~GECKO (46)

[Hebrew, 'ana-qah', sema-mith']

- A small, usually thick-bodied lizard with tiny scales covering its body. The eyes are relatively large, catlike, and the geckos toes are comparatively broad.
- Found in warm climates, the **geckos** live in the woods, among rocks, in trees, and sometimes in human dwellings. Six kinds of these nocturnal lizards are found in Palestine.
- The gecko fanfoot , Hemidactylus turcicus of;
- And this is what is unclean to you among the swarming creatures that swarm upon the earth, the mole rat and the jerboa and the lizard according to its kind. (Leviticus 11:29)
- And the gecko fanfoot and the large lizard and the newt and the sand lizard and the chameleon. (Leviticus 11:30)
- Is listed as unclean for the Israelites. At;
- The gecko lizard takes hold with its own hands and it is in the grand palace of a king. (Proverbs 30:28)
- The gecko lizard Hebrew, sema-mith' is spoken of as taking hold with its own hands and making its way into the king's palace.

 Regarding the geckos toes;
- The International Wildlife Encyclopedia says; They have numerous microscopic hooks that catch in the slightest irregularities, even those in the surface of glass, and so a gecko can cling to all, but the most highly polished surfaces.
- The hooks are directed backwards and downwards and to disengage them the toe must be lifted upwards from the tip. As a result, a gecko running up a tree or a wall or along a ceiling must curl and uncurl its toes at each step with a speed faster than the eye can follow.
- Some of the hooks are so small the high power of a microscope is needed to see them, yet a single toe armed with numbers of these

incredibly small hooks can support several times the weight of a geckos body.[Edited by M. and R. Burton, 1969, Vol. 7, pp. 856,857]