

## ~BOIL (167)

[Hebrew, *shechin*]

- Generally, a furuncle, a localized, painful swelling of the skin resulting, not from a previous wound, **but from infection caused by bacteria** that invade hair follicles or sweat or sebaceous glands, in Hebrew, *shechin*.
- Beginning with a small red swelling, the boil eventually discharges some pus and, subsequently, its hard center core. At times, a number of boils develop in an affected area. A carbuncle is more dangerous than a furuncle, covers a larger area, sometimes produces greater pain, and may be attended by such symptoms as headache, fever, and prostration. It is sometimes fatal.
- At the time of Yehowah's sixth blow against Egypt, the Egyptians and their beasts were plagued by painful boils with blisters.
- After that Yehowah said to Moses and Aaron; Take for yourselves both hands full of soot from a kiln, and Moses must toss it toward the heavens in Pharaoh's sight. (**Exodus 9:8**)
- And it must become a powder upon all the land of Egypt, and it must become **boils** breaking out with blisters upon man and beast in all the land of Egypt. (**Exodus 9:9**)
- So they took the soot of a kiln and stood before Pharaoh, and Moses tossed it toward the heavens, and it became **boils** with blisters, breaking out on man and beast. (**Exodus 9:10**)
- And the magic-practicing priests were unable to stand before Moses as a result of the **boils**, because the **boils** had developed on the magic-practicing priests and on all the Egyptians. (**Exodus 9:11**)
- These may have been severe raised skin eruptions filled with pus, and such blister-like pustules possibly covered a large area. However, the brief Scriptural description makes definite identification with a specific modern-day disorder impossible.
- The Israelites were warned that the consequences of disobedience to God would include his striking them with the **boil** of

Egypt. It was further said, Yehowah will strike you with a **malignant boil**, Hebrew, *bish-chin'ra`* upon both knees and both legs, from which you will not be able to be healed, from the sole of your foot to the crown of your head.

- And it must occur that if you will not listen to the voice of Yehowah your God by taking care to do all his commandments and his statutes that I am commanding you today, all these maledictions must also come upon you and overtake you: (**Deuteronomy 28:15**)
- Yehowah will strike you with the **boil** of Egypt and piles and eczema and skin eruption, from which you will not be able to be healed. (**Deuteronomy 28:27**)
- Yehowah will strike you with a malignant **boil** upon both knees and both legs, from which you will not be able to be healed, from the sole of your foot to the crown of your head. (**Deuteronomy 28:35**)
- The Law indicated that a healed **boil** might be the place of development of a leprous eruption or blotch. In some cases, the symptoms were such that the victim was immediately declared unclean and leprous, in others, a seven-day quarantine was imposed.
- If it was thereafter found that the condition had not spread, it was identified merely as the inflammation of the **boil** and the priest pronounced the person clean.
- As for the flesh, in case a **boil** develops in its skin and it does get healed. (**Leviticus 13:18**)
- And in the place of the **boil** a white eruption has developed or a reddish-white blotch, he must then show himself to the priest. (**Leviticus 13:19**)
- And the priest must look, and if its appearance is lower than the skin and its hair has turned white, the priest must then declare him unclean. It is the plague of leprosy. It has broken out in the **boil**. (**Leviticus 13:20**)
- But if the priest looks at it, and, there now, there is no white hair in it and it is not deeper than the skin and it is dull, the priest must then quarantine him seven days. (**Leviticus 13:21**)

- And if it unmistakably spreads in the skin, the priest must then declare him unclean. It is a plague. (**Leviticus 13:22**)
- But if in its place the blotch should stand, it has not spread, it is the inflammation of the **boil**, and the priest must pronounce him clean. (**Leviticus 13:23**)
- Satan struck Job with a **malignant boil**, Hebrew, *bish-chin' ra`*, from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.
- So Satan went out away from the person of Yehowah and struck Job with a **malignant boil** from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. (**Job 2:7**)
- The specific medical designation of the disease from which Job suffered is uncertain. In agony, Job scraped himself with a fragment of earthenware.
- And he proceeded to take for himself a fragment of earthenware with which to scrape himself, and he was sitting in among the ashes. (**Job 2:8**)
- His flesh was covered with maggots, his skin formed crusts
- My flesh has become clothed with maggots and lumps of dust, my skin itself has formed crusts and dissolves. (**Job 7:5**)
- His breath was loathsome
- My breath itself has become loathsome to my wife, and I have become foul-smelling to the sons of my mother's belly. (**Job 19:17**)
- He was racked with pain, and his skin blackened and dropped off.
- At night my very bones have been bored through and dropped from off me, and pains gnawing me do not take any rest. (**Job 30:17**)
- My very skin became black and dropped off me, and my very bones became hot from dryness. (**Job 30:30**)

- **King Hezekiah of Judah was afflicted with a **boil** and got sick to the point of dying. At Isaiah's suggestion, a cake of pressed dried figs was applied to the **boil** as a poultice, after which Hezekiah gradually revived.**
- **In those days Hezekiah got sick to the point of dying. Accordingly Isaiah the son of Amoz the prophet came in to him and said to him; This is what Yehowah has said; Give commands to your household, for you yourself will indeed die and will not live. (2 Kings 20:1)**
- **And Isaiah went on to say; You men, take a cake of pressed dried figs. So they took and put it upon the **boil**, after which he gradually revived. (2 Kings 20:7)**
- **In those days Hezekiah got sick to the point of dying. Accordingly Isaiah the son of Amoz the prophet came in to him and said to him; This is what Yehowah has said; Give commands to your household, for you yourself will indeed die and will not live. (Isaiah 38:1)**
- **And Isaiah proceeded to say; Let them take a cake of pressed dried figs and rub it in upon the **boil**, that he may revive. (Isaiah 38:21)**
- **Nonetheless, his recovery was due, not to natural healing alone, but to cure by Yehowah.**
- **Go back, and you must say to Hezekiah the leader of my people, This is what Yehowah the God of David your forefather has said, I have heard your prayer. I have seen your tears. Here I am healing you. On the third day you will go up to the house of Yehowah. (2 Kings 20:5)**