

PARSHAT METZORA
LEVITICUS 14:1-15:33
6 NISAN 5782/7 APRIL 2022



1948-C
Painting by Clyfford Still

TO MAKE THE OUTCAST LIKE A PRIEST

1. If a person has *tzaraat*... (Leviticus 13:2).
2. This shall be the *torah* of the *metzora* on the day of his purification....The priest shall go out to the outside of the camp... (Leviticus 14:2-3)
3. On the eighth day...the person being purified shall be placed before Adonai at the entrance of the Tent of Meeting...The priest puts the blood of the offering and oil of offering on the ridge of the *metzora*'s right ear, the thumb of his right hand, and the big toe of the right foot. (Leviticus 14:10-20)

Moses took some of the blood and placed it upon the middle of Aaron's right ear, upon the thumb of his right hand, and on the big toe of his right foot. (Leviticus 8:23)

4. Ritual of Halbashah/Dressing: *kutonet*, *michnasayim*, *avnet*, *mitznefet*

“[Aaron] shall wear a holy linen tunic (*kutonet*), and breeches (*michnasayim*) of linen shall be upon his flesh, and he shall tie a linen sash (*avnet*) upon himself, and he shall cover his head with a linen turban (*mitznefet*)... (Leviticus 16:4)

The angel of Adonai said, “Remove the filthy garments from upon him [Joshua, the High Priest]. And the angel said to Joshua, “See I have removed your onus/guilt from you and dressed you with clean attire. Then I said, “Let a pure turban be placed upon his head.” So they put a pure turban on his head and dressed him in clean garments as the angel of Adonai stood by. (Zechariah 3:4-5)

5. It is intolerable to be stopped by a frame’s edge. (Clyfford Still)

6. The pictures are to be without title of any kind. I want no allusions to interfere with or assist the spectator. Before them I want the spectator to be on their own, and if one finds in them an imagery unkind or unpleasant or evil, let him or her look to the state of their own soul. (Clyfford Still)