

# Weaving the Word

## *Bird Blood Worm*

Part 107, May 9, 2019

*Welcome to where we're learning to do what we know to be true!*

**You can't set someone free who doesn't want to be.** So, **do you want to be set free?** From the ways of this world, the plague of your heart, and the filth of your sin?



Leprosy is God's chief comparable for sin. And, Jesus and His boys went on a whirlwind tour to teach and **to touch and to heal every untouchable, incurable, leprous disease** throughout the land.



And, Matthew tells us that *in this way* Jesus *literally* "took up our infirmities and carried our diseases." (Mt 8:16-17)

The poor wore white because **dyeing wasn't cheap.**



And **cleaning wasn't easy**, so they always looked grubby. But, **Jesus deeply embraced their contagious grubs.**



Now *we* return to when *Jesus* returned, to Jerusalem, to reunite with His boys one year before the cross.



The public offering for each healed leper, as commanded by Moses, as a testimony of Jesus, (Mk 1:44) included **two songbirds: one was killed so the other could be covered in its blood and set free.** (Lev 14:1-7)



On *that Passover*, the skies were filled with the signs of the One who was to come on the *following* Passover; and, the city was abuzz about those birds. Because, as the rain washed away the blood, each and every bird likely, mysteriously, stayed ... **red!** *Because of* Moses' command, and *Jesus' testimony*, and a teeny-tiny, incredibly significant ... **worm**; and, **a crucial component of each leper's offering.**



**[Just minutes before His death]** Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken *Me*?" – Mark 15:34 NKJ



Which directs the attention of those with ears to hear to Psalm 22, a portrait of this precise moment, painted 1,000 years before.

My God, My God, why have You forsaken *Me*? Why are You so far from helping *Me* ... [Our *fathers*] trusted, and You delivered *them*. *They* cried to You, and were delivered; *they* trusted in You, and were not ashamed. **But I am a worm, and no man;** – Psalm 22:1, 4-6 NKJ



A very specific **orange-red grub-like worm called towla'**.

Their mothers were crushed to make "Towla' Shaniy" or **scarlet dye**, for the **garments of the High Priest** (Ex 28:2-6), the **door of the Tabernacle** (Ex 26:36), and the **veil of the Holy of Holies** (Ex 26:31-33).

But [as Isaiah prophesied about Christ] **he** was pierced for **our transgressions**, **he** was **crushed** for **our iniquities**; the **punishment** that brought **us peace** was upon **him**, and by **his wounds we** are **healed**. – Isaiah 53:5 NIV

**Jesus is our High Priest** (Heb 2:17), **and the Door** (Jn 10:9); and, the veil tore to open **"a new and living way"** through **"His flesh"**. (Heb 10:19-20)

He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. *If that's what you want.*

**The Truth will set you free only if you seek and find and follow.**

**So, do you want to be set free to fully follow Him as Lord? Then, just determine to do what you know to be true.** And, your limited knowledge will quickly become tried and true wisdom.

[Moses] took the blood ... with water, **scarlet towla'** wool and branches of hyssop, and **sprinkled the scroll** and **all the people** ... [and] **the tabernacle** and **everything used in its ceremonies**. – Hebrews 9:19-21 NIV

[Isaiah prophesied] His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man **"I am a tola' and no man"** ... so will **he** sprinkle many nations ... For **what they were not told**, [in Psalm 22] **they will see**, [without perceiving the purpose] and **what they have not heard**, [in Psalm 22] **they will understand**. [Yet, only as facts, devoid of power] – Isaiah 52:14-15 NIV

Incline **your ears** ... [and] I will open my mouth in a **parable**; I will utter **dark sayings of old** ... For [the Lord] established a **testimony in Jacob**, and appointed a **law in Israel** ... – Psalm 78:1b-2, 5 NKJ

"Fear not, **thou worm towla' Jacob** and ye **men of Israel**; I will help thee," saith the **Lord** and thy **Redeemer**, – Isaiah 41:14a NKJ

How then can man be righteous before God? ... [If] the **stars are not pure** in His sight, how much less **man, who is a maggot**, [rimmah] and a **son of man, who is a worm?** **[towla']** – Job 25:4-6 NKJ

A **Star** shall come out of **Jacob [thou towla']**; a **Scepter** shall **rise** out of **Israel**, – Num 24:17 NKJ

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me? Why are You so far from helping Me ... [Our fathers] trusted, and You delivered them. They cried to You, and were delivered; They trusted in You, and were not ashamed. **But I am a worm, [Towla'] and no man; ["who is a maggot," that is: a child of Towla' – the Son of Man – and that's why! And therefore]** ...

*I am poured out like water ... My heart is like wax; it has melted within Me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and ... You have brought Me to the dust of death. ... You have answered Me. ... You who fear the Lord, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, and fear Him, all you offspring of Israel! For He has not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; nor has He hidden His face from Him; but when He cried to Him, He heard.* – Psalm 22:6, 14-15, 21, 23-24 NKJ



And, when Jesus cries out the title of Psalm 22 from the cross, He equates himself in that moment, with the scarlet towla’.

**The towla’ mama attaches herself to a tree or a post, and slowly curls into a cup that protects her newborns, as she pours out her life so they can feed on her body.**



**As she dies she dries up, covering her children with her crimson dye.**

**And over a three-day period, she’s covered in fuzzy white wax, that looks like snow, and a puffy ball of wool.**



“Let us **reason together**,” says the Lord, “Though **your sins are like scarlet [shaniy]**, they shall be **as white as snow**; [a term used for the leprous (Ex 4:6); and according to the leprosy laws: “if the leprosy has covered all his body, the priest shall pronounce him clean ... (if) it has all turned white” (Lev 13:12-13)] though they are **red like crimson [towla’]**, they shall be **as wool** [because of the blood of the Lamb that became the worm].” – Isaiah 1:18 NKJ



God made him who had no sin [shaniy] to be sin [Towla’] for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. – 2 Cor 5:21 NIV

Towla’ mamas were even ground as medicine to regulate the heart.



**But, the towla’ becomes a curse of the vine to the half-hearted.**

**[The day before he died, Moses warned]** If you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to observe carefully all His commandment ... You shall plant vineyards and tend them, but you shall neither drink of the wine nor gather the grapes; for the worms [towla’] shall eat them. – Deuteronomy 28:15, 39 NKJ

Whereas, **our Vine poured out His wine when He became our curse.**

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”) [like the towla’!] – Galatians 3:13 NKJ

Remember how Jesus said it’d be better to enter life maimed or one-eyed, than with two hands, feet, or eyes, to be cast into hell ...

... where **'Their worm** does not die and the fire is not quenched.' **[They doom themselves to ongoing anguish]** – Mark 9:46 NKJ

He's quoting Isaiah 66:24 about the "**towla**" of the "**rebellious**". You see, **if our towla' doesn't die, it torments us**. Instead of providing life through its death; it consumes and torments.

**[Remember bitter Jonah?]** And the Lord God prepared a *plant* and made it *come up over* Jonah, that it might be *shade* for his head to *deliver him from his misery*. So Jonah was very grateful for the plant. *But as morning dawned the next day* **[Jonah still wished hate-fueled destruction on his repentant enemies; so]** *God prepared a worm, [a towla']* and it so *damaged* the *plant* that it *withered*. And it happened, when the *sun arose* ... the sun *beat on Jonah's head*, so that he grew *faint*. Then he *wished death for himself*, and said, "*It is better for me to die than to live.*" **[So true]** – Jonah 4:6-8 NKJ

Whoever *hates* his brother is a *murderer*, and *you know* that no *murderer* has eternal *life* abiding in him. By *this we know love*, because *He laid down His life for us*. And *we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren*. – 1 John 3:15-16 NKJ

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the *mercies* of God, that you present *your bodies* a *living sacrifice* ... **[and]** *be transformed by the renewing of your mind*, – Romans 12:1-2a NKJ

On the Mount of Transfiguration:

**[Jesus]** clothes became *shining, exceedingly white, like snow, as white as the light such as no launderer on earth can whiten them*. – Mt 17:2; Mk 9:3 NKJ

**They weren't just extra-white**. Jesus' boys were used to seeing Him grubby. The *miracle was cleaning that thing!* **Not a cleaning, but a renewing**. A dying to self.

He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me. – Luke 9:23 NKJ

**He died and dyed, that we might live.**

He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again. – 2 Corinthians 5:15 NKJ

**If our worm doesn't die, we can't live**. But, **when our towla' died, both blood and water came from His side, to cover our sin, and extinguish the flames!**

If *that's* what you *want*.

**'Cause, you can't set someone free who doesn't want to be.**

**But, if you do, then just do what you know to be true.**