekiel 16:5; 23:22, 28. "Your": Ezekiel 24:21. "Yourself": Exodus 30:15–16; Leviticus 11:43; 16:29, 31; 17:11; 20:25; 23:27, 32; Numbers 29:7; Deuteronomy 4:9, 29; 13:6; Joshua 23:11; Proverbs 22:25; Isaiah 58:10; Jeremiah 6:16; 17:21; 37:9; 49:20; 44:7; 51:45; Ezekiel 3:19, 21; Habakkuk 2:10. "He, she, his, him": Genesis 34:3–8; Deuteronomy 22:26; Judges 10:16; Job 14:22; Psalms 10:3; 11:5; 25:13; 49:8; Proverbs 6:16; 14:10; 27:9; Ecclesiastes 2:24; 6:2–3; Ezekiel 23:17. "Himself, herself": Exodus 30:12; Numbers 30:2–13; 1 Samuel 18:3; 1 Kings 19:4; Job 18:4; 32:2; Psalms 49:18; 89:48; 105:18; 109:20; Proverbs 6:30, 32; 8:36; 11:17; 15:32; 19:8, 16; 22:5; 23:7; Isaiah 44:20; 53:10, 12; 58:5; Jeremiah 3:11; 51:14; Amos 6:8; Jonah 4:8. "They": Leviticus 26:43; Job 36:14; Psalms 107:18, 26; Isaiah 66:3; Zechariah 11:8. "Them": Psalm 106:15; Isaiah 3:9. "Themselves": Isaiah 46:2; 47:14; Ezekiel 14:14, 20; Hosea 9:4.

[14] מָוֶת/*mwt* in 100% of the 920 times in the Old Testament means death as the loss of life from a person as evidenced by physical death.

[15] Genesis 3:17–19; 5:3–30; 42:2, 43:8; 47:19; Exodus 1:17–22; 19:13; 22:18; Numbers 16:30, 33; 22:33; 31:15, 18; Deuteronomy 4:33; 5:26; 20:16; 28:66; 31:27; Joshua 6:17; 8:23; 9:15, 21; Judges 16:30; Ruth 2:20; 1 Samuel 15:8; 27:9, 11; 2 Samuel 1:10, 23; 12:18–22; 15:21; 18:14, 18; 19:6; 1 Kings 3:22, 27; 20:18, 32; 21:15; 2 Kings 5:7; 7:4, 12; 10:14; 21:1; 2 Corinthians 25:12; Job 4:14; 33:22; 36:22; 36:14; Psalms 58:9; 78:50; 88:3; 103:4; 124:3; Proverbs 1:12; 18:21; Ecclesiastes 4:2; Isaiah 8:19; 38:12; 26:14, 19; 38:1; Jeremiah 21:9; 38:2; Lamentations 3:39, 53; Ezekiel 7:13; 13:9; 18:13; Daniel 5:19; Jonah 4:3, 8.

Another 11% of the instances of חָיָה/*ḥyh* emphasize by their contexts that "life" is a continuing to live.[16] By extension, one form of continuing a father's life is through procreation (Genesis 19:32–34; 30:19).

Life (חָיָה/*ḥyh*) is an intrinsic and experiential good (Schmick 1980, 1:279). "All that a man has he will give for his life (Job 2:4), and "a living dog is better than a dead lion" (Ecclesiastes 9:4). This is the land of the living (Isaiah 53:8; Jeremiah 11:19; Ezekiel 26:20; 32:24–32). Such living are in a position to praise the Lord, a condition functionally reserved in the Old Testament for those alive (Isaiah 38:19). With the development of resurrection teaching, second Temple Jewish and the New Testament include those in heaven with everlasting life as also participating in worship (Revelation 4:10–11; 5:8–13).[17]

By extension, life (חָיָה/*ḥyh*) is a blessing Schmick 1980, 1:280). Moses sets out the possibility of curse and blessing within the Mosaic Covenant, and then urges Israel to choose "life", which God gives generously to those who obey Him (Deuteronomy 30:15–20; 32:47). Such a meaning includes more than movement but extends to a sense of wholeness (Brensinger 1997, 2:109). Psalm 119 celebrates the blessed life provided through the Law of which the pious Israelite keeps (Psalms 119:17, 77, 116, 144, 175). On a more horizontal framework, wisdom literature offers a way of life that reaps the blessing of life sown (Proverbs 2:19; 5:6; 6:23; 10:17; 15:24). Such a condition of life as blessing also entails "recovery from illness" or "being revived" (Joshua 5:8; 2 Kings 20:7; and not healed 8:10) (Brensinger 1997, 2:109). Similarly, חָיָה/*ḥyh* is used of "bringing the dead back to life" (1 Kings 17:22; 2 Kings 13:21). On a national scale Israel as a nation is brought back to life for a time of national restoration and kingdom (Isaiah 26:19; Ezekiel 37:1–14; Hosea 14:7). In a milder form חָיָה/*ḥyh* means "rejuvenate" and "sustain" with food and drink (Judges 15:19; 1 Kings 18:5). The concept of life (חָיָה/*ḥyh*) as preservation, reviving and continued blessing is prayed for in extenuating circumstances (Psalms 4:2; 22:26; 69:32; 71:20; 80:18; 85:6; 138:7; 143:11).

Among the prophets, obedience to the Mosaic Covenant fosters life and rebellion threatens such life. Within the Mosaic Covenant, sin negates righteousness and puts life at risk (Ezekiel 18:20; 33:12–13). Whereas, the righteous will live (Ezekiel 3:21; 18:9, 17, 19). Likewise, using a metaphor of a register of citizens, Isaiah identifies that those listed among the "living" (that is those faithfully trusting Yahweh and obedient to the Mosaic Covenant) will be called holy (Isaiah 4:3). Furthermore, the truly repentant from his sins will also live (Ezekiel 33: 15–16). Therefore, all humans should repent of their sins to live (Ezekiel 18:32; 33:11; Amos 5:4–6).

Two late passages develop חָיָה/*ḥyh* with regard to a "restore to wholeness" meaning for inanimate objects (1 Chronicles 11:8 a city and Nehemiah 4:2 a wall). "Here, *ḥyh* again denotes a qualitative sense of wholeness; that which was broken is put back together" (Brensinger 1997, 2:112).

Various words are used to describe the concept of "death" but the concept is dominated by (מָוֶת/*mwt*). "Death" (מָוֶת/*mwt*) is **opposed to life, not moving, not able to accomplish things and cursed**. Life and death are ultimate opposites (Deuteronomy 30:19; 2 Samuel 15:21; Proverbs 18:21; Jeremiah 21:8). One hundred percent of the 920 times מָוֶת/*mwt* is used in the Old Testament it means death as the loss of life of a person (נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*) as evidenced by physical death. Usually this death is of a human but occasionally an animal is also described to die (Genesis 33:13; Exodus 9:7; 21:34–35; 1 Samuel 24:14; 2 Samuel 9:8; 16:9; Ecclesiastes 9:4; Isaiah 50:2). Occasionally, human death and animal death are described in the same passage in the same manner, as in the Flood (every living [חָיָה/*ḥyh*] thing [נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*] with the spirit [רוּחַ/*ruḥ*] of life [חַיָּה/*ḥyh*] died [מָוֶת/*mwt*], Genesis 7: 21–23. Notice that humans and animals such as cattle, lizards, and insects have spirit (רוּחַ/*ruḥ*) which leaves their body when they died (Ecclesiastes 3: 19–20). Solomon grieves that human and animal death is the same in that: human and animal bodies return to dust, and the spirit or breath (רוּחַ/*ruḥ*) leaves the body. Who knows which direction human or animal spirit goes, because one can't see רוּחַ/*ruḥ* though you can see the animating effect in a life (Ecclesiastes 3:19–20, similar to: we can't see wind but we can see its effect).

Death is often described as violent: destroyed by wind storm (Job 1:19), by punishment (Genesis 9:6; Deuteronomy 19:12), by war (Isaiah 22:2; Jeremiah 11:22), and by starvation (Jeremiah 38:9).

Oftentimes, things are not themselves dead but cause death (מָוֶת/*mwt* and שְׁאוֹל/*šʾol* in parallel), like wars, cords and snares (2 Samuel 22:5–6; Psalms 18:5; 116:3; Proverbs 13:14; 14:27; 21:6).

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[16] Genesis 20:7; 27:40; 31:32; Exodus 4; 18; Leviticus 25:35–36; Numbers 16:48; Deuteronomy 6:24; 8:1, 3; 18:3, 20; 17:19; 30:16; 31:13; 32:39; 33:6; Joshua 1:5; 2:13; 4:14; 6:25; 9:15, 21; Judges 8:19; 21:14; 1 Samuel 1:11, 26; 20:14; 2 Samuel 8:2;11:11; 15:21; 19:34; 1 Kings 4:21; 11:34; 12:6; 15:5–6; 17:23; 20:32; 2 Kings 4:7; 7:4; 14:17; 2 Corinthians 10:16; Job 21:7; Psalms 23:6; 27:4; 63:4; 104:33; 146:2; Proverbs 3:2; 4:10; 9:11; 15:27; 16:15; 31:12; Ecclesiastes 2:3, 17; 3:12; 5:18, 20; 6:3, 12; 7:2; 8:15; 9:3–5, 9; 10:19; 11:8; Isaiah 4:3; 38:11–20; 53:8; Jeremiah 35:7; 52:33–34; Lamentations 4:20; Ezekiel 3:21; 7:13; 13:18, 22; 18:9, 17–28; 47:9; Daniel 2:4, 30; 3:9; 4:17, 34; 5:10; 6:6, 21; 7:12; Hosea 6:2; Amos 8:14.

[17] *1 Enoch* 14; *Similitudes of Enoch* 37–71; 2 *Enoch* 15–17; 3 *Enoch*; *Ascension of Isaiah* 9; *The Books of Adam and Eve* 37; *Apocalypse of Abraham* 29. Note 5 on *merkabah* (throne/chariot) mysticism (Pate and Kennard 2003, 2005, pp. 73, 98–99).

Death is also seen as a curse. One of the most devastating features of futility is that of death. It is both ironic and part of the ancient Near East chaos view that souls (נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*) die (for example, Merrill 1997, 2:887; Oldenburg 1969, pp. 69–77). God warned Adam that in the day that he would eat from the forbidden fruit that he would surely die (מָוֶת/*mwt*, Genesis 2:17). God's oracle of judgment spoke of Adam eventually dying and returning to dust (Genesis 3:19).[18] So perhaps the sure death is a condemnation of judgment that could be said to be a walking death which eventually results in full death. Likewise, God announced curse to Abimelech in a dream by telling him that he is a dead man for marrying a married woman (Genesis 20:3). Abimelech was only able to recover himself by returning Sarah to Abraham. This is echoed in the Mosaic Covenant, Yahweh set out covenant curse as death for Israelites who do not obey the Mosaic Covenant (Deuteronomy 30:19).

The concept of death as curse sets up a Two-Ways framework. For example, the Rabbinics understand the Fall through a Two-Ways framework, as evident in *Song of Songs Rabbah* 1.9.2 claim, "God set before him two ways, the way of life and the way of death, and he chose the way of death and rejected the way of life." The Mosaic Covenant sets before Israel the two ways of life and death, conditional upon their obedience to the Mosaic Covenant (Deuteronomy 30:15–16).[19] As such, death (מָוֶת/*mwt*) is the just condemnation for the wicked (Deuteronomy 19:6; 21:22; Jeremiah 21:8; 26:11, 16). Such a Two-Ways framework also is observable within wisdom literature's description for how creation works with the natural consequence of death for those who follow the foolish way (Proverbs 8:36; 14:12; 16:25).

Death is thus a mysterious and fearful experience which at best is euphemistically called sleep (Psalm 13:3). Impending death provokes terror, panic, bitterness, and regret (1 Samuel 5:11; 15:32; Psalm 55:4; Ecclesiastes 3:19; 7:26). Death entails going down into a cave or pit that has multiple chambers (Psalm 22:15; Proverbs 5:5; 7:27). Such a death experience includes returning to dust, perhaps in the decaying process of creation constituents, perhaps in that this cavernous environment as dusty (Psalm 22:15; Ecclesiastes 3:20).

In the Old Testament, the afterlife is described as in שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol*. The concept of שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* emerges from the Pentateuch as a grave or a cavernous pit to swallow Korah in judgment (Genesis 37:35; 42:38; 44;29, 31; Numbers 16:30, 33). In the Old Testament שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* broadly becomes a synonym for death[20] (cf. Galenieks 2005) and grave.[21] By extension, the concept of שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* becomes the lowest pit of the earth and a hidden area, though not hidden from God (cf. Galenieks 2005).[22] In the more developed theology of David, Solomon and the later prophets, שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* takes on qualities of a cognitive realm of the dead (Proverbs 7:27; 9:18; Isaiah 14:9, 11, 15). In this environment, all the dead are lying in שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* on their grave shelves or beds though they can be aroused (Isaiah 14:9; Ezekiel 23:21–30). As such, the realm of the dead; weakens, shames and silences proud rebels (Psalm 31:17; Isaiah 5:14; 14:10; Ezekiel 31:15–17; 32:21).

Death (מָוֶת/*mwt*) and שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* are personified and encroach into the land of the living when a life is at risk. While מָוֶת/*mwt* is not in the Old Testament as an expression of the god *Môtu* of Ugaritic texts (Oldenburg 1969, pp. 69–77), death is personified as a strong enemy for humankind (Song of Solomon 8:6). מָוֶת/*mwt* is able to kill (Jeremiah 18:21, literally "be slain by death" (Merrill 1997, 2:887). In rebellion, Israel made a covenant with personified death and שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* but God will rescue them from judgment by a tested stone laid in Zion (Isaiah 28:15, 18). The personification of death extends to a family of diseases like leprosy which devour the skin and the body (Numbers 12:12; Job 18:13). Death (מָוֶת/*mwt*) can climb through windows to pursue the living and can overwhelm its victims like waves (2 Samuel 22:5; Jeremiah 9:21). Likewise, this effect of שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* reaches into this life at precarious times and draws its victims down into its dark domains (Leviticus 26:16; Job 17:14; Psalms 9:15; 23:4; 30:3; 31:9; 32:3–4; 42:4; 88:3; 102:3–7; 103:4; Isaiah 10:18; Jeremiah 19:9). As fever wastes the person (נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*), he loses vigor and yearns intensely. The eye pictures this wasting away in crying about impending death (Psalms 6:7; 40:12). In such a condition, flesh and bones lack sound health (Psalms 32:3–4; 38:3–7; 102:3–7). The person (נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*) is poured out in lament (Job 30:16; Psalm 42:4). The person (נֶפֶשׁ/*npš*) draws near to שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* as

[18] There is no justification in Genesis, as in the Rabbinics (for example, *Numbers of Rabbah* 5.4; 10.8) that a death sacrifice was actually carried out by forty stripes or penalties, ten for each participant: Adam, Eve, serpent, and earth. For example, part of the curse of the ground in the rabbinics is the claim that part of the curse of the ground is that one third of humanity is cursed in Genesis 9:24 (*Numbers of Rabbah* 10.8).

[19] This Two-Ways framework contains into second Temple Jewish literature tied to faithfulness within the Mosaic Covenant (*Jubilees* 20.6–10; 21.21–24; 30.21–22; *1 Enoch* 94.1–5; 98.6–8; *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* (1QS; 4Q255–264a; 5Q11)1.9–10; 2.11–17; 3–4; 4.20–22; 4Q228; 4Q473 frag. 2; 4Q176 frags. 12–13 16, frags. 10+11+7+9+20+26 verse 7; 4Q548 frag. 1 2.2–16; Philo, *De posteritate Caini* 1.67–68 obedience identifies good; *2 Baruch* 85.12–15; *Sibylline Oracles* 8.399–401; *Testament of Asher* 1–7 in *Testament of the 12 Patriarchs*; *Testament of Abraham* 11; these are similar to Matthew 7:7; 13:43; 25:46).

[20] 2 Samuel 22:6; Job 7:9; Psalms 9:17; 18:5; 49:14–15; 55:15; 86:13; 88:3; 89:48; 116:3; Proverbs 5:5; 27:20; 30:16; Isaiah 28:15, 18; Hosea 13:14.

[21] 1 Samuel 2:6; 1 Kings 2:6, 9; Job 17:13-14, 16; 21:13; 24:18; Psalms 16:10; 88:3; Proverbs 1:12; 15:24.

[22] Deuteronomy 32:22; Job 11:8; 14:13; 26:6; Psalm 139:8; Proverbs 15:11; Isaiah 57:9; Amos 9:2; Jonah 2:2.

death approaches (Job 33:22; Psalm 30:3). In the Old Testament, death and שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* can be thwarted but usually such salvation is accomplished by rescuing those at risk ahead of time so that their plight does not culminate (Joshua 5:8; 13:14; 2 Kings 1:2; 8: 8–14; 20:7; Ruth 4:15; Psalm 78:50; Isaiah 38:9, 21). Eventually God will ransom Israel from the power of death (מָוֶת/*mwt*) and שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* so that they will be a re-gathered people in Kingdom (Hosea 13:14).

The concept of resurrection in the Old Testament is marginal at best (Brueggeman 1997, pp. 483–484; Kennard 2008, pp. 333–335; von Rad 1962–1965, 1:470–471; 2:350; Wright 2003, pp. 85–128). For example, the Pentateuch occasionally states that the heroes of the faith are gathered to their forefathers. However, when there is no family tomb, such a reference is a very ambiguous comfort (for example, Numbers 20:24, 26). In a vague event, the witch of Endor conjured up Samuel bodily from the grave (1 Samuel 28:14–20). While he vanished when the conjuring was over, he must have been available from שְׁאוֹל/*š'ol* to temporarily bodily resurrect. Additionally, Ezekiel's vision of the valley of dry bones is better seen as a metaphor describing Israel's national resurrection and reunion, rather than a personal resurrection of individuals (Ezekiel 37) (Zimmerli 1983, pp. 256–257). Perhaps the only clear mention of personal resurrection in the Old Testament is that of Daniel 12:2–3 where the dead will awake from their sleep among the dust to either everlasting life or everlasting contempt (Baldwin 1978, pp. 204–206; Wright 2003, pp. 108–110).

This sort of resurrection hope is much more common in second Temple Judaism within the wake of developing Pharisaic theology.[23] That is, the faithful in the Mosaic Covenant when they die continue to be blessed in the afterlife with bodily resurrection unto Paradise. In fact, *Psalms of Solomon* 14.3 utilizes Leviticus 18:5 to show that the Law dependent life continues into everlasting life; "the righteous ones of the Lord will live by it [the Law] forever" and again, "Love is keeping her commandments, Observance of her laws is the guarantee of immortality."[24] Furthermore, with reference to tortured and martyred Jews, *2 Maccabees* identifies the Mosaic Covenant as God's covenant of or toward everlasting life."[25] This identifies that for *2 Maccabees* unlike *Psalms of Solomon*, resurrection begins with everlasting life (Arenhoevel 1967, p. 159, no. 13) and is a life not yet attained (cf. Dunn 1998, pp. 152–153). *Testament of Asher* 5.2 joins *2 Maccabees* in identifying that "everlasting life waits for death".[26] Within this framework, some Qumran manuscripts also speak of an afterlife as everlasting life,[27] and possibly others even intimate bodily resurrection for the faithful.[28]

Second Temple texts extend the Deuteronomic blessing/curse of this life to a post-mortem judgment and afterlife, where the righteous are blessed in the afterlife with Deuteronomic blessing including salvation of everlasting life.[29] While this afterlife is an extension of salvation beyond the grave that the Torah and Covenant Renewal Psalms never developed, such a resurrection idea was seen by second Temple Jews as having basis in biblical and extra-biblical psalms.[30]

[23] For example, *2 Maccabees* 7:9; *1 Enoch* 58.3; 62.14–16; 91.10; 92.2; 108.11–14; *Jubilees* 5, 10; 10, 17; 22.22; *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 3.11–16, 20–21; 7.5, 9; 13.11; 20.17–20, 25–27; 4Q228 frag. 1 1.9; 4Q266, frag. 11; 4QMMT C; 1QS 3.7–12; *2 Baruch*[Syriac] 30.1–5; *2 Maccabees* 7.9–14, 22–23; 14.43–46; *4 Maccabees* 7.19; 16.25; *4 Ezra* 7.32; *Sibylline Oracles* 4.180; *Testament of Benjamin* 10.6–8; *Testament of Levi* 18; *Testament of Judah* 24; *Testament of Hosea* 6:2 interprets this text to be resurrection whereas the text speaks of the reviving of Israel on the third day; *Targum Jonathan* on Isaiah 27:12f describes salvation as being accomplished on the third day; *Babylonian Talmud Sanhedrin* 90b where Gamaliel claims that God would give the resurrected patriarchs land, not merely their descendants and Johanan Numbers 18:28 the portion of YHWH given to Aaron is taken that he will be alive again, likewise Numbers 15:31 is claimed that the remaining guilt of the offender will be accountable in the world to come; 91b–92a; *Babylonian Talmud Ta'an*it 2a; *Babylonian Talmud Keritot* 111; *Mishnah Sanhedrin* 10.1, 3; *Testament of Moses* 10.8–10; *Genesis Rabah* 14.5; 28.3; 56.1H; *Leviticus Rabah* 14.9; Messiania Apocalypse adds resurrection to a modification of Pslam 146:5–9 as a Messianic expectation to be done to others; *Testament of Jud*ah 25.4 claims this Messianic resurrection would begin with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; *Testament of Benjamin* claims that after these are raised the whole of Israel will be raised; *Psalms of Solomon* 3.11–12; *4Q521* frag. 2, col. 2.1–13; frags. 7 and 5, col. 2.1–7; *1QH* 14.29–35; 19.10–14; *Targum Songs* 8.5; the benediction in the *Amidah*, the *Shemoneh Esre*. However, *Wisdom of Solomon* 3.1; 8.19–20; 9.15 and Josephus' description of the Pharisees (*Jewish Antiquities* 17.152–154; 18.1.3–5; 18.14, 16; *Jewish War* 1.650, 653; 2.151–153; 163, 165; 2.8.14; *Against Apian* 2.217–8) follow more a Platonic immortality of the soul view, but even here the soul eventually is given a body to match (*Wisdom of Solomon* 9.15; Josephus' works, *Jewish War* 2.163). Also the biblical authors (Matthew 22:23–33; Mark 12:18–27; Acts 23:6–7) and the *Eighteen Benedictions* present the Pharisees as believing the bodily resurrection of the dead; cf, Gillman 2000, pp. 101–142; Wright 2003, pp. 129–206 for the post-biblical Jewish view. The early church from patristic through medieval eras embraced bodily resurrection instead of Platonic immortality of the soul with regard to person eschatology (cf. Bynum 1995; Wright 2003, pp. 480–552).

[24] *Psalms of Solomon* 14.3 repeated with argument from 5.15; and 6.18 (Dunn 1998, pp. 152–153; Gathercole 2002; pp. 66–67; 2005, pp. 126–145. A similar case of continuing everlasting life is argued on the basis of Exodus 3:6, namely Yahweh is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, who must then be alive (Matthew 22:31–32; Mark 12:26–27; Luke 20:37–38; *Babylonian Talmud Sanhedrin* 90b).

[25] *2 Maccabees* 7.36; cf. *Psalms of Solomon* 3:11–12.

[26] *Testament of Asher* 5.2; translation following Gathercole (2002, p. 76) contrary to Charlesworth (1985, p. 818) "wards off death".

[27] 1QS 4.6–8; CD 3.20; 4Q181 3–4; *1 Enoch* 37.4; 40.4; 58:3; *4 Maccabees* 15:3; *Psalms of Solomon* 3.12; *Sibylline Oracles* 2.149–53; 3.49 frag.3.

[28] 1QH 3.10–22; 6.34; 11.**12**; 1QM 12.1–4.

[29] *Testament Joseph* 18.1; *Jubilees* 5.10; 10.17; 22.22; *2 Baruch* 48.22b; *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 3.11–16, 20–21; 7.5, 9; 13.11; 20.17, 25–27; 4Q228 frag. 1 1.9; 4Q266, frag. 11; 4QMMT C; 1QS 3.7–12.

[30] Psalm 16:1, 8–11 is taken by Peter and Luke in Acts 2:25 as fusing this psalm with 2 Samuel 7:12 to proclaim the necessity that David's greatest Son, Jesus must have risen (Acts 2:25–32), which argument reflects a similar fusion of Psalm 132 and 2 Samuel 7:10–16, which *4Q Florilegium* takes to be messianic; *Messianic Apocalypse* adds resurrection to a modification of Psalm 146:5–9 as a Messianic expectation to be done to others; *Ps. Sol.* 3.12; the *Eighteen Benedictions* present the Pharisees as believing the bodily resurrection of the dead.

Angels accompany God to gather the elect into Kingdom and gather the unrighteous for damnation.[31] The sound of a trumpet or *šophar* horn will signal their gathering (Joel 2:1; Zephaniah 1:16; Zechariah 9:14; 1 Chronicles 15:52; 1 Thessalonians 4:16)[32] much like it has called Jews to gather for Sabbath or other sacred occasions (Numbers 10:10; Joshua 6:5; 1 Kings 1:34; Psalm 81:3; Isaiah 27:13; Jeremiah 4:5).[33] This gathering is presented in similar language as the Jews being gathered from dispersion (Isaiah 27: 12–13).[34] This visual and audible coming indicates that redemption is near. Thus Jewish parables commonly emphasize wisdom for being alert unto Kingdom.[35] The righteous are then gathered into a Messianic banquet as a metaphor for Kingdom (Isaiah 25:6–9; Luke 14:15; 22:16–18; Revelation 19:9).[36] Kingdom is described as the best of all eras. For example, in Kingdom, animals will be at peace with humans and the animals prey in a condition that returns to a peaceful pre-Fall Eden environment (Isaiah 11:6–9).

Holy and Common

Holy (קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*) is an ontological metaphysical category that means **separate** (Gammie 1989, pp. 9–11; Kornfield 2003, 12:522; Naudé 1997, 3:877; Neusner and Chilton 1993, pp. 205–230, especially 205, 208, 211; McComiskey 1980, 2:786; Wilson 1994).[37] The system of the holy develops categories always applicable to the cult (Neusner 1980, p. 17). In Akkadian, *qadāšu* and *qadištu* are synonyms to clean or pure, while *qadsutu* means holy as set apart to god (Kornfield 2003, 12:524–525; Naudé 1997, 3:878; McComiskey 1980, 2:787). In Ugaritic, *qdš* means holy ontologically within the categories pertaining to god, such as shrine, priest, and cult prostitute (Naudé 1997, 3:878; McComiskey 1980, 2:787; Kornfield 2003, 12:524–525). Even the biblical concept retains קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš* as including Canaanite temple prostitutes as holy or set apart for their pagan worship (Genesis 38:21–22; Deuteronomy 23:17. So קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš* is not about morality but **an ontological category of being identified in relationship to God as separate or sacred**.

The antonym to holy is common (חֹל/*hl*, Leviticus 10:10, 1 Samuel 21:4–5; Ezekiel 22:26; 44:23) (Dommershausen 1980, 4:410–417; O'Kennedy 1997, 2:146–147; Wiseman 1980, 1:289–290). At times common can be identified with unclean as a synonym (Leviticus 10:10; Ezekiel 22:26; 44:23). However, חֹל/*hl* does not mean unclean because at times only clean objects are contemplated and the holy clean object is designated as distinct from the common clean object. The term common (חֹל/*hl*) usually occurs in comparisons designating what is not as set apart as that which is holy (קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*). For example, in Ezekiel's Temple a five foot wall is to be built around the Temple court marking off that holy area around the Temple from the common area further out (Ezekiel 42:20). Likewise, within the clean land a special area is ultimately set apart for the priests to dwell in as holy for their dwellings and a smaller portion is for common use near their dwellings (Ezekiel 48:11–12, 14–15). These are all the instances where חֹל/*hl* is used in the biblical text, which illustrates that קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš* does not really mean separate from a lesser level (as Rudolf Ott's *numinous* developed [Otto 1950] probably more reflective of a Kantian *noumena* metaphysical idea and followed by Mircea Eilade's sociological dualism informed by broad international religious practice) (Eliade 1961); קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš* means separate to its ontological level of being. These levels of being are separated to God as part of the chain of being in their appropriate closeness to God.

[31] Angels aid in the gathering of damned and elect (Jeremiah 51:53; *1 Enoch* 1.6–9; 54.6; 62.11; 63.1 *Apocalypse of Elijah* 3.4; *Asccension of Isaiah* 4.14; *4 Ezra* 4.26–37; 9.17; *2 Baruch* 70.1–2; *Babylonian Baba Mesi'a* 83b; *Midrash of the Psalms* on. 8:1). Additionally, Gabriel blows the *šophar* for gathering into Kingdom (*Questions of Ezra* B 11; Gk. *Apocalypse of Ezra* 4.36). Normally second Temple Judaism either has a damnation that destroys (*2 Maccabees* 12.43–45; 1 QS 4.13–14; *Genesis Rabah* 6.6; *Tosefta Sanhedrin* 13.3–4; *Pesiqta de Rab Kahana* 10.4;*Pesiqta Rabbati* 11.5) or a view of temporality in hell then released (*Numbers Rabah* 18.20; some texts are often taken this way but are unclear: *Sirach* 7.16; *Sipre Numbers* 40.1.9; *Sipre Deuteronomy* 311.3.1; 357.6.7; *'Abot de Rabbi Nathan* 16 A; 32.69 B; 37.95 B; 12 months in hell is a familiar duration in Jewish second Temple texts [*Babylonian Talmud Šabbat* 33b; *Lamentations Rabbah* 1.11–21]). In the biblical text there is no dwelling on the punishment like the kind of sadism one finds in: *Apocalypse of Peter*; *Acts of Thomas* act 6; *Sibylline Oracles* 2.252–312; Tertullian, *De. spect.* 30; Dante Alighieri, *The Divine Comedy*, section 1 "Hell", cantos 1–34.

[32] *Psalms of Solomon* 11.1; *Didache* 16.6; *Apocalypse of Abraham* 31.1; *Shemoneh Esreh* benediction 10; *Questions of Ezra* B 11.9; Gk. *Apocalpyse of Ezra* 4.36; for texts of these cf. Davies and Allison (1997, 3:363).

[33] *Tosefta Sukkah* 411–12; 1QM; *Epistle of Jeremiah* 4.2; *Roš Haššanah* 26a.

[34] *Baruch* 4.36–37; *1 Enoch* 57.2; *Psalms of Solomon* 11.3. This is not just a re-gathering from the Assyrian and Babylonian captivity as Brant Pitre proposes (2005, pp. 4, 35–130), but of the continuing dispersion under any Gentile domination, including Greek, Roman and more recent as well.

[35] Similar parables to that of Matthew 25:1–13 and Luke 12:35–36 include those of Ben Zacchai occurs in *Babylonian Talmud Šabbat* 153a with wise and foolish invitees. This follows two parables which contrast the wise from the foolish in *Babylonian Talmud Šabbat* 152a and b. Likewise, in *Ecclesiates Rabbah* 3.9.1 there is a foolish traveler who did not seek the protection of a military post on his travels, when he could, so that once night fell and he was terrified, he was then refused. Sometimes, as in *Mekilta* on Exodus 19:17, God is presented as coming with fire to light the escort of a bridegroom.

[36] 1QSa or 1Q28a 2.11–12, 19–21; *'Abot* 3.16–17; 4.16; *Babylonian Talmud Berakot* 34b; *Babylonian Talmud Sanhedrin* 98b; *Genesis Rabbah* 62.2; *Exodus Rabbah* 45.6; 50.5; *Leviticus Rabbah* 13.3; *Numbers Rabbah* 13.2; *Ruth Rabbah* 5.6; *Canticles Rabbah* 1, 3.3, on Song of Songs 1:3; *Pesiqta Rabbah* 41.5; 48.3; *Babylonia Talmud Baba Bathra* 74b–75a; *Yalqut Shim'oni, Songs*, no. 988; *Sefer Eliahu, BBhM* 3.67; *Nistarot R. Shim'on ben Yohai*, *BhM* 3.80; *Pirqe Mashiah*, *BhM* 3.76–77; *S'udat Livyatan*, *BhM* 6.150–151; *Midrash Alpha Beta diR. Akiba, BhM* 3.33–34; *Midrash haN'elam*, *Zohar* 1.135b, 136a.

[37] *Sifra Qedošim Pereq* 11.21; *Šemini Pereq* 12.3.

Holy (קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*) **means separate as in a level of being**. The supreme example of holiness of being is that Yahweh is Himself holy and thus defines the standard of what holiness means, separate to His category of Being (Leviticus 11:44; 19:2; Numbers 20:12–13; 27:14; Isaiah 5:16; 6:3; 57:15). קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš* is even used as a synonym for the divine name (Isaiah 40:25). As "Holy One of Israel", God demonstrates Himself in judgment (Isaiah 1:4; 5:16, 24; 30:11; 31:1; 37:23; 47:4) and salvation (Isaiah 10:20; 12:6; 17:7; 29:19; 30:15; 40:25; 41:14, 16, 20; 43:3, 14–15; 45:11; 48:17; 49:7; 54:5; 57:15; 60:9, 14). All that is Yahweh is holy: He has a holy arm (Psalm 98:1; Isaiah 52:10), a holy word (Psalm 105:42), and a holy Spirit (Psalm 51:11; Isaiah 63:10). All that holy Yahweh touches is holy: the holy city (Isaiah 52:1), the holy mountain (Exodus 19:33; Isaiah 57:13), holy day (Isaiah 58:13), holy people Israel (Isaiah 11:9; 62:12; Ezekiel 28:22, 25), holy house (Isaiah 63:15; 64:11)[38] with holy courts (Isaiah 62:9; Ezekiel 42:20).

A very significant passage to define Yahweh as holy is Isaiah chapter six. Here Yahweh's holiness is in close connection to His Kingship. In contrast to the temporality and frailties of human rulers dying, Yahweh transcends far above them in His reign on the heavenly throne (Isaiah 6:1–2). The vision is so lofty that Isaiah does not describe Yahweh Himself but rather focuses on His regal glory with His holiness. Such regal glory is the majesty and splendor attendant upon the manifestation of God. The *seraphim*[39] (literally "glowing ones") accentuate Yahweh's separateness by calling out in a tripling of "holy" which should be understood as a Hebraic metaphor for the supremacy of holiness; "Holy, holy, holy is Yahweh of hosts" (Isaiah 6:2–6).[40] This later term for Yahweh, "*sebaoth*" indicates that He is the "General of His armies". In such a reign and executor of His warfare, He is supremely holy. Furthermore, the *seraphim* picture Yahweh's holiness, by covering their feet and faces with their wings. After seeing the vision, Isaiah's first utterance emphatically declares Yahweh to be the King (Isaiah 6:5) as he recoils in terror confessing his uncleanness and sin. Such fear and reverence is the proper response when confronted with the holiness of Yahweh (Isaiah 6:2–3, 5; 8:13). Yet it shows that while holiness is not essentially purity or morality, it can raise ritually appropriate issues like uncleanness, and the related issue of Isaiah's sin. This paper develops these issues embedded in Isaiah's confession under the relationship between: holy, clean and righteousness. Isaiah is ultimately aware of his own sin and the sin of Israel, and the gulf of their uncleanness which these cause between them and Yahweh. Yahweh's holiness extends to Isaiah graciously a glowing coal carried by a glowing one (*seraph*) for the purpose of cleansing and forgiveness much like the Akkadian lip purification ritual accomplished (Hurowitz 1989, pp. 39–89, especially the sources mentioned in note 26 on p. 49). With such cleansing and forgiveness obtained through an alternative to sacrifice, Isaiah no longer has terror before Yahweh. What is left is the fear of Yahweh that results in obedience without a fear of others (Isaiah 6:7–8; 8:12–13; 29:23). When Yahweh called for His messenger, Isaiah quickly responded. The message he was to declare as the messenger of the King was to harden Israel's heart, drawing the contrast further between Yahweh and His people. The end result of this activity would speed Yahweh's judging holiness to destroy rebellious Israel.

When Holy Yahweh established a relationship with Israel, then the relationship and Yahweh's personal holy presence demands Israel to be holy as well; "You shall be holy for I Yahweh your God am holy" (Leviticus 19:2; 11:44–45). Yahweh's holiness separates Israel to be metaphysically separate: "Thus you are to be holy to Me, for I Yahweh am holy; and have set you apart from the peoples to be Mine" (Leviticus 20:26). To enter into Yahweh's presence and to continue in Yahweh's presence as a relationship involving His benefits requires Israel to be holy (Exodus 19:10, 14; Numbers 11:18; Joshua 3:5; 1 Samuel 16:5; Joel 2:16). While holiness essentially is occupying a metaphysical separate level it shows itself by doing separate deeds, because each metaphysical level is separate for a purpose which reflects its level. To Israel, Yahweh commands, "You shall consecrate yourselves therefore and be holy for I am Yahweh your God and you shall keep My statutes and practice them; I am Yahweh Who sanctifies you" (Leviticus 20:7–8). Obedience to a morality does not render Israel holy but because they are separated by God to a relationship with Him, the implication for Israel is that they should obey His standards. The context develops which specifics identify Israel as set apart to Yahweh, such as faith (Deuteronomy 32:51), or not profaning Yahweh's name (Leviticus 22:32), or being ready to be involved in Yahweh's sacrifices (1 Samuel 16:5). Israel's obedience in Mosaic Covenant is with regard to holiness and the whole of the Mosaic Covenant command system (such as the Decalogue) is dependent upon and contained within holiness (Leviticus 19:2–37) (Milgrom 2001, pp. 1602–1603).[41]

[38] *Temple Scroll* 35:8–9; 46.9–12; 52,9.
[39] Possibly the same as "living creatures" and *cherubim* (Isaiah 37:16; Ezekiel 1:5, 13–22; 3:13; 10:1–22; 11:22; Revelation 4:6–9; 5:6; 6:1, 6; 7:11; 14:3; 15:7; 19:4).
[40] Second Temple Judaism sees God's holy dwelling in heaven (1QH 3.34; 1QM 12.1–2; 1QS 10.3; 1QS b 4.25).
[41] *Seder Eliyah Rabbah* 145; *Sipra Qedošim* par. 1.1; *Leviticus Rabbah* 24.5.

Furthermore, each respective group in relationship with Yahweh reflects appropriate standards which Yahweh tailors for them. For example, the Levites set themselves apart for their duties (1 Chronicles 15:12; 2 Chronicles 30:17; 31:18).

Holiness does not mean moral purity. For example, the garments that Aaron wore set him apart as the high priest, and yet garments have no intrinsic moral value; thus amoral holiness (Exodus 28:3). Yahweh is the One Who set Israel apart by His choice; not their works or lifestyle; holiness beneath morality (Exodus 31:13). An Israelite's separation could be defiled by a man dying close to him evidencing no immorality on his part, though he must start his separation again; amoral reduction of holiness to common (Numbers 6:11). The concept of morality is easily read into a passage like 2 Samuel 11:4, but it should be understood to say Bathsheba had to wait for a time to be legally pure from the "uncleanness" of the sex act. The issue was not her recovery from the sin of adultery, for which the punishment was death. In this context, the word had not yet come concerning David's forgiveness. Therefore, Bathsheba is immoral and becoming holy through the cleansing process. Additionally, idolatry is immoral yet the people are set apart for a sacred assembly for Baal; immoral holiness (2 Kings 10:20). As an adjective, קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš* refers to temple prostitutes separated to their pagan shrines for licentious Canaanite worship; immoral holiness (Genesis 38:21–22; Deuteronomy 23:17) (Kornfield 2003, 12:524–525; Naudé 1997, 3:878; McComiskey 1980, 2:787). Furthermore, the enemies of Judah were set apart by God for destruction and captivity; holy common immoral nations (Jeremiah 6:4; 22:7; 51: 27–28). Objects and times in themselves have no moral state which further helps to clarify that holy (קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*) does not mean morality. For example, Exodus 28:38 says that the holy things separated by Israel have iniquity transferred to them by the sin of Israel but that a small gold plate on the priest's turban takes the iniquity away (Exodus 28:36). Thus the idea of holy (קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*) does not include moral purity because these amoral objects cannot be in iniquity and morally pure at the same time and in the same manner.

Likewise, time can be set apart as holy; amoral holiness. In the creation God set the Sabbath apart as holy in that He stopped His creative work for that day (Genesis 2:3; Exodus 20:11; 31:17) and then called Israel to likewise consider and treat the Sabbath as holy by stopping from work (Exodus 20:8–11; 31: 13–17). Childs, connects Sabbath with the Tabernacle in the book of Exodus;

> The first account of the tabernacle closes with the Sabbath command (31:12ff.); the second account of its building begins with the Sabbath command (35:1ff.)… The connection between the Sabbath and the tabernacle is therefore an important one (Childs 1974, p. 541; Gammie 1989, p. 20).

This relationship is reflected within the holiness code, "You shall keep My Sabbaths and revere My sanctuary; I am Yahweh" (Leviticus 19:30).

Often holiness is described as being *set apart for a purpose.* For example, Jeremiah was chosen to be separate as a prophet of Yahweh (Jeremiah 1:5). Eleazar was chosen to be separate to keep the Ark (1 Samuel 7:1). The priests and Levites are chosen to be separate and then their duties are described (Exodus 19:22; 28:41; Leviticus 6:18, 27; 8:30; 21:8, 15, 23; Numbers 6:11; 1 Chronicles 18:14; 2 Chronicles 5:11; 26:1; 29:5, 34: 30:15, 24; 35:6; 44:19). Likewise food was set apart for the purpose of the priests and Levites to eat (Nehemiah 12:47). Leviticus 27:14–19 and 22 identify vows setting apart a field or a house in *corban* for a purpose. This instruction on vows rendering things holy includes a clause by which the giver may redeem them for one-fifth of the market price. In such a situation the amoral becomes holy and then common without reference to morality or cleanness, so that purposefully holy is separate from each of these. Furthermore, Deuteronomy 22:9 urges the farmer to only sow one kind of seed in a field lest he must separate the produce of the field; the issue is practicality rather than morality.

These separate categories of holiness have gradation to them. This gradation is evident as Moses functioning as high priest consecrates the priests (Exodus 29; Leviticus 8) and as pattern for the prophets and judges to follow (Deuteronomy 18: 15–18). Additionally, the gradation is evident by the High Priest having stricter obligation regarding cleanness than other priests (Leviticus 21:1–15). Also deformed priests still have rights to eat food for priests as holy which others can't have, though in their deformed condition they are prevented from priestly service as common (Leviticus 21:16–24). Likewise, the first born are separate as God's possession (Exodus 13:2; Leviticus 27:26; Numbers 3:13; 8:17; Deuteronomy 15:19) but the Levites substitute for the first born as a separate group for tabernacle service (Numbers 8:14–19). The priests and Levites have a greater access to the tabernacle and a great danger so they must receive danger pay (a tithe) for taking greater risk to keep Israel from being judged (Numbers 17:12–18:32). The people tithe to priests and Levites; Levites tithe to priests but priests do not tithe to anyone higher, indicating categories of separateness.

Philip Jenson proposed a grading of holiness to reflect a gradation from: very holy to very unclean (Jenson 1992, pp. 36–37). For example, his category of very holy (קֹדֶשׁ קָדָשִׁים) includes: the holy of holies, high priest, sacrificial animals offered and not eaten

and the Day of Atonement. However clear his system happens to be, His categories don't quite fit the biblical textual description. For example, this category of the very holy (קֹדֶשׁ קָדָשִׁים) is broader than he describes it and the use of קֹדֶשׁ קָדָשִׁים describes a comparison with others things in the context, much like the word for holy (קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*) alone functions. The Holy of Holies is definitely very holy (קֹדֶשׁ קָדָשִׁים, Exodus 26:33–34; 1 Kings 6:16; 7:50; 8:6; 1 Chronicles 6:49 [39]; 2 Chronicles 3:8, 10) but so are the incense altar, all tabernacle furniture, place for priests to eat sacrifice portions, everything designated *Corban*, and the Kingdom Temple site and Levite's promised land (Exodus 30:10; 40:10; Leviticus 24:9; 27:28; Numbers 4:19; Ezekiel 43:12; 45:3; 48:12). The very holy (קָדָשִׁים קֹדֶשׁ) includes Moses, Aaron and his sons and Aaron's garments (Exodus 30:29; 1 Chronicles 23:13). The category of very holy (קֹדֶשׁ קָדָשִׁים) includes all priestly daily activity: including specifically the daily offerings (burnt, guilt, grain, incense) some of which are eaten by the priests but not by the people (Exodus 29:37; 30:36; Leviticus 6:17 [10], 29 [22]; 25 [18]; 7:1, 6; 10:12, 17; 14:13; Numbers 4:4; 18:9; Nehemiah 7:65). So Jenson's categories are too conceptually rigid and don't reflect the use of the Hebrew words. Additionally, the previous paragraph developed additional levels of holy (such as deformed priests) which Jenson's scheme does not take into account. Furthermore, Jenson conceived of holy and clean as merely separate levels of the same thing, which the word studies here show otherwise.

A superior gradation scheme was presented before him by Gordon Wenham that reflects that holiness and clean are related but not exactly the same kind of gradations (Milgrom 1991a, p. 732; Wenham 1979, p. 177; 1982, p. 123).[42] This discussion in the present chapter follows Wenham's categorization of the gradations in holy and clean as we attempt to reflect more accurately the Hebrew and the biblical text. On the chart on page one the concept of holy (קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*) is a category of comparison which marks any separate column to the left apart from any of the columns to the right. As such, some columns are listed as both holy and as common. For example, Levites are common compared to priests but holy compared to Israel. On the chart, the columns described as common have biblical texts using חֻל/*ḥl* to indicate them. Likewise, each column described as holy is also indicated biblically by קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*.

Separateness (קֹדֶשׁ/*qdš*) of gradation also has to do in categories we are in the West do not normally consider religious but they are identified as holy in the ancient Near East. For example, David and his warriors are separate for military purposes (1 Samuel 21:5; Isaiah 13:3; Jeremiah 6:4; 22:7; 51:27–28; Joel 3:9; Micah 3:5). This reminds us that in the ancient Near East war is a holy activity engaged in for God.

While holiness is a category of being, holiness is also something dynamic (Milgrom 2001, pp. 1397, 1602–1604). In such a dynamic condition, holiness is something that Israel must attain (Leviticus 19:2; 21:8 Septuagint 22:32), and priests must sustain (Leviticus 21:15; 22:16). Israel is to obtain holiness after the pattern that Yahweh is holy, so Israel is to live a distinctive life reflecting Yahweh's commands (Leviticus 19:2; 21:8 Septuagint 22:32).[43] Likewise, *Sipra Emor* 1.13 interprets Leviticus 21:8 as Israel is responsible for keeping the priests holy in regard to a forbidden marriage (Milgrom 2001, pp. 1808–1809). Furthermore, God continues to retain the priests in their respective holiness if they refrain from diminishing their holiness by acts of desecration (Leviticus 19:2–4, 9–18, 34; 20:8; 22:18, 32) (Milgrom 2001, pp. 1820–1821).

The extremes of holiness can be said to be contagious in the reverse of defilement from that which is unclean (Exodus 30:29; Leviticus 6:11). Menahem Haran describes persons and objects as included within this contagious holiness.

> Any person or object coming into contact with the altar (Exodus 29:37) or any of the articles of the tabernacle furniture (30:29) becomes "holy", that is, contracts holiness and, like the tabernacle appurtenances themselves, becomes consecrated… But contagious holiness … cannot be removed from a person or object… Complete avoidance of all contact with this holiness is an absolute necessity, for anyone who contacts it is liable to meet immediate death at the hands of heaven. Indeed, the Kohathites are explicitly warned not to touch the furniture lest they die (Numbers 4:15). An object that has contracted holiness must be treated in exactly the same way as the tabernacle furniture and all steps should be taken to prevent it affecting other objects. The censors belonging to Korah and his company which had come into contact with the altar became holy like the altar itself and henceforth their holiness could not be removed (Haran 1978, p. 176).

However, Jacob Milgrom more accurately acknowledges this contagious holiness only with regard to things, it does not induce persons into a higher category of holiness (Milgrom 2001, pp. 1820–1821). As such, an Israelite is not rendered especially holy by eating food for priests, instead such a sin puts the nation at risk under judgment from God (Leviticus 22:14–16). Additionally, Joab and Adonijah were not rendered more holy by grabbing a horn of the altar but rather they were even killed by sword

[42] Such gradation is also supported in the rabbinics (*Babylonian Talmud Me'ilah* 8b on *Mishnah Me'ilah* 2.1).

[43] *Numbers Rabbah* 10.1; *Leviticus Rabbah* 24.6; *Jerusalem Tractates Yebamot* 2.4; *Babylonian Talmud Yebamot* 20a; *Sipra Šemini* 12.3; *Sipra Qedošim*, par. 1.1.

as a judgment from Yahweh and Solomon for their continuing treasonous activity (1 Kings 1:50–52; 2:23–25, 28–33). However, the tabernacle furniture has been anointed with holy oil (Exodus 29:36; 30: 22–29; 40:9–11; Leviticus 8:10–11; Numbers 7:1, 10) and Aaron and his sons were likewise anointed (Exodus 28:41; 30:30; 40:13–15; Leviticus 7:36). Thus activity around the especially holy could be only performed by priests who were likewise holy. For example, when Korah's censers were beaten into sheets for plating the outer altar it was Eleazar, son of Aaron who did this with other priests but not the Levites nor common Israelites (Numbers 17:2–5). Likewise, the priests had to cover and prepare the tabernacle furniture and then the Kohathites were allowed to carry them but not look at them (Numbers 4:5–20).

Second Temple Judaism saw God's commitment to Israel as a real presence in the holy land and thus grounded their everlasting existence in the land on this divine commitment to His holy people.[44] Recognition and alignment with the appropriate degree of holiness is how the Jew should respond under God's rule.[45] Yahweh both grounds Israel's holy condition in the everlasting Kingdom and cultivates their morality for He will lead His holy people in righteousness.[46]

Clean and Unclean

Clean (טָהֵר/*ṭhr*) is a measure of what is **cultic appropriate** in light of one's relationship with Yahweh, in contrast to unclean (טָמֵא/*ṭm'*) which is **inappropriate for the cult** (Leviticus 10:10; 11:47; 14:57; 20:25; Numbers 5:28; Deuteronomy 12:15, 22; 15:22; Job 14:45; Ecclesiastes 9:2; Ezekiel 22:26; 44:23). Clean (טָהֵר/*ṭhr*) occurs 212 times in the Old Testament with a concentration in Leviticus and Numbers (93 times for 44%), Exodus 33 times for 16%), and Ezekiel (31 times for 14%) (Neusner 1973, p. 26).[47] Unclean (טָמֵא/*ṭm'*) occurs 283 times in the Old Testament with a concentration in Leviticus and Numbers (182 times for 65%), and Ezekiel (44 times for 16%). Jacob Neusner develops that they have to do with an **ontological ritual purity** (Neusner 1973, p. 1).[48] As such, clean is that part of the Hebraic worldview that has to do with one's relationship to metaphysical purity for cultic purposes. However, in later prophets this ontological condition shows that it is significantly affected by morality in Covenant as well. That is, sometimes unclean is sin and oftentimes it is not but uncleanness always keeps something or someone from being connected in a cultic relationship with Yahweh. Furthermore, while rebellious sin causes such uncleanness, not all uncleanness is caused by sin. So captivities and dispersions are caused by rebellion drawing Israel into unrecoverable uncleanness.

Throughout the ancient Near East there are cognates and synonyms that identify observable and regionally clean or cultic appropriateness (Averbeck 1997, 2:339; Yamauchi 1980, 1:343; Ringgren 1986, 5:288–290). While the Egyptian idea may be rooted in washing for ceremonial purposes; the Mesopotamian, Ugarit, and Hittite idea is more related to unmixed purity and brilliance. In observational use, the Hebrew טָהֵר/*ṭhr* describes a pavement made of sapphire as "clear and gleaning" as the sky (Exodus 24:10). Likewise טָהֵר/*ṭhr* describes the gold as "pure" for building the tabernacle, tabernacle furniture, and Temple (Exodus 25:11–39; 28:14–36; 30:3, 35; 31:8; 37:2–24; 39: 15–37; Leviticus 24:4–7; 1 Chronicles 28:17; 2 Chronicles 3:4; 9:17; Job 28:19).[49] This use of טָהֵר/*ṭhr* indicates that the word conveys a metaphysically real quality of cultic appropriateness. Likewise, the incense burned there must be pure (טָהֵר/*ṭhr*, Exodus 30:35; 37:29). In fact, Malachi 3:3 uses the piel of טָהֵר/*ṭhr* twice for purifying precious metals and then metaphorically for purifying the Levites, so that they might function appropriately in the cult.

Jacob Neusner develops that clean (טָהֵר/*ṭhr*) and unclean (טָמֵא/*ṭm'*) are neither hygienic nor with regard to dirtiness.

> Purity and impurity–ṬHR and ṬM'—are not hygienic categories and do not refer to observable cleanness or dirtiness. The words refer to a status in respect to contact with a source of impurity and the completion of acts of purification from that impurity. If you touch a reptile, you may not be dirty, but you are unclean. If you undergo a ritual immersion, you may not be free of dirt, but you are clean. A corpse can make you unclean, though it may not make you dirty. A rite of purification involving sprinkling of water mixed with ashes of a red heifer probably will not remove a great deal of dirt, but it will remove impurity (Neusner 1973, p. 1).

Some animals are appropriate for sacrifice and thus they are identified as "clean" (טָהֵר/*ṭhr*, Genesis 8:20; 7:2, 8). The remains of the sacrifice ashes should be disposed of in a ritually clean place outside

[44] *Temple Scroll* 48.7, 10; 51.8.10; 1QH 4.25; 7.10; 1QM 3.4; 1QS 2.25; 5.13, 20; 8.17–23; 9.8; 1QSa 1.12; 2.9; *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 20.2, 5, 7, 24; *Testament of Job* 33. 4–7; *Testament of Daniel* 5.11–13.
[45] For example, *Sifra* 207.2.11, 13.
[46] *Psalms of Solomon* 17.21–28; *Jubilees* 15:30–31.
[47] Neusner independently confirms these concentrations and percentages.
[48] Extending this Josephus' works (*Against Apion* 2.203; *Jewish Antiquities* 3.266–8; 18.117–8) and Philo (*Every Good Man is Free* 4; *On the Cherubim* 94–5; *The Worse Attacks the Better* 20) view clean and unclean through a Platonic worldview affecting the ontology of the soul, but Neusner does not embrace such Platonism but rather ties it to more of an ontological geometry of the real (p. 16); cf. Wilson 1993; Harrington 1993b.
[49] 1QM 5.10–12.

of the camp (Leviticus 4:12; 6:11; 10:14). Yahweh provided instruction for Aaron and the priests to be thoroughly versed in what is holy and common, and what is clean and unclean so that they might not die as they approach Yahweh in the tabernacle (Leviticus 10:6, 9–11). The priests are to extend this instruction on to the rest of Israel so that the people would have full obedience to the Law. In the ancient Near East meat was not normally part of their diet but as part of a sacrifice, ritually clean (טָהֹר/*thr*) meat cut from a sacrifice that had not touched unclean (טָמֵא/*tm'*) objects are available for clean (טָהֹר/*ṭhr*) Israelites to eat (Leviticus 5:2; 7:19, 21).

Moses and Aaron were to instruct Israel concerning which animals were appropriate for them to eat, presumably during festivals (Leviticus 11 proximity to sacrifices, Leviticus 1–10 and specific instruction given to Aaron as proxy-priest Leviticus 10:8; 11:1; 13:1; 15:1), since a later discussion in Deuteronomy 12:15–22 for secular slaughter of meat permits unclean humans to partake of clean meat in contexts removed from the tabernacle. However, during the festivals Israel's meat is likely not all offered in sacrifice since the list includes fish, which is never included as sacrifice. In Leviticus 11 and more briefly in Deuteronomy 14 the emphasis shifts from that which is clean (טָהֹר/*thr* as in sacrifice) to that which is unclean (טָמֵא/*tm'*), so that Israel does not defile themselves but remain consecrated (טָהֹר/*ṭhr*) for purposes of the festival in their appropriate category of holiness (Leviticus 11:44–47; 20:25–26). Since Israel surrounding the Tabernacle during the exodus is akin to when they will be on pilgrimage and campaign, the purpose of this discussion is to preserve Israel as holy and clean so that they may participate within the festival and battle camp.[50]

Leviticus describes all animals within four categories (while Deuteronomy strikes the last category) that encompass all animal kind: beasts, water creatures, birds, and crawling things (like rodents, lizards, and insects). Among the clean beasts are ruminants with cloven hooves. The clean water creatures have fins and scales. The winged creatures simply list 20 or 21 forbidden unclean birds. Deuteronomy forbids flying insects but Leviticus permits hopping insects like locust but forbids all swarming creatures. The fact that specific animals are chosen to be included and others excluded indicates טָהֹר/*thr* functions on a metaphysical level of being (Neusner 1994, pp. 56–59; Neusner and Chilton 1993, pp. 205–230). Neusner summarizes the ontological status of uncleanness.

> What this means is that uncleanness comes about through natural processes; its sources are unaffected by human will and not subject to culpability; uncleanness is not the result of voluntary action, therefore considerations of responsibility and blame do not enter, and moral judgments are not to be drawn because they are irrelevant. Uncleanness is an ontological taxon, not a moral one; it indicates what one may or may not do, where one may or may not go (Neusner 1994, p. 54).

That is, uncleanness prevents appropriate participation at the Temple and in the festivals, which cleanness permits.

A variety of theories try to make sense of the kosher lists: (1) the *hygienic* view that at least goes back to Maimonides in banning things that hold risks of parasites if inappropriately cooked but there is no hint of this explanation in the context (Albright 1968, pp. 175–181).[51] However, many appropriate animals if not prepared correctly could affect a person so the list of exclusions is not driven by that motivation. Additionally, there is no hygienic reason for including within the kosher list God's permission for resident aliens eating road kill banned from Jewish diet (Deuteronomy 14:21). Furthermore, illness is not treated pragmatically in Judaism, but rather such disease is seen as either inevitable or as a result of disobedience (Leviticus 26:25; Numbers 11:33; 12:10). (2) *Cult-polemic* theories (which go back to Origen) propose to forbid those animals sacrificed in pagan rituals which might represent deities.[52] However, most of the animals sacrificed in Israel were offered in Canaanite and Egyptian rituals as well, some of which are similar to pagan deities. Furthermore, this view can't explain the exclusion of camel, donkey, rabbit, and horse (Milgrom 1991a, p. 718). (3) In contrast, E.B. Firmage, and W.J. Houston, and M. Harris float the reverse, identifying the clean with *similarity to context sacrifices* or *food* eaten or *local ecology* (Firmage 1990, pp. 177–208; Harris 1977, 1985; Houston 1993, pp. 124–180).[53] However, in the context the pig and dog were both eaten by a few and sacrificed to underworld deities, so both views (2) and (3) fail to account for these pagan inclusions, though of these two views view (3) is closer to the biblical list (Houston 2003, pp. 328, 330;

[50] The rabbis later recognize many of these restrictions from uncleanness were only especially relevant during pilgrimage, festivals, and involvement with the Temple (for example, 1QS 6.16, 22, 25; *Babylonian Talmud Roš Haššanah.* 16b; *Sipra Šemini* 4.8–9), as well as within battle camp so that holy war may be unhindered (Deuteronomy 23:9–14; 1QM7.6).

[51] Maimonides, *Guide for the Perplexed* 3.48.

[52] Origen, *Contra Celsum* 4.93.

[53] While not agreeing with either of these views, Jacob Milgrom acknowledges that the composition of Leviticus 11 transitions from diet to purification sacrifice in the text (Milgrom 1991b, pp. 182–191).

Milgrom 1991a, pp. 650–652). Furthermore, ecological constraints have been shown to not produce cultural forms (Keesing and Strathern 1998, pp. 125–127). (4) *Moral theories* go back to Philo who proposed to imitate contemplation (illustrated by cud chewing ruminants), eschew violence of predatory animals, and restrain luxury (illustrated by the pig excluded as repulsive among most of the ancient New Eastern context).[54] Whatever value such moral theories propose they do not explain much of the list. (5) A related view (proposed by the *Epistle of Barnabus* and resurrected by Jacob Milgrom) attempts to *respect life* by the severe limitation on the species permitted but he has not adequately replied to the criticism that there is no restriction on the quantity of meat eaten, as well as not giving specific guidance on why these animals were permitted.[55] (6) M. Douglas modified this view to *teach justice* by protecting the weak swarming things, but there is no sufficient rationale for why the weak birds are permitted and the hopping insects too (Douglas 1993, pp. 3–23; 1999, pp. 152–175). (7) She also leads the proposal for these patterns reflecting deep mental *structuralism*[56] but the view did not provide a consistent explanation for the anomalies so she has modified the view to reflect (8) *covenant versus creation* but this model breaks down because the "swarmers" are to be avoided even though they are the best evidence for the principle of fertility (Douglas 1999, p. 134–175). (9) These last several character options are similar to another, that of *completeness*: fish with fins, birds with wings.[57] However, this view is arbitrary with no rationale for why these descriptions constitute completeness, and again the pig and many of the birds are complete on such a description but are still viewed as unclean. (10) The *Leviticus Rabbah* 12.5.9 proposed that the animals were an *apocalyptic polemic* against nations around Israel (Neusner 1991, pp. 81–84),[58] and Clement of Alexandria argues that it is a *polemic against unclean Judaism* in favor of the church.[59] However, these views completely ignore two facts: (a) many of these nations and Christianity did not exist in the time of the biblical revelation of these lists and (b) the resilience of kosher practice informing Jewish lifestyle shows that the primary Jewish interpretation applied the passage to diet not international or spiritual polemic (Daniel 1:8–16; Acts 10:10–16; 11:2–3).[60] Since all these models are at odds with either themselves, or the biblical evidence, or the facts from the ancient Near Eastern culture, (11) I am left with the rationale for the clean animals being *God's fiat* for the purpose of preserving Israel as holy and clean (Leviticus 11:44–47). That is, Israel must be preserved as separate and appropriate for the functioning of their cultic relationship with Yahweh. This rationale was proposed early by Rabbinic theology and continues by Jacob Milgrom (Milgrom 1991a, pp. 686–688).[61] While I acknowledge that the closest pattern is the majority ancient Near Eastern diet (view 3b), there are unique features here with no explained reason, so the Israelite should just trust God by faith and obey the list He declares. Furthermore, sacrificial clean meat can even become unclean by delaying in eating it (Leviticus 7:18; 19:7 and probably Ezekiel 4:14; is this a factor of view 1 or just view 11 again?). If an Israelite is in doubt about whether an animal is clean or unclean, the priest is to decide its status based on this revelation statement indicating that God's fiat takes primary direction (view 11; Leviticus 27:11–12, 26–27; Numbers 18:15). Expanding this process, Pharisaic and the Rabbinic theology expanded this kosher pattern beyond the presented lists to retain ritual cleanness during everyday life (Acts 11:2–3).[62]

An additional feature to notice is that the animals created on day six that are not to be eaten are merely "unclean", whereas, the animals created on day five not to be eaten are lower than unclean, they are "detestable" (Leviticus 11:4–43). Thus an ontological creation hierarchy (or chain of being elevating land animals over those of air and water) is retained among the kosher lists that might have been set up in the Creation account (elevating animals of day six creation over those animals created on day five).

Being "unclean" essentially means being in a metaphysical condition of inappropriateness for cult participation. Such uncleanness is not sin for the condition may be caused naturally without doing any inappropriate deed. For example, a human with scale disease or leprosy, or a mildew on a garment or house is not caused by deeds (Leviticus 13:3–14:57). Such a condition simply presents itself and needs to be noticed and appropriately acted upon or it excludes

[54] Philo, *On the Special Laws* 4.103, 116–8; *Letter of Aristeas* 136–69 especially 153–4; *Epistle of Barnabus* 10 against carnivores and adultery from the misinformed view that the hyena changes its gender as it ages so that Barnabus considers it an adulterer. Milgrom (1991, pp. 650–652) argues against this view; the pig is here declared unclean but did not become especially abhorrent until after the eating of pork became the test of loyalty to Judaism in Hellinistic times (*2 Maccabees* 6.18).
[55] *Epistle of Barnabus* 10; Milgrom 1991, p. 635; contrary to that Firmage 1990, p 195, no. 24.
[56] Douglas 1973; 1975a, b, pp. 249–275, 276–318; 1996 contrary to that Milgrom 1991, pp. 719–731.
[57] In discussions this view was held by John Walton in the mid 1990s.
[58] *Leviticus Rabbah* 12.5.9.
[59] Clement of Alexandria, *Stromata* 7.18.
[60] *Tobit* 1.9–12; 4.12–13; Septuagint version of Esther 4:17; *2 Maccabees* 7 especially 7.9 and 8.2; cf. *4 Maccabees* 1.8, 10.
[61] *Letter of Aristeas* 142–169; *Sipra Qedošim* 11.22; *Sipra Ahare* 13.10.
[62] *Tobit* 1.9–12; 4.12–13; Septuagint version of Esther 4:17; *2 Maccabees* 7 especially 7.9 and 8.2; cf. *4 Maccabees* 1.8, 10.

people from cultic participation. In this, the priest tries to determine the nature of the metaphysical condition. If the priest appraises a person as unclean then the unclean person is isolated outside the exodus camp with a weekly reappraisal until the healing begins. If a priest appraises an object as unclean then it is thoroughly scoured to cleanse it. If a priest considers a person or object as perpetually unclean then that person must dwell perpetually outside the camp (Leviticus 13:3, 45–46; 14:8–11; Numbers 5:2–4)[63] and perpetually unclean objects must be destroyed as inappropriate. Such severity about living outside the camp reflects that the exodus camp is as though Israel is perpetually on pilgrimage, being in close proximity to the tabernacle and the functioning cult. While all Jewish teaching excluded such unclean from the Temple and cult, once Israelites spread out throughout the land, the leper could live within the lands since they were later permitted to attend synagogue (for example, 2 Chronicles 23:19) (Yadin 1977–1983, 1:277–343).[64] However, lepers were a social and religious pariah, needing to avoid social settings and to call out "unclean, unclean" so that other Israelites would not touch them inadvertently and become themselves unclean (Leviticus 5:3; 13:11, 33, 45–46; Numbers 5:2–4; 1 Samuel 20:26).[65] Additionally, the leper was to have torn clothes and disheveled hair, which are the signs of mourning a death (Leviticus 10:6; 13:45–46).[66] In this case, the leper is mourning his own death because such illnesses draw the victim into the shadow land between life and death. A further example is Miriam who in her leprosy is compared to a still birth half decomposed and she in her cleansing is treated for impurity as having been in contact with a corpse (Numbers 12:12) (Frymer-Kensky 1983, pp. 399–414, especially p. 400).

Uncleanness is a communicable disease which is transferred by touch and close proximity. For example, contact with the blood of birth or menstruation or with bodily discharges renders one ontologically unclean (Leviticus 12:2; 15:2–33; Deuteronomy 23:10; Ezekiel 22:10; Luke 2:22–23). In such a condition, Jesus and Mary were cleansed from their uncleanness according to the Law, and obviously neither had sinned in the birthing process to become unclean (Luke 2:22–23). Humans and animals that even ignorantly touch or eat an unclean thing become unclean and continue to communicate uncleanness by touch to other things (Leviticus 5:2–3; 7:19–21; 11:4–8, 24, 39, 44, 47; 15:4–12, 19–27; 17:15; 18:19; 20:25; 22:4–8; Numbers 19:11, 16, 22: Haggai 2:12–13).[67] In fact, on rare occasions like the death of a human within a tent, everyone who enters the tent and all open vessels in the tent are rendered unclean as by an airborne contaminant (Numbers 19:14–15).[68] Such transferability of uncleanness renders the derived unclean object unclean by proximity by often not as unclean as the source. For example, sometimes the source is permanent in uncleanness like the dead or a kind of animal. Other times, the remedy of an unclean source may be just more severe (like washings, seven days and two sacrifices) than the remedy of derived uncleanness (washing and one day, Leviticus 15:4–27). However, various instances of derived uncleanness from the same source are equally unclean with the same remedy. Whereas, there are different levels of derived uncleanness as evident by touching a dead body requires seven days to remedy and touching an unclean thing requires one day to remedy (Numbers 19:11–12; Leviticus 15:4–27).[69] However, there are some things (like clay pots and stoves) that have an especially porous quality with regard to uncleanness and can never be purified so they must be destroyed to remove their uncleanness (Leviticus 11:33–35; 15:12). In contrast, there are some things (like water and seed) that have an especially resistant quality with regard to uncleanness, such that even a dead body touching them does not render them unclean (Leviticus 11:36–37).

The rabbis present uncleanness as communicable through a spiritual process akin to demonization for those pagans who have such within their worldviews but for a Jewish audience with a fuller biblical worldview, the communicability of uncleanness is merely grounded in the declaration of God. For example, Rabban Yohanan to the pagans says, "a man who is defiled by contact with a corpse—he, too, is possessed by a spirit, the spirit of uncleanness."[70] However, his Jewish disciples recognized that this was a simplistic answer so they asked him again to explain communicable uncleanness. To the Jewishly

[63] *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 13.5–6; 11QT 46.16–18; 48.14–17; 4QThrA1 1–3; 4QMMT 71–72; *Babylonian Talmud 'Arakim* 15b–16a; *Leviticus Rabbah* 17.3; *Mishnah Nega'im* 3.1; 4.7–10; *Sifra Mishnah Nega'im* 1.1; *Mishna Kil'ayim* 1.7; *Babylonian Talmud Yoma* 16a, 30b.
[64] *Mishnah Nega'im;* Strack and Billerback 1922, 4.752; 11QTS 45–53.
[65] *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association*15.7–8; 11QT 45.17–46.2; 48.14–49.4; *Mishnah Nega'im* 3.1; 11.1; 12.1; 13.6–12; Josephus' works, *Against Apion* 1.31; *Targum on 2 Chronicles* 26.21; Strack and Billerback 1922, 4.745–63.
[66] 4QThrA1 3; *Sipra Nega'im* 12.12–13; *Babylonian Talmud 'Arakim* 16b; *Babylonian Pesahim* 67a; Josephus' works, *Jewish Antiquities* 3.264; *Against Apion* 1.281.
[67] *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 7.3; 4QThrA1 4–5; *Mishnah Zabim* 2.4; 5.6
[68] 11QT 49.5–7; 11–17; *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 12.15–18; *Mishnah Kil'ayim* 2.1; 11.2; *Mishnah 'Ohalot* 5.5; *Sifre Numbers* 126[162]; *Babylonian Talmud Mo'ed Qatan* 15b. Furthermore, the dead are not to be buried within a wall city or it renders the city unclean (11QT 48.11–14; *Mishnah Kil'ayim* 1.7).
[69] 11QT 47.7–18; 49.5–7; 11–17; 50.4–9; 51.1–5; 52.13–21; *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 12.15; *Mishnah Kil'ayim* 1.5; 2.1; 11.2; *Mishnah 'Ohalot* 5.5; *Mishnah 'Eduyyot* 6.3; *t. 'Eduyyot* 2.10; *Sifre Numbers* 126[162]; 127[165]; *Babylonian Talmud Mo'ed Qatan* 15b; *Palestinian Targums Numbers* 19:13, 16; *Mishnah Hullin* 9.1, 5; *Mishnah Teharot* 1.4; *Mishnah Zabim* 5.3. Furthermore, the dead are not to be buried within a wall city or it renders the city unclean (11QT 48.11–14; *Mishnah Kil'ayim* 1.7).
[70] Rabban Yohanan, *Pesiqta de Rab. Kahana* 4.7.

informed Rabban Yohanan indicated that defilement and cleansing were ultimately grounded in God.

> By your lives, I swear: the corpse does not have the power by itself to defile, nor does the mixture of ash and water have the power by itself to cleanse. The truth is that purifying power of the Red Cow is a decree of the Holy One. The Holy One said: "I have set it down as a statute, I have it as a decree. You are not permitted to transgress my decree. 'This is the statute of the Torah (Numbers 19:1).'"[71]

So once again, within a Jewish worldview, the concepts of clean and unclean are held in metaphysical place by God's power and fiat.

Uncleanness also affects the Temple and cult as an airborne contaminant. Jacob Milgrom led a reappraisal of the effect of the concept of ontological uncleanness through his metaphor of the picture of Dorian Gray. The Oscar Wilde novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* portrays an individual adventurer who did not age or suffer the consequences of his adventures, for they all were marked upon his picture until the two met in his self destruction (Wilde 1890). One may say of the priestly picture of Dorian Gray, uncleanness may not leave its mark on the face of the unclean but it is certain to mark the face of the sanctuary; and unless it is quickly expunged, God's presence will depart.[72]

For Israel to ignore this warning and to become unclean defiles the tabernacle putting themselves at risk to be cut off in covenant curse (Leviticus 15:31; Numbers 19:13).[73] This defilement of tabernacle penetrates to defile the holy place and altar as well (Leviticus 16:16, 18; Numbers 19:20). For example, high-handed unrepentant sin, such as refusing to purify oneself after touching a dead body defiles both tabernacle and the holy place (Numbers 19:13, 20). Some might think that the tabernacle and the holy place are interchangeable on the basis of Numbers 19:13, 20 but they are better to be seen as different aspects of the tabernacle as is apparent in Leviticus 16:16–20 where the effect of uncleanness is developed again and the holy place, the tent of meeting and the altar are all distinguished. In recognizing this, Jacob Milgrom presents uncleanness defiling the tabernacle in three stages (Milgrom 1990, pp. 445–446). (1) The individual's inadvertent misdemeanor or severe physical impurity defiles the courtyard altar, which is cleansed by daubing its horns with the blood of the purification offering (Leviticus 4:25, 30; 99:9). (2) The inadvertent misdemeanor of the High Priest or the entire community pollutes the Shrine, which is purged by the high Priest placing the purification offering blood on the inner altar and before the veil that divides the Holy place from the Holy of Holies (Leviticus 4:5–7, 16–18). (3) High handed, unrepentant sin not only pollutes the outer altar and penetrates into the Holy place, but also pierces the veil to the Holy of Holies and the holy ark, the throne of God on earth (Leviticus 16:16; Numbers 19:20; Isaiah 37:16). Since the high handed, rebellious sinner is barred from bringing a purification offering (Numbers 15:27–31), the uncleanness wrought by his offense must await the cleansing of the sanctuary on the Day of Atonement, which consists of two steps; the cleansing of the tent, and the cleansing of the outer altar, and the people the atonement (Leviticus 16: 16–19, 30). Thus all that is most holy is cleansed on the Day of Atonement with purification offering blood. Thus, the graduated cleansings of the sanctuary lead to the conclusion that the severity of sin and uncleanness varies in direct relation to depth of its penetration into the sanctuary as shown in Milgrom's diagram (Milgrom 1990, p. 50; 1991a, p. 258) shown in Fig. 2.

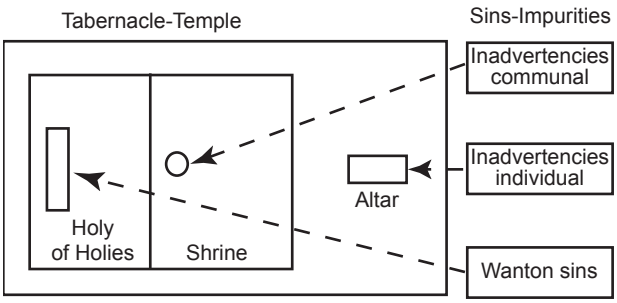

Fig. 2. Diagram of sanctuary contamination.

Milgrom summarizes this Sanctuary contamination through three laws. (1) *"Sancta contamination varies directly with the charge (holiness) of the sanctuary, the charge of the impurity, and inversely with the distance between them"* (Milgrom 1992, pp. 137–146, especially p. 142). This law is an application by Milgrom of Mesopotamian contamination of the cult through airborne impurity. However, Yahweh's cult is extremely holy, so it is highly sensitive to contamination in the camp (Deuteronomy 23:15). Thus there are repeated warnings to not pollute the sanctuary, which would bring destruction from Yahweh (Leviticus 12:4; 15:31; 20:1–4; Numbers 19:13, 20). By observation and comparison, Milgrom proposes a second law: (2) *"Impurity displaces an equal amount of sanctuary holiness"* (Milgrom 1992, pp. 142–143). Holiness is being treated as an ontological thing which can be displaced. God will tolerate inadvertent wrongs which contaminate the outside altar and shrine for they can be purged through purification offerings (Leviticus

[71] Rabban Yohanan, *Pesiqta de Rab Kahana* 4.7.
[72] Similar point to that made by Milgrom (1976), pp. 390–399.
[73] *Ascension of Moses* 5.3; *Psalms of Solomon* 1.8; 2.3; 8.13; *Mishnah Šebu'ot*. 1.4–5; *Talmud Šebu'ot* 1.3.

4:1–35). However, there is no sacrifice for defiant and rebellious acts, so the nation must purify the sanctuary of these on the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16 especially verses 10, 16, 20–22; Numbers 15:30). To not comply with such purgation forces God's departure from the contaminated Temple as a result of Israel's sin (Ezekiel 5:11; 8:6; 23:38–39; 24:21; 37:26–28; 48:8, 10, 21; and the similar vocabulary of 36:24 with Leviticus 16:16). With such divine departure, judgment, capacity and destruction of Israel will ensue. God promises to only return at His initiation of an everlasting covenant of peace (the New Covenant) that makes Israel responsive to His presence and His holy Temple placed within the nation (Ezekiel 11:16; 37:26–28; 48:8, 10, 21). Milgrom summarizes his third purity law in the following paragraph:

> (3) Thus, the pre- and post-ablution periods offer a new criterion for comparing the realms of the sacred and the common, to wit: *(a) The sacred is of greater sensitivity to contamination than the common by one degree, and (b) each purification stage reduces contagion to both the sacred and the common by one degree.* There are three possibilities to contaminate an object: from afar, by direct contact, or at home. Specifically, a severely impure person contaminates a common object by direct contact and a sacred object from afar. After the ablution, he is no longer contagious to the common object but can contaminate a sacred object by direct contact (but no from afar). Finally, after the last stage of purification he is no longer contagious even to sancta (Milgrom 1986a; 1986b, pp. 115–120; 1992).

Such a summary for how uncleanness contaminates and is purified is warranted by the biblical examples, Josephus and tannaitic sources (Leviticus 11–16).[74] The purgation will be developed at greater depth under the section concerning sacrifice.

Furthermore, any form of uncleanness defiles the land. For example, a dead body hanging overnight defiles the land which Yahweh gives Israel as an inheritance (Deuteronomy 21:23). Likewise, by not killing murderers by capital punishment, the land is defiled and threatens Yahweh's continuing dwelling with Israel (Numbers 35:34). Furthermore, for Israel to flagrantly defile themselves by sensuality and pagan worship defiles the land and places Israel at risk of Yahweh's covenant curse in the same manner as He cursed the people of the land of their idolatry (Leviticus 18:24–30).

The means of purification involves washing in specially prepared water and fulfilling the time of uncleanness. The water to remove impurity is prepared by mixing the ashes of the red heifer burnt offering, cedar wood, hyssop, and scarlet material together in the water (Numbers 19:1–10). Those involved in preparing this water for cleansing become clean, namely the priest who sacrifices this offering and the man who gathers the ashes (Numbers 19:7, 10). These unclean utilize the water for cleansing to wash themselves and their clothes and are unclean until evening. Anyone who touches or is inside a tent with a dead body is required to purify himself by washing in the water for cleansing on the third and seventh days and is unclean until the seventh day (Numbers 19:11–13, 18–19).[75] Such purifying means are also involved in cleansing the spoil from battle with the Midianites (Numbers 31:23–24). The one who sprinkles the water for cleansing shall be unclean till evening and then he too must wash himself and clothes in the water for cleansing (Numbers 19: 21–22). The one who refuses to cleanse himself through the water of cleansing defiles the tabernacle and is destined to cut off.

Sacrifice is only to utilize clean offerings and sites. For example, Noah sacrificed only clean animals (Genesis 8:20). Furthermore, the purification offering is a clean sacrifice with the ashes poured out outside the camp in a clean place (Leviticus 4:12; 6:11). There is no alternative altar for cleansing than the tabernacle, or Israel is under threat of being cut off (Joshua 22: 16–20). Doing any ritual as a priest or eating a sacrifice or touching a holy gift in an unclean ontological condition or place threatens the cult with uncleanness thus rendering one guilty to be cut off from the people (Leviticus 7:19–21; 10:9–10, 14; Numbers 18:11, 13; Deuteronomy 26:14). Such recognition raises the need for an alternative date for celebrating Passover by the momentarily unclean person who misses the normal Passover date (Number 9:6–10). However, if someone was clean and skipped Passover then they are without excuse and shall be cut off (Numbers 9:13–14). On the other hand, when the ignorant ate Passover in an unclean condition, merciful Yahweh atoned for them in response to Hezekiah's revival and prayer on their behalf (2 Chronicles 30:17–19). However, it is far better to operate as Zerubabel's revival by first cleansing all the people so that they could participate in passover Ezra 2:20–21.

On an individual level, the recovery process for the individual takes time, washing, and sacrifice to recover the unclean to clean status. For example, if the scale disease or mildew begins to heal then there is an elaborate process of cleansing showing ultimately that God superintends the healing process which re-elevates the unclean to the metaphysical clean status. The process includes offering two clean birds, one to die and the other to go free. The unclean one is sprinkled

[74] *Mishnah Kelim* 1.4; *Mishnah Nega'im*13.7, 11; Josephus' works, *Against Apion* 1.31; *Jewish Antiquities* 3.264.
[75] 11QT 49.5–7; 11–17; *Charter of a Jewish Sectarian Association* 12.15–18; *Mishnah Kil'ayim* 2.1; 11.2; *Mishnah 'Ohalot* 5.5; *Sifre Numbers* 126[162]; *Babylonian Talmud Mo'ed Qatan*15b.

with the blood of the slain bird which elevates him to a level of cleanness, while not wholly clean. The unclean are to wash their clothes, themselves, and shave their hair, which renders the person clean to enter the camp but not his tent (Leviticus 14:8). Two male lambs (or pigeons for the poor) with the respective grain offerings are offered on the eighth day as a guilt offering and a purification offering, and then the healed leper is further clean (Leviticus 14:9). Following this process, the priest announces the person or object as further clean, putting blood on the earlobe and anointing the healed with oil (Leviticus 14:20). This process is progressively cleansing with clean operating on different levels of cleanliness. This process is not magical as evidence by the absence of any incantation, which are so common in magic scrolls. Furthermore, God can cleanse a person with scale disease, like Naaman any way He desires, including seven dips in the Jordan River (2 Kings 5:14). However, the elaborate rituals of appraisal and cleansing accentuate the distinctively separate metaphysical levels of clean from unclean.

Within the Mosaic Covenant, Yahweh demands that Israel be kept clean and holy (Leviticus 11:44–45). Only clean people can participate in cultic functions (Leviticus 7:19–20; 1 Samuel 20:26; Ezra 6:20; and an exception in 2 Chronicles 30:17–19 which has God supernaturally cleanse Israel also supports the rule). If Israel does not deal with their uncleanness, then it becomes a sin. For Israel to ignore this mandate and to become unclean defiles the Tabernacle and puts Israel at risk to be cut off in covenant curse (Leviticus 15:31; Numbers 19:13). This defilement of Tabernacle from Israel's uncleanness includes the Holy Place and altar as well (Leviticus 16:16, 18; Numbers 19:20). Ultimately, sins defile Yahweh's holy name and bring covenant curse as was previously developed (Deuteronomy 28:15–29:29; Ezekiel 43:7–8). For example, the high-handed unrepentant sin, such as refusing to purify oneself after touching a dead body defiles both Tabernacle and Holy Place (Numbers 19:13, 20). Furthermore, one of the sins for which Israel is condemned to the Babylonian captivity is the sin of the priest's failure to teach the people and to practice the difference between clean and unclean (Ezekiel 22:26; Haggai 2:11–14).

Whatever standard God sets metaphysically for clean becomes what is appropriate. The ontologically unclean cannot be rendered clean by human means (Job 14:4). No attempt at viewing or externally fulfilling purifying rituals can render the metaphysically unclean into clean status (Proverbs 30:12; Isaiah 66:17).

Verbally, words that are refined and helpful are "pure" (טָהֹר/*thr*, Psalm 12:6; Proverbs 15:26). Obedience to such "pure" (טָהֹר/*thr*) teaching preserves a person from sin allowing them to continue to be ontologically clean (Psalm 12:6–7). Whereas, lying words are (טָמֵא/*tm'*) but can be forgiven through Yahweh's refining process (Isaiah 6:5). However, if a life habituates in sin, no amount of claiming such an ontologically clean status can remove a person's sins (Proverbs 20:9).

Metaphorically, "pure" (טָהֹר/*thr*) refers to the condition of having one's sins atoned and forgiven, returning them to ontological clean status (Leviticus 16:30; Psalm 51:7, 10; Isaiah 6:7; Ezekiel 24:13). This recovered condition is accomplished nationally at the Day of Atonement, though it can also be supernaturally accomplished by God (Leviticus 16:30). An Israelite is individually recovered by the purification offering or guilt offering (Leviticus 4:20, 26, 31, 35; 5:10, 13). However, if an Israelite has committed high handed sin there is no purification offering available, so merciful Yahweh may yet cleanse and forgive without utilizing a sacrifice if the Israelite is truly repentant (for example, Psalm 51:2, 7, 10). In contrast, if an Israelite accused of sin passes the test of the waters of curse, she should be considered morally and ontologically clean without needing additional divine mercy through a sacrifice (Numbers 5:28).

Israel's ontological uncleanness includes sins of violating the Temple by means of idols, idolatrous practices, violation of kosher, adulterous trusting of Gentile power rather than Yahweh's, and the presence of dead or unclean within the Temple (2 Chronicles 23:19; 36:14; Psalm 79:1; Isaiah 66:17; Jeremiah 7:30; 32:34; Ezekiel 5:11; 9:7; 20:7, 18, 30–31; 22:3, 12–17, 24; 23:7, 13, 30, 38; 36:18; 37:23; 43:6–9; Malachi 1:11–12).[76] These metaphorical descriptions must not reduce "clean" to "moral" and "unclean" to "sin", but rather they show that metaphysical cleanness is porous and prone to be affected by the virus of vice and sin, resulting in the ontological infection of uncleanness. Cleansing from such practices and its resultant uncleanness requires the removal of all idols and the avoidance of such practices (Genesis 35:2; Joshua 22:17; Ezekiel 24:13). One of the goals of the reformers in Israel was to recover the Temple as clean (2 Chronicles 29:16) and to defile pagan idols by eradicating idolatrous practices from Israel (2 Kings 23:8, 10, 13, 16; Isaiah 30:22; Jeremiah 19:13; Ezekiel 37:23). The final defilement of the first Temple was its destruction by the Babylonians (Psalm 79:1). Israel had to go through the Babylonian captivity before they would be cleansed again; their ontological uncleanness brought about judgment (Ezekiel 24: 13–14; 36:18; 43:8; Micah 2:10). At the dedication of

[76] *Ascension of Moses* 5.3; *Psalms of Solomon* 1.8; 2.3; 8.13; *Mishnah Šebu'ot* 1.4–5; *Talmud Šebu'ot* 1.3.

the second Temple, Israel separated themselves from the uncleanness of their Gentile neighbors in order to seek the Lord (Ezra 6:21; Nehemiah 12:30; 13:30).

Second Temple Judaism clarified aspects between the biblical teaching to fill in gaps and to continue the biblical tradition (Harrington 1993a, p. 114). For example, after one's purification washing a person was considered to be not as unclean as before but uncleanness remained with a person until the *time* for purification *was over* (usually as the sun goes down), and then they were clean.[77] So time cleansed as well as the washings. However, statements that a person is "pure" after they are healed and washed do not indicate that the subsequent sacrifices have no atonement role for the individual (for example, Leviticus 15:13), rather the individual is "pure enough" for that stage of the purification process (for example, "pure enough" for the healed leper to enter the camp but not his tent until he is announced as "pure" again on the seventh day and again he is announced as "pure" after sacrifices on the eighth day, Leviticus 14:8–9, 20).[78]

In a few instances the rabbis were more concerned about issues of remaining clean than that they would be righteous, which extends beyond the biblical pattern.[79] While concerned for righteousness, often sectarian Judaism went beyond the purity standards of the Bible and the rabbinics. For example, Israelites do not need to purify themselves to eat common food except among the sectarians and some rabbinics (Mark 7:2; Luke 11:37–41).[80] Likewise, where the Bible is silent, sectarians and some rabbinics consider contact with outsiders, especially Gentiles, as rendering them unclean (Acts 10:28; 11:3).[81]

Eventually, in Kingdom God will supernaturally and directly cleanse the nation Israel from their sins of idolatry so they will be metaphysically clean and responsive with a New Covenant heart transformation (Ezekiel 36:25–26, 33; priests cleansed, Malachi 3:3; and the high priest cleansed as well, Zechariah 3:3–5). Additionally, the land will be cleansed by the burial of all human bones (Ezekiel 39:12, 16). In such a clean status, Levitical priests of Israel will offer sacrifices in the cleansed Temple in clean vessels and obtain atonement and forgiveness (Isaiah 66:20; Jeremiah 33:18; Ezekiel 43:18–44; 31; 45:4–5; Malachi 1:11). In that era of Kingdom, the priests will teach the people the difference between holy and common, and clean and unclean (Ezekiel 44:23). Avoiding uncleanness is taken in second Temple Judaism as a sign of divine approval.[82]

Righteousness[83]

The Hebrew Old Testament primarily expresses צֶדֶק/*ṣdk* as "righteousness" and the **"faithfulness to an acceptable order"**. Antonyms to "righteousness" include a range of words for sin and rebellion.

God epitomizes such a condition of righteousness in His dealings with others (Genesis 18:22–28; Job 8:3; Psalms 4:2; 97:2, 6; Jeremiah 23:6). Such a condition of righteousness describes people's lifestyle (Genesis 18:19; 38:26; especially the *Qal* preterite in Job). The statement, "reckoned to him as righteousness" is a declaration of acceptance or **appropriate within the covenant** arrangement within which a person lives (Genesis 15:6; Leviticus 7:18; 2 Samuel 19:19; Psalm 32:2; Ezekiel 18).[84] When "righteousness" is used longingly in the future it takes on the meaning of "vindication" (for example, Psalm 71:15–24; especially *Qal* future in Job). The appropriate order by which human righteousness is usually judged is that of the Mosaic Covenant (especially Psalm 119:106, 142–144). As such, legal justification must reflect the condition of righteous lived in accordance with the Law (Leviticus 19:15; Deuteronomy 1:16; 16:18–20; 25:1; 1 Kings 8:32; 2 Chronicles 6:23). Such righteousness entails pursuing those practices of the Law which retain each other's ontological clean status (Ezekiel 18:5–18). By extension righteousness includes fairness with the use of weights (Leviticus 19:26; Deuteronomy 25:15). Any attempt to justify oneself or others wrongly is a cause by which Israel suffered under Mosaic Covenant curse (Ezekiel 16:51–52; Proverbs 17:15). God grants the description of righteousness for those who operate within the context of faith in the covenant (for example, Genesis

[77] 11QT 45.9–10; 49.20–21; 50.12, 15–16; 51.3, 5; 4QMMT 13–17; 59–67; 4QThrA1 5–6 in contrast to *Mishnah Tebul Yom* 2.1–2; Harrington 1993a, pp. 64–65.

[78] Contrary to Milgrom (2007, 126:161–162) consistent with Gane (2008, p. 219).

[79] For example, an odd discussion about the uncleanness of a knife as more grievous than murder (*Talmud Yoma* 1.12).

[80] For example, Israelites do not need to purify themselves to eat common food except among the sectarians (4QThrA1 3; 4QOrdc 7–9).

[81] Josephus' works, *Jewish Wars* 2.150, 229; *Jewish Antiquities* 12.145; 14.285; 1QM 9.8–9; *Mishnah Pesahim* 9.8; *Mishnah T eharot* 5.8; 7.6; *Mishnah Niddah* 7.3; *Talmud Niddah* 9.16; *Talmud Zabim* 2.1; *Sifra Nega'im* par. 1.1; *Mishnah Zabim* Par. 1.1; *Babylonian Talmud Šabbat* 83a, 127b; *Babylonian Talmud Niddah* 69b.

[82] *Babylonian Talmud Hullin* 37b.

[83] This orientation to righteousness as "appropriate in Mosaic Covenant"; (1) continues in the synoptics (Kennard 2008, pp. 84–86), (2) continues mstically in second Temple Judaism as a foretaste of eschatological judgment from God (Kennard 2008, pp. 305–307), and (3) Paul develops more extensively as mystically already for the appropriate and retains a not yet expression of eschatological judgment (Kennard 2008, pp. 313–321).

[84] *1 Macc*abees 2:52; von Rad 1966, pp. 125–130; contrary to the claim that the word only functions this way in the *niphal* (Oeming 1983, pp. 183–196), Behrens 1997, p. 329 demonstrates it also functions this way in the *qal* as in Genesis 15:6; 2 Samuel 19:19 and Psalm 32:2; Jewett 2007, pp. 311–312.

15:6). With righteousness identifying the faithful in covenant, Mosaic Covenant sacrifice fits within this righteousness (Deuteronomy 33:19, Psalm 4:6). Even a marginal reading on Daniel 8:14 describes צָדַק/*ṣdk* as "cleansing" the sanctuary. Ultimately, the Messianic Servant will justify many in His guilt offering (Isaiah 53:11) and rule the Kingdom in righteousness (Isaiah 9:6; 11:4–5; Daniel 9:24).[85]

The Septuagint presentation of δίκαιος and δικαιοσύνην means "faithfulness to the acceptable order". For example, God is faithful in dealing with injustice (Septuagint: Genesis 18:19, 23–26; 19:19; Exodus 15:13; Deuteronomy 32:4; Judges 5:11; 1 Kings 12:7; Psalm 9:4–8) and faithful in following through His promise and covenant (Septuagint: Genesis 32:10; Deuteronomy 9:4–6). Likewise, in these contexts the righteous are defined as acceptable within an order. The Mosaic Covenant is that premier order for Israel within which righteousness indicates appropriateness for covenantal blessing (Septuagint: Exodus 23:7–8; Deuteronomy 4:8; Joshua 24:14; 1 Kings 2:2–3; 2 Kings 22:21–25; Psalms 7:8–17; 118:40, 62, 105–106, 142–144, 160, 172; Isaiah 1:26; 41:2).[86]

The covenantal appropriateness by obedience to the covenantal commands is especially expressed by δικαίωμα, "command" (for example, Septuagint: Exodus 15:25–26; Deuteronomy 4:1; Psalm 118). This means that Israelites are righteous when they live faithfully within the Mosaic covenant and its sacrifices (Psalm 4:1–5). Additionally, the Servant of the Lord will vindicate confessing Israel in His purification offering. Furthermore, the king is to work toward retaining such fairness within his reign (Septuagint: Deuteronomy 33:21; 2 Kings 8:15; 3 Kings 3:6–9). The verb δικαιόω primarily translates צָדַק/*ṣdk* as "righteous" or "vindicate". Within the special legal situation, a court decision must be made to reflect the character of the person as he compares with the Law (Leviticus 19:15; Deuteronomy 16:18–20; 25:1). So, δικαιόω describes that people "are righteous" (Septuagint: Genesis 38:26; Psalms 50:4; 142:2) and legally "acquits" people consistent with their actions (Septuagint: Exodus 23:7; Deuteronomy 25:1; 2 Samuel 15:4). Therefore God counts it as a sin to legally acquit the wicked (Deuteronomy 25:1; Isaiah 5:23). Though by contrast, gross sin may make someone "appear righteous" (Jeremiah 3:11; Ezekiel 16:51). Using the verb (δικαιόω), God "vindicates" those who are righteous in action (1 Kings 8:32; 2 Chronicles 6:23; Psalm 18:9).[87] By extension people are to have fair dealings with each other, such as the use of just weights (Leviticus 19:36; Deuteronomy 25:15). In similar manner, the concept of righteousness as framed through the Psalms and Proverbs usually then reflects appropriate character within a wisdom order of "fairness". Ultimately the Messianic reign reflects this character of righteous rule (Isaiah 9:7; 11:5),[88] and vindicates Israel (Isaiah 45:25).

The violation of righteousness infects Israel with ontological uncleanness. As mentioned earlier, Jacob Milgrom views the concept of uncleanness through the metaphor of the picture of Dorian Gray, which illustration identifies that violation of righteousness affect the ontology of "clean" (Milgrom 1976, pp. 390–399). Ultimately, sins defile Yahweh's holy name and bring covenant curse (Ezekiel 43:7–8). Israel pollutes itself and the land with ontological uncleanness by a variety of sins including: idolatry (Ezekiel 14:11; 20:31; 22:3–4; 23:7–38), necromancy (Leviticus 19:31; 1 Samuel 28:8–14), Molech-worship (Ezekiel 20:26, 30–31), apostasy (Joshua 22:17), sexual immorality (Genesis 34:5, 13, 27; Leviticus 18:20, 23–24; Numbers 5:11–31; Ezekiel 18:6, 11, 15; 22:11), murder (Deuteronomy 19:13; 21:8), and all their sins (Psalm 106:39; Ezekiel 14:11; 20:43).[89] Such sins include the despoiling of the Temple by means of idols, idolatrous practices, violation of kosher, adulterous trusting of Gentile power rather than Yahweh's, the presence of dead or unclean within the Temple (2 Chronicles 23:19; 36:14; Psalm 79:1; Isaiah 66:17; Jeremiah 7:30; 32:34; Ezekiel 5:11; 9:7; 20:7, 18, 30–31; 22:3, 12–17, 24; 23:7, 13, 30, 38; 36:18; 37:23; 43:6–9; Malachi 1:11–12).[90] Cleansing from such practices requires the removal of all idols and the avoidance of such practices (Genesis 35:2; Joshua 22:17; Ezekiel 24:13). In *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, Oscar Wilde's adventurer does not age nor suffer the consequences of his adventures (Wilde 1890). Likewise, with regard to Israel's sins, Milgrom speaks of the priestly picture of Dorian Gray, "Sin may not leave its mark on the face of the sinner but it is certain to mark the face of the sanctuary; and unless it is quickly expunged, God's presence will depart" (Milgrom 1976, pp. 390–399). By the time of the prophets, the people and land of Israel were severely polluted by sin caused impurity and thus precariously perched toward captivity (Psalm 106: 38–39; Isaiah 24:5; Jeremiah 2:7; 3:9; Hosea 5:3; 6:10). John Gammie affirms the construct of the Dorian Gray picture is quite meaningful since the

[85] For further discussion see Kennard 2008, pp. 293–332 for Messianic sacrifice and pp. 377–414 for Messianic rule.
[86] For example, *Tobit* 12.9; 14.11; *Wisdom of Solomon* 1.15; *Psalms of Solomon* 2.34; 3.4–8; 15.6; *Charter of Jewish Sectarian Association* 4.8; 1QS 5.7–11; 1QH 7.12.
[87] *Sirach* 7.5; 10.29; 13.22; 18.22; *Psalms of Solomon* 2:15; 3.3, 5; 4.9; 8.7, 23, 26:9.2.
[88] For example, *Psalms of Solomon* 17.32.
[89] *Ascension of Moses* 5.3; *Jubilees* 33.6–7, 10, 19–20; *Psalms of Solomon* 1.8; 2.3; 8.13; *Numbers Rabbah* 7.1; *Leviticus Rabbah* 15.4–5; 16.2, 6; 17.2–3, 6; 18.4; *Mishnah Šebu'ot* 1.4–5; *Talmud Šebu'ot* 1.3; *Babylonian Talmud 'Arakhin* 16a; *Tanḥuma Mesora'* 15.
[90] *Ascension of Moses* 5.3; *Psalms of Solomon* 1.8; 2.3; 8.13; *Mishnah Šebu'ot* 1.4–5; *Talmud Šebu'ot* 1.3–4; *Tos. Kippurim* 1.12; *Jerusalem Tractates Yoma* 2.2; *Babylonian Talmud Yoma* 23a.

purification offerings atoned for the individual, not always the tabernacle; "Sanctuary and sancta indeed reflected the state of the people's sinfulness precisely because the uncleanness that the former accrued were not removed at every [purification][91] offering" (Gammie 1989, p. 41). And again later, Rabbinic sources recognized that Israel's disregard for their public promises had brought Israel drought in AD 66 and warned that their noncompliance with Sabbath, Sabbatical year and Jubilee year rendered them impure, tumbling Israel yet again toward impending exile and dispersion.[92] Unfortunately, Israel was unresponsive about their sin, purgation, and suffered captivity and dispersion repeatedly.

Sacrifice, Atonement, and Forgiveness

The Mosaic Covenant incorporates Passover sacrifice as a permanent reminder of the beginning of the Exodus, when the death angel passed over Israel to curse Egypt with death (Exodus 12:11–14; Deuteronomy 16:3–8). The Passover sacrifice is nowhere developed as atoning or forgiving. Instead, additional sacrifices are offered as burnt offerings during the festival by the priests for the nation to purify the people (Numbers 28:16–25). While not atoning, the Passover lamb does indicate the need to redeem the first born, for they had been kept alive in Israel as holy while the firstborn died among the Egyptians (Exodus 34:18–20).

The Mosaic Covenant includes atonement as accomplished through purification sacrifice. This means that the concern in the Mosaic covenant is for Israel to be *clean*, or *appropriate* in light of the relationship that Israel has with Yahweh. Throughout the ancient Near East the issue of purity identifies and retains a people with their god. Within the Mosaic Covenant, Israel is in an ontological condition of clean, grounded in the initial cleansing act of sprinkling the people (Exodus 24:5–8). As such, Israel is not trying to initially obtain this *clean* condition, rather they are corporately trying to retain and maintain it. To do so, Yahweh instituted a sacrificial system.

The problem which the sacrificial system addresses is primarily that of the communicable disease of uncleanness. Uncleanness can be transmitted by normal issues of life (like a woman's menstrual period) or by touching something that has touched an unclean thing (Leviticus 12:2 15:2–33; Deuteronomy 23:10). So uncleanness is not primarily sin because uncleanness can be transmitted without sin occurring. However, sin can bring about uncleanness and a condition of uncorrected uncleanness is sin.[93] That is, natural defilement can become moral defilement if Israelites do not avail themselves of the available means of recovering from uncleanness.

As such, the purification sacrifice articulates the idea of collective responsibility to recover Israelites and the nation from their uncleanness. Uncleanness is overcome, returning the unclean to a metaphysically clean condition through the sacrificial system. For example, a Jewish mother must offer the appropriate sacrifice after the birth of her baby for them to be returned to a condition of cleanness, even if that baby is the sinless Messiah (Luke 2:22–24). To the extent that individual Israelites do not purify themselves, the nation needs to purify; itself, the Tabernacle, and the land at the Day of Atonement, or God's presence will depart from the nation.

The basic *purification offering* is חַטָּאת/*ḥṭ't*, which many translate as "sin offering" following the description of sin (for example, Leviticus 4:3; חַטָּאתוֹ) and the description of the sacrifice in the Septuagint as "sin offering" (ἁμαρτία). As such, the majority of evangelicals view this as a sin offering which then means that their idea of Christ's sacrifice is legally dealing with their sins. However, Jacob Milgrom takes issue with the conception of "sin offering" compelling re-identifying it as the "purification offering". Milgrom explains:

> This translation is inaccurate on all grounds: contextually, morphologically, and etymologically.
>
> The very range of *ḥaṭṭā't* in the cult gainsays the notion of sin. For example, this offering is enjoined upon recovery from childbirth (Leviticus 12), the completion of the Nazirite vow (Numbers 6), and the dedication of the newly constructed altar (Leviticus 8:15; see Exodus 29:36–37). In other words, the *ḥaṭṭā't* is prescribed for persons and objects who cannot have sinned.
>
> Grammatical considerations buttress these contextual observations. Morphologically, it appears as a *pi'el* derivative. More importantly, its corresponding verbal form is not the *qal* "to sin, do wrong" but always the *pi'el* (for example, Leviticus 8:15), which carries no other meaning than "to cleanse, expiate, decontaminate" (for example, Ezekiel 43:22, 26; Psalm 51:9). Finally, the "waters of *ḥaṭṭā't* (Numbers 8:7) serve exclusively a purifying function (Numbers 19:19; see Ezekiel 26:25). "Purification offering" is certainly the more accurate translation. Indeed, the terse comment of Rashi (on Numbers 19:19) is all that needs to be said: *ḥaṭṭā't* is literally the language of purification" (cf. also Barr 1963, p. 874).)
>
> It is not my intention to investigate the origin of this mistranslation. It can be traced as far back as the Septuagint, which consistently renders ἁμαρτία,

[91] Technically, Gammie used *hattā't* which will be explained in this direction in a few pages.
[92] *Jerusalem Tractates Ta'anit* 3.3; *Babylonian Talmud Šabbat* 33a.
[93] Klawans provides an excellent discussion of the full range of this topic (Klawans 2000).

followed by Philo (*Laws* 1.226) and Josephus works (*Jewish Antiquities* 3.230). It is, however, important to note that if the rabbinic sources had been carefully read, the subsequent translations could have avoided this mistake. True, the sage Rabbi Eliezer states unequivocally that "the *ḥaṭṭā't* is brought on account of sin" (*Mishnah Zebaḥim* 1.1), but his generalization is directed only to chap. 4 (and its parallel, Numbers 15:22–31), where the *qal*, meaning "to sin, do wrong", indeed is found. All other *ḥaṭṭā't* sacrifices are prescribed for specific physical impurities, such as the new mother, … the contaminated Nazirite, and the like; and in these cases, not one sage claims that the afflicted brings this sacrifice because of his sins. Indeed, this idea is vigorously denied (*Babylonian Talmud Šebi'it* 8a; *Keritot* 26a). Moreover, not only is the *ḥaṭṭā't* unrelated to sin in rabbinic thought, but most authorities deny emphatically that the impurity itself was caused by sin. Even the minority who see a causal connection between sin and affliction argue that the affliction in itself suffices to expiate the sin (*Babylonian Talmud 'Arakin* 16a; *Babylonian Talmud Nazir* 19a; *Niddah* 31b), and they concur with the majority that the purpose of the *ḥaṭṭā't* is for ritual purification.

The discussion on the parturient is decisive: "But according to R. Simeon son of Yahai who holds that a woman in confinement is a sinner, what can be said (concerning the purpose of her *ḥaṭṭā't*)? The sacrifice she brings is, nevertheless, for the purpose of permitting her to partake of consecrated food and *is not expiatory*" (*Keritot* 26a). Finally, the categorical statement of the Talmudic commentators, the tosafists (on Leviticus 12:8), leaves no doubt concerning the rabbinic view: "According to the literal meaning of the text her (the parturient's) sacrifice is not brought for sin."

The advantage of freeing the *ḥaṭṭā't* from the theologically foreign notion of sin and restoring to it its pristine meaning of purification is that now it is possible to see this sacrifice in its true ancient Near Eastern setting. Israel was part of the cultic continuum which abounded in purifications both of persons and of buildings, especially sanctuaries. The *ḥaṭṭā't*, I aver, is the key that opens the door to this world. (Milgrom 1991a, pp. 253–254).[94]

This concept of a *purification offering* is the basic construct of sacrifice with which Jews operate. In the sacrificial process, wherever the blood is applied is then cleansed. *Atonement* (כִּפֶּר/kpr) *accomplishes cleansing* (Leviticus 12:8; 14:18–21, 31, 53; 15:15, 30; 16:30; Numbers 8:32).[95] Usually this atonement is returning the tabernacle or altar to a pure condition, but occasionally people are also sprinkled with blood and thus cleansed, and if they have committed sins then these people are forgiven. Such cleansing includes atonement forgiveness for sins committed in ignorance (Leviticus 4:2, 13, 22, 27; 5:2–4; Numbers 15:30–31; Hebrews 5:2; 9:7). When the object of atonement (כִּפֶּר) is people, then its meaning includes forgiveness, rendering the people both clean to their appropriate level of holiness and righteous.[96] Jacob Milgrom contested that persons are only spoken as indirect objects in sacrifice settings but Gane has successfully answered him that the preposition מִן/*mn* indicates consistently a purification (of the people) *from* their sins (than are mentioned following the preposition מִן/*mn*) in forgiveness (Leviticus 4:26; 14:19; 15:15, 30) (Gane 2008, pp. 209–222; Milgrom 2007, pp. 161–163). An individual whose sin is atoned (כִּפֶּר) has his iniquity pardoned (Isaiah 6:7; 27:9) whereas, an individual who does not have atonement, does not have forgiveness and is thus still under judgment (Numbers 16:46–47; 25:11–13; 1 Samuel 3:14; Isaiah 22:14; 28:18; 47:11). So *atonement* (כִּפֶּר) *appeases divine wrath of covenant curse, returning them again to covenantal blessings* (Deuteronomy 32:43; 2 Samuel 21:3; Psalms 78:38; 79:9). Gane summarizes his view that purification through the year is primarily personal cleansing and forgiveness, while the corporate cleansing on Yom Kippur is largely cleansing the tabernacle and corporate forgiveness of the nation (Gane 2008, p. 217). In one instance the Septuagint refers to this purification offering as propitiation (ἱλασμόν; Ezekiel 44:27). That is, even in these eschatological purification offerings there is still appeasement which makes the unclean condition favorable or atoned (כִּפֶּר) with God (Ezekiel 45:15, 17, 20).

One passage explains that the critical feature to obtain atonement in all the offerings is the life (נֶפֶשׁ/*nps̆*) that is given, for which the blood stands as an emblem (Leviticus 17:11). The life (נֶפֶשׁ) offered benefits our life (נֶפֶשׁ). So the blood in sacrifice is not magical, for it merely indicates that the offering is given. In the instance of murder, the dead can't be expiated (כִּפֶּר) by sacrifice but only by the murderer's death (Numbers 35:33). However, there are instances when the offering is completed without any blood and yet atonement (כִּפֶּר) is accomplished (Exodus 30:15;

[94] In addition to the rabbinic texts cited in the quote *Mishnah Yoma* 3.9; 4.1.

[95] At times this cleansing is accomplished before כִּפֶּר so that כִּפֶּר is not actually the purification (Leviticus 12:7–8). At times כִּפֶּר is either synonymous or synthetically parallel with cleansing and consecrations (Leviticus 16:18–19; Ezekiel 43:20, 26). So obviously some sense of ceremonial purity is accomplished by כִּפֶּר, especially since some of its uses render clean a house or person when no sin had made them unclean (Leviticus 14:53; 15:15, 30).

[96] The parallel arrangement with forgiveness which is evident in Leviticus 4:20, 26, 31, 35; 5:10, 13, 18; 6:7; 10:17; 16:30 and Psalm 79:9 indicating that forgiveness is included within כִּפֶּר. Additionally, כִּפֶּר deals with people's sins such that forgiveness is included within its semantic field (Leviticus 16:32–34; Numbers 15:25, 28; Deuteronomy 21:8; Psalms 65:3; 78:38; 79:9; Isaiah 6:7; 27:9; Ezekiel 16:63). Cf. Gammie 1989, p. 39; Gane 2005, pp. xx, 47–49, 299.

Numbers 31:50). Even in one instance atonement (כִּפֶּר) is accomplished by loving-kindness and truth without an offering at all (Proverbs 16:6).[97] This indicates that no deed accomplished atonement (כִּפֶּר); one's life focus to follow the narrow way and the divine enablement to this narrow way are important for atonement to be realized through the available means. That is, atonement is accomplished by whatever means that God designates.

Milgrom underscores that, "As shown (Leviticus 4:13–14), the *ḥaṭṭā't* laws are based on the assumption that the inadvertent offender becomes aware of his act and feels remorse for it, expressed by the verb *'āšam*. Repentance is thus a precondition for the *ḥaṭṭā't*" (Chilton and Neusner 2004, pp. 199–203; Milgrom 1991a, p. 264).[98] That is, external deeds are not effective without one's personal commitment to follow God's Law. God established this as a feature in relationship; God is not a vending machine.

The guilt offering (אָשָׁם/ *'āšam* or Septuagint: ἐπλημμέλησεν) is a special case of purification offering which deals with an individual who feels his guilt (for example, Leviticus 5:6–7; 6:17; 7:1–7; 37; 19:21–22; Numbers 18:9). Such an offering atones and propitiates (Numbers 5:8: כִּפֶּר or in Septuagint it is ἱλασμόν). That is, this offering is very much like the purification offering, in that the clean Nazarite completes his time of purity with a guilt offering when no sin or uncleanness has rendered him impure (Numbers 6:12). In such guilt offerings the blood is placed on the altar and if necessary on the one who is to be cleansed, indicating that both sancta and person are to be cleansed in this atonement (Leviticus 7:5; 14:12–28). Rabbi Rabad claims that such a guilt offering requires a confession (for example, Numbers 5:7–8) (Milgrom 1991a, pp. 344–345).[99] At times, such a guilt offering mentions an object taken and requires that it to be returned along with 20% added before this guilt offering is effective in atoning for the person's sin (for example, Leviticus 5:15–19; 6:6). However, if no object is mentioned, then the offering is the appropriate response for one who feels his guilt and confesses it before God. Jacob Milgrom summarizes the guilt offering (אָשָׁם/ *'āšam*) as follows:

> In sum, the cultic texts reveal four usages of the root *'sm*, as follows: the noun "reparation" and "reparation offering", and the verbs "incur liability [to someone]" and "feel guilt" (without a personal object). These meanings derive from the consequential *'āšam*, the punishment or penalty incurred through wrongdoing. The fourth meaning, "feel guilt" refers to psychological guilt. These findings are best summarized by citing two passages in which all four means appears (indicated by italics): "He shall pay it to its owner as soon as he feels guilt (*bĕyom 'ašmāto*). Then he shall bring to the priest, as his reparation (*'ašmāto*) to the Lord, an unblemished ram from the flock, or its assessment, as a reparation offering (*le'āšam*)" Leviticus 5:24b–25); and "When that person feels guilt (*we'ašĕmâ*), he [lit., "they"] shall confess the wrong he [lit., "they"] has done, make reparation (*'ašāmo*) in its entirety, add one-fifth to it, and give it to the one to whom he has incurred liability (*le'ăšer āšam lo*)" (Numbers 5:6b–7) (Milgrom 1991a, p. 345).

Both of these offerings (purification and guilt offerings) bear the uncleanness or guilt away from the sancta and the one or group from whom they are offered. Each of the purification and guilt offerings accomplished *atonement* (כִּפֶּר: for example, Leviticus 14:18–19; Numbers 5:8) or *propitiation* (Septuagint: ἱλασμόν; Numbers 5:8; Ezekiel 44:27). For example, these offerings along with the scapegoat in the Day of Atonement bear the guilt away from the nation (Leviticus 10:17; 16:22). Through such atonement, Israel continues with Yahweh in a relationship of peace as evidenced by the continuing Mosaic Covenant benefits. If Israelites violate the stipulations of the covenant and don't resolve their uncleanness by these available means, then the Israelite and the nation continue to bear the guilt of their sin (Leviticus 5:1, 17; 17:16; 20:19; Numbers 9:13; 14:34).

Corporate national atonement to deal with this continuing uncleanness occurs at the establishment of the Mosaic covenant and its renewal at the Day of Atonement. Moses established Israel as clean in the ritual of cleansing establishing the Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 24). Within the Mosaic Covenant, Yahweh demands that Israel be kept clean and holy (Leviticus 11:44–45). If Israel does not deal with their uncleanness, then it becomes a sin. Ultimately, sins defile Yahweh's holy name and bring covenant curse as was previously developed (Deuteronomy 28:15–29:29; Ezekiel 43:7–8). For Israel to ignore this mandate and to become unclean defiles the Tabernacle and puts Israel at risk to be cut off in covenant curse (Leviticus 15:31; Numbers 19:13). This defilement of Tabernacle includes the Holy Place and altar as well (Leviticus 16:16, 18; Numbers 19:20). For example, the high-handed unrepentant sin, such as refusing to purify oneself after touching a dead body defiles both Tabernacle and Holy Place (Numbers 19:13, 20). Jacob Milgrom develops the theme that the uncleanness defiled tabernacle is cleansed in three stages (Milgrom 1990, pp. 445–446; 1991a, pp. 256–261).

First, the individual's inadvertent misdemeanor or severe physical impurity defiling the courtyard altar,

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[97] This כִּפֶּר is parallel to the fear of the Lord which keeps one from evil and its ensuing punishment.

[98] 1QS 3.3–6, 8–9; 4.5; 5.13; *Babylonian Talmud Šebu'ot* 1.16.2/13A.D; *Mishnah Yoma* 8.8A; *Talmud Kippurim* 4.8.A; *Mishnah Sanhedrin* 6.2.D.

[99] *Sipra. Hobah* 7.3; *Sipre Zuta* on Numbers 5:5; *Talmud Menahot*. 10.12.

has this courtyard altar cleansed by daubing its horns with the blood of the purification offering (Leviticus 4:25, 30; 9:9). The Septuagint occasionally refers to this altar as the place of propitiation ἱλαστήριον; Ezekiel 43:14, 17, 20; Amos 9:1).

Secondly, the inadvertent misdemeanor of the high Priest or the entire community polluting the Shrine is cleansed by the high priest placing the purification offering blood on the inner altar and before the veil that divides the Holy Place from the Holy of Holies (Leviticus 4:5–7, 16–18).

Finally, any high handed, unrepentant sin, polluting both the outer altar and penetrating the veil to the Holy Place and the Holy Ark, must be cleansed through the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:16; Numbers 19:20; Isaiah 37:16). Usually, the Septuagint refers to the mercy seat of the Ark as the place of propitiation, alluded to on the Day of Atonement (ἱλαστήριον; Exodus 25:17–22; 31:7; 35:12; 38:6–9; Leviticus 16:2, 13–15; Numbers 7:89; Hebrews 9:5). Since the high-handed, rebellious sinner is barred from bringing a purification offering (Numbers 15:27–31), the uncleanness wrought by his offense must wait the cleansing of the Sanctuary on the Day of Atonement. This Day of Atonement cleansing consists of two steps: the purification offering and the scapegoat. Some second Temple Jewish sources went beyond Leviticus to see this scapegoat offering as attempting to placate a rebellious demon Azazel or perhaps the Canaanite god of death (Helm 1999, pp. 217–226; Levine 1974; Milgrom 1991a, pp. 1020–1021; Neusner 1973, pp. 9–11).[100] However, biblically the scapegoat is a means by which He provides atonement; there is no syncretism with paganism. First, the purification offering cleanses the Tent, the outer altar and the people with atonement (Leviticus 16: 16–19, 30) (Averbeck 1997, 2:344).[101] This is motivated by an abiding fear of Temple pollution and divine curse, as evident by the frequency of the purification offering in the public cult. Rabbi Simeon notices this concern and recognizes that Tabernacle cleansing even developed into a monthly recovery to further protect Israel from the build up over the year:

> More grievous is imparting pollution to the sanctuary and its sancta than all other transgressions in the Torah. All other transgressions that are listed in the Torah are atoned for with a single goat, but imparting pollution to the sanctuary and its sancta is atoned for through thirty-two goats (Leviticus 23:17; Numbers 28–29). All other transgressions in the Torah are atoned for one time in the year (Yom Kippur), but imparting pollution to the sanctuary and its sancta is atoned for every month (Number 28:15), as it is written: "Surely because you have polluted my sanctuary with all your detestable things and abominations that you did, more grievous than all of them was imparting impurity to the sanctuary".[102]

Thus all the sin and uncleanness of the Most Holy place and that of the people is cleansed on the Day on Atonement with the purification offering blood. Likewise, the scapegoat has all the national iniquities confessed on to its head so that when it is lead out into a solitary land it bears Israel's iniquities away (Leviticus 16:21–22). Averbeck develops this, "The ritual of the scapegoat here is of great significance in that it symbolizes the removal of all iniquity and transgressions from Israel, the goal this day being not only to cleanse the tabernacle (Leviticus 16:19) but also the people (Leviticus 16:30) (Averbeck 1997; Gane 2005).[103] Both the purification offering and the scapegoat contribute to the Day of Atonement, accomplishing atonement or propitiation (כִּפֶּר: Leviticus 16:6–34; Septuagint ἱλασμοῦ; Leviticus 25:9) from Israel's uncleanness and sin.[104] *In this way the nation of Israel was able to continue on for another year in Mosaic Covenantal relationship of peace with Yahweh because their corporate unclean condition had been atoned for at the yearly Day of Atonement.*

With the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple in 70 at AD 135 some forms of second Temple Judaism continued to offer purification sacrifices including those of the Day of Atonement in alternative Jewish temples such as the Jewish Elphantine temple which site is near the Aswan high dam in Egypt (Porten 1968, pp. 128–133, 279–282, 311–314). Several other Jewish frameworks without a functioning Jewish temple practiced modified purification sacrifices and Day of Atonement sacrifices from their synagogues.[105]

[100] Azazel as a divine being (*3 Enoch* 4.6; *Pirque Rabbi Eliezer* 46) which Qumran 11QT 26.12 read as *'zz'l* identifying it as the Canaanite god of death *Mot* (DJD 5.180 line 7; parallel to Nehemiah 7:28; 12:29) or rebel angel Raphael (*1 Enoch* 10.4–5) and the wilderness as the habitation of demons (Isaiah 13:21; 34:14; *Baruch* 4.35; *Tobias* 8.3; Matthew 12:34; Luke 11:24; Revelation 18:2).

[101] Averbeck supports my claim that the people as well as the tabernacle are cleansed at the Day of Atonement contrary to Milgrom who only sees the tabernacle as cleansed.

[102] *Talmud Šebu'ot* 1.3.

[103] Averbeck and Gane follow Milgrom on Tabernacle atonement but also add individual atonement and forgiveness that Milgrom ignores (Leviticus 4:26; 14:19; 15:15; 16:30, 34a; Numbers 6:11).

[104] Further confirmed as atoning by rabbinics (*Mishnah Šebu'ot* 1.6; *Sipra Ahare* 5.8).

[105] The Jewish practice would have sacrifice complete the reconciliation process (Leviticus 1–7; *Epistle Aristeas* 170–1; *Sirach* 34.18–19; 35.12; Philo, *On the Special Laws* 1.236f.). Continuing this practice, Matthew 5:23–24 and Acts 18:18; 21:23–27 supports Jewish Christian participation in Jewish sacrifices. In contrast, *The Gospel of the Ebionites* 7 as recorded by Epiphanius, *Panarion* 30.16.4–5 has Jesus condemn such practice of Jewish sacrifices. Of course, the Law prescribes the Levitical sacrifices for Israel (for example, Leviticus 1–7, 16:1–17:9). Additionally, the Old Testament describes the Kingdom era under the Messiah as continuing the practice these sacrifices that atone (Jeremiah 33:18; Ezekiel 43:18–46:24), though the Hebrews 10:1–8 ceases the sacrifices for now for any new Covenant people who would be disturbed by their reminder, and *Leviticus Rabbah* 9.7, written four centuries after the destruction of the Temple (that is, 5th century AD), ceases the ritual sacrifices in the Messianic Kingdom.

While these approaches were acknowledged, Yohanan ben Zakkai additionally proposed (similar to Proverbs 16:6) that acts of mercy and loving kindness remained as an effective atonement to cleanse and forgive on the basis of Hosea 6:6.[106] Pinḥas ben Yair drew all these categories together as a narrow way of salvation unto everlasting life for holiness, cleanness, righteousness.

> Heedfulness leads to [physical] cleanness, cleanness to purity, purity to separateness, separateness to holiness, holiness to humility, humility to the shunning of sin, the shunning of sin to saintliness, saintliness to the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit to the resurrection of the dead.[107]

Obviously, Christianity takes things into a Messianic sacrifice and Kingdom, but that is another chapter beyond the bounds of this Hebraic metaphysic.[108]

Summary

Metaphysical development in Hebrew biblical texts is especially elucidated through a series of word studies with a shifting emphasis that each overlaps and affects the others.

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[106] *The Fathers according to Rabbi Nahan* (Neusner 1994, p. 68).

[107] *Mishnah Sotah* 9.15; *Jerusalem Tractates* Šeq. 3.3.

[108] For further discussion see Kennard 2008, pp. 107–156 for Jesus' development of Law and traditions concerning cleansing and sacrifice, pp. 293–332 for Jesus' Messianic sacrifice and pp. 377–414 for Jesus' Messianic rule.

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