



Parashat Tazria

For which/how many sins did Hashem bring tzara'at on a Jew?

Answers:

1. According to the Gemarah, a person would receive tzara'at for seven sins. They are: 1. Lashon hara; 2. Murder; 3. Adultery; 4. Swearing falsely; 5. Being haughty; 6. Stealing; 7. Becoming a miser (Erchin 15a).

To hint at this, the Torah divided the topic of tzara'at into seven parshiyot, sections (Sifsai Kohen)

2. According to Midrash Rabbah, there are ten sins that can cause tzara'at. 1. Idol worship; 2. Adultery; 3. Murder; 4. Chilul Hashem; 5. Cursing Hashem; 6. Stealing from the public; 7. Taking over a high position without permission; 8. Being haughty; 9. Lashon hara; 10. Being a miser.

We can see that lashon hara is a serious aveira, for it is punished with tzara'at, just like the terrible crimes of murder or adultery.

Shabbat Shalom V'Chodesh Tov

Rabbi Tesser
Gesher Yehuda Yeshiva

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